

DPG ETHIOPIA



DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS GROUP

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### Development Partners Support to the Implementation of the Development Plans of Ethiopia DPG POOLED FUND PHASE VI PROJECT





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## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Development Partners Group (DPG) Phase VI project supports the implementation of national development plans and the Sustainable Development Goals through capacity building of its implementing partners – the Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD) and the Ministry of Finance (MoF). In 2024, DPG held the High-Level Development Forum on sustainable peace, strengthening resilience and deepening economic reforms and issued a joint communique. On the HLDF, the Government of Ethiopia and DPG agreed to organize a High-Level Business Forum (HLBF) to hear the tri-partite voices of the Government, development partners and private sector representatives on the overall business climate and existing issues.

The Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD) with the support from DPG pooled fund prepared meta-data for the result matrices of the 10-year national development plan and 3-year medium-term development and investment plan to ensure data quality. The meta-data preparation is underway using the agriculture sector as a case study. Furthermore, the Ministry revised the planning, monitoring and evaluation policy framework to follow up the implementation of the plans by the government executive organs. MoPD finalized the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan (MTDIP) and currently the document is being printed.

The annual retreat of the DPG and regular monthly Executive Committee and Heads of Agency meetings were held as planned. In the reporting year nine monthly HoA meetings were held on Macro-economic reform, National Dialogue, Transitional Justice, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), the overall humanitarian situation of the country, the Food Systems Transformation Strategy and the Productive Safety Net, among other themes. Moreover, one joint meeting of the DPG-EHCT on Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus was held in the third quarter to discuss the preparation of a strategic and operationalization framework at local level. In addition, DPG co-chairs consulted with T/JWGs leads on existing challenges of the working groups and way forward. In terms of communication, the DPG Secretariat launched the website officially and engaged different bodies of the DPG in content creation. The DPG logo and other communication and promotional materials were branded. Standard Operating Procedures have been developed to guide engagement on the website and social media.

The Ministry of Finance, in collaboration with the DPG Secretariat, conducted an ODA mapping exercise to improve the quality of data of the Aid Management Platform (AMP). For this purpose, additional 86 persons got access to the AMP to update information. Further to this, MoF compared AMP with OECD/DAC data to identify information gaps. Following recommendations of a scoping study on the existing aid management practice in Ethiopia supported by the DPG Pooled Fund, a new aid information management system is expected to be developed with support of the World Bank in the coming year. MoF is undertaking groundwork for data migration and data gathering. Besides, Ethiopia is participating in the 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring survey of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC). Thus far, 50% of the agencies participating in this exercise have provided information using the online reporting tool. Moreover, with support of the DPG Pooled Fund, the Ministry has developed the Ethiopian Integrated Sustainable Financing Strategy, the implementation of which is expected to begin in 2025. The strategy, which aims at diversifying and expanding options for financing the implementation of national development plans and SDGs, will be operationalized through an Integrated National Financing Framework,

The Digital Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPMES) system – through which the Government tracks implementation of the National Development Plan - has been rolled out to all line ministries and federal institutions. MoPD is planning to roll out the system to the sub-national level using the agricultural sector as a pilot. The Ministry provided capacity building training to line ministries to enable them to enter their plans for 2017 EFY and update information on the 2016 EFY performance. The DPMES training center has been equipped with facilities despite challenges faced related to procurement. The next step is the acquisition of additional equipment to make the center operational.

Finally, the evaluation of the DPG Pooled Fund Phase VI project – which has entailed broad consultations with Government, DPG, private sector and NGO representatives - has been conducted. Its findings and recommendations – that have been presented to and approved by Government and DPG member agencies - are informing the development of the project document of Phase VII of the DPG Pooled Fund Project, which is almost completed by the end of the reporting period and will be implemented in the period July 2025-June 2030.



## II. BACKGROUND

*The Development Partners Group Phase VI project* aims at aligning the support of development partners towards effective development cooperation in Ethiopia through the preparation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the national development plans, which are aligned with global as well as regional development frameworks such as Agenda 2030 - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. The project supports the Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD) and the Ministry of Finance (MoF) to prepare informed planning, implementation, and monitoring & evaluation of development priorities at federal, sub-national and sectoral levels. DPG Phase VI project provides technical and financial support to capacitate these institutions to fulfil their respective mandates by producing evidence-based plans and effectively implement and monitor them to achieve desired results.

The Development Partners Group (DPG), previously known as Development Assistance Group (DAG), comprises 35 bilateral and multilateral agencies supporting the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) in realizing the national as well as the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The DPG has been supporting the Government of Ethiopia in implementing national development plans through promoting effective dialogue, conducting strategic studies, exchanging information, and facilitating experience sharing with the overall objective of attaining global development commitments and harmonizing as well as aligning development partners' support to national development priorities to alleviate poverty.

Furthermore, the DPG project has supported GoE and development partners to enhance their compliance with the global development effectiveness principles. Currently Ethiopia is participating in the 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring survey of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) which aims at assessing the extent into which effective development cooperation principles – national ownership, inclusiveness, results orientation and accountability & transparency – are being implemented. The project has contributed to the harmonization of development cooperation by holding the High-Level Development Forum (HLDF) between GoE and DPG in March 2024. Besides, a High-Level Business Forum is planned to be held in the first half of 2025 between GoE, development partners and the private sector. In addition, Joint and Technical Working Groups' dialogue with DPG co-chairs was conducted in late August. DPG Heads of Agencies meetings with relevant government institutions are instrumental to facilitate policy dialogue between the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) and the DPG.

The DPG Pooled Fund has further supported the Ministry of Planning and Development in implementing the Digital Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation System (DPMES) and supported the Ministry of Finance in conducting a scoping study on aid information management in Ethiopia, the findings of which enabled the Ministry of Finance to decide to develop a new aid information management system to track Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows to Ethiopia for well-informed decision making by Government and development partners.

The Annual Progress report outlines the major achievements, challenges and opportunities related to the implementation of the DPG Pooled Fund Phase VI project by output **from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.**



### III. DECISIONS MAKING - STRATEGIC, MULTI-YEAR PRIORITIES DELIVERED ON A DPG-WIDE BASIS

The Ministry of Planning & Development (MPD) prepares, implements, monitors & evaluates long, medium, and short-term national development plans to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063.

The DPG phase VI project contributes to UNDP's Country Programme Document (CPD) Outcome 2, which is "By 2025, all people in Ethiopia benefits from an inclusive, resilient and sustainable economy" through high-level engagement between the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) and Development Partners Group (DPG) aligning national development priorities of the country with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To this effect, the following activities were planned in 2024 under Output 1 to achieve structured, inclusive and evidence-based dialogue; organize High-Level Development Forum (HLDF) as well as High Level Business Forum (HLBF); support MoPD to prepare and publish the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan. (July 2023-June 2026); prepare meta data for the result matrix of the national development plans; revise the planning, monitoring and evaluation policy framework and conduct capacity building trainings on monitoring and evaluation.

Moreover, the DPG Secretariat planned to organize a retreat for DPG Heads of Agencies, implementing partners - Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning and Development - as well as DPG technical and joint working groups to set priorities for the year and support the implementation of the national development plan in a harmonized and coordinated manner.

#### 3.1. High-Level Development Forum (HLDF)

One of the achievements of 2024 was the organization of the High-Level Development Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> March at Sheraton Addis Hotel to revitalize high level dialogue and engagement of the Government of Ethiopia and the Development Partners Group after four years. The target for the year was to organize two High-Level Fora, one High-Level Development Forum (HLDF) and one High-Level Business Forum (HLBF). However, only the High-Level Development Forum was conducted in 2024, given that the organization of HLBF needs more time to address issues of the private sector and prepare business deals and opportunities to attract new investors. The theme of the forum, which was attended by regional presidents, Ambassadors, Ministers, Heads of development partner agencies and other high level government officials, was "*sustaining peace, strengthening resilience and deepening economic reform – moving towards a new development horizon*". H.E. Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance stated that Ethiopia's national goals and commitments are focused on building resilience, ensuring macro-economic stability, and lasting peace. DPG co-chairs affirmed that Ethiopia faced compounded challenges due to internal and external shocks but still has the potential to be a prosperous and stable nation, with the condition that GoE and development partners jointly scale up humanitarian support, restore social services, build resilience, and increase focus on human rights to realize the bold reform goals.

The Minister of Planning and Development H.E. Dr. Fitsum Assefa, presented Ethiopia's aims at reducing humanitarian needs by managing risks and creating resilient institutions at all levels. It was noted that



boosting domestic capacity to prevent and respond to crises – including through the further development of early warning systems - will be given due attention together with the advancement of the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) agenda. She also mentioned transforming the Ethiopian food system and value chain using modern technology, as well as mechanization, and land use reforms as other important priorities to build resilience. Moreover, she noted that Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) is critical for Ethiopia moving forward as a new sustainable financing strategy (ESFS) aims at diversifying/crowding in other sources of finance. Furthermore, coordination among humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) systems to build a long-term resilient economy was underscored.

H.E. Dr. Gedeon Timotheos, Minister of Justice, presented Ethiopia's efforts in peace consolidation. Recurring conflict, structural dependency on humanitarian assistance and conflict response at the expense of development progress magnified the risk of Ethiopia falling into a fragility trap. According to the Minister, major challenges to peace and security includes youth unemployment, climate change-induced disasters, surge of elite-led zero-sum populism, untamed wars of narratives, social media polarization & extremism, erosion of social cohesion, ethnically or politically motivated violations of civil rights, weak rule of law and corruption. Ongoing peace building initiatives including national dialogue, transitional justice, and national rehabilitation as well as the national peace policy framework are expected to bring a wholistic and sustainable peace in the long run.

Finally, H.E. Dr. Eyob Tekalign, State Minister of Finance, presented the macro-economic achievements and challenges. Substantial progress has been made in implementing reforms to address structural bottlenecks by diversifying economic growth in potential sectors; liberalizing the economy, removing restrictive legal frameworks for the private sector; improving public investment management, and enhancing competitiveness of State-Owned Enterprises (SoEs). Dr. Eyob noted that additional reforms are required to control inflation, reduce budget deficit and Balance of Payment (BoP), overhaul the tax system, and make a complete shift/reversal in public investment management. It was deemed important to avoid leakages, wasteful investment, harness new growth potential and refocus investment in pro-poor and high-potential projects. Managing growth tradeoffs, embarking on long-term investment, strengthening institutional cohesiveness, and coordinated implementation of reforms with all stakeholders were highlighted as critical preconditions to make Homegrown Economic Reform (HGER) 2.0 a success.

Development partners recommended stepping away from short-term investments and moving towards long-term development to reduce vulnerabilities and formulating a growth model for rural and urban vulnerable communities providing access to credit & market and greater private investment for long-term development. Besides, the government and partners need to prioritize and sequence interventions; invest in peace and stability; create the right conditions for economic transformation and strengthening institutions. The High-Level Forum discussed the importance of ensuring transparency in the use of government resources; holding a candid dialogue on humanitarian and development needs; timely implementing national initiatives; ensuring peace and stability; addressing the current price distortion and the declining tax to GDP ratio; addressing human rights issues; adopting gender, social and economic inclusion lenses in all interventions; improving the business climate, national capacity for domestic resource mobilization and alleviating rule of law challenges for sustained peace and a resilient economy.



Ambassadors of development partner countries advised the government to streamline policies to avoid fragmentation. It was noted that even though the overall level of Official Development Assistance (ODA) resources declined particularly in grants, other sources of finance are available, and development partners suggested to continue the dialogue with relevant institutions. In concluding the High-Level Development Forum (HLDF), H.E. Minister Shide noted that social protection for vulnerable groups; transparency and putting in place anti-corruption measures; advancing competitiveness and productivity; understanding and addressing root causes of vulnerability; strengthening the national data system and capacitating institutions; as well as diversifying sources of finance for development are fundamental. The forum agreed to organize the High-Level Business Forum (HLBF) in tandem with High-Level Development Forum (HLDF) to deliberate on outstanding issues. The session was concluded with the signature of a Joint Government of Ethiopia - Development Partners Group Communique.

### 3.2. DPG Heads of Agencies Retreat

The DPG Heads of Agencies (HoA) retreat was held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at the African Leadership Excellence Academy with the objective of deliberating on alignment to support the national development priorities. The retreat was attended by eight State Ministers, DPG Heads of Agencies, and officials from different government agencies. Addressing priority actions identified in the High-Level Development Forum; aligning resources to the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan; diversifying and expanding sources of finance for development; engaging private sector as contributor to sustainable development; and further rolling out the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus approach addressing drivers of humanitarian need and fragility were the main topics discussed in the retreat.

Mr. Bereket Tesfamariam, then the Director of Development Projects at the Ministry of Planning & Development, presented the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan, which was prepared in a participatory process tailored to the current national context and ongoing reforms in the country. A draft proposal of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) was also presented by Dr. Peter Middlebrook, international consultant, and Mr. Dawit Ayele, national consultant, who were hired to develop the INFF strategy for Ethiopia. Dr. Middlebrook stated that expanding financing options will require a change in mindset, the adoption of new ways of working and massive capacity development of multiple actors both in State administrations, development partner agencies and financial and private sectors.

DPG technical and joint working groups discussed how to improve operational functionality, strategic focus and alignment to national priorities; how to reduce fragmentation/duplication and enhance mobilization of resources to implement investment plans beyond ODAs in five groups/pillars: 1) Economic Development; 2) Infrastructure; 3) Social Development; 4) Governance & Triple Nexus Implementation; and 5) Macro-economy & Development Finance. One of the main topics discussed was the use of the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan's results matrix as a key tool to orient discussion, harmonize and align support to sectoral targets. It was proposed to use data of the Official Development Assistance mapping exercise to identify investment gaps in each sector and agree on priority interventions to accelerate achievement of sectoral targets and fill investment gaps. DPG Technical & Joint Working Groups (T/JWGs) agreed to enhance communication and collaboration. To



this purpose, the DPG Secretariat presented the DPG Communications Plan, which includes the activation of the DPG website (that allows information sharing to the public) and of an online collaborative platform (which facilitates sharing of information and collaboration amongst members of the different DPG bodies), and of an X (formerly Twitter) account. Finally, DPG and GoE committed to finalize the development of the Ethiopian Integrated Sustainable Financing Strategy to diversify development finance through strengthening existing and using new and innovative financial instruments.

### **3.3. Meta Data for the Result Matrix of the National Development Plans**

The preparation of metadata for the Ten-Year and the Medium-term Development and Investment Plan (MTDIP) aims to establish a clear and comprehensive framework for the respective results matrices of the two plans. The metadata will define the logical structure, data sources, responsibilities, and measurement mechanisms for each key performance indicator (KPI) in the results matrix. Moreover, there will be a shared understanding and buy-in from the relevant public bodies on the policy areas of the MTDIP and measurement of results. Metadata preparation has started using the agriculture sector as a case study. To support this initiative, a team of experts from the Ethiopian Statistical Service, the Policy Studies Institute, and the Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD) conducted field visits in Somali, Central Ethiopia and Oromia regions. The team was divided into three groups, each responsible for assessing one region and its respective woredas: Somali Region (6 woredas), Oromia Region (16 woredas), and Central Ethiopia (13 woredas) were identified for the case study. The focus of these visits was to evaluate data generation, aggregation, and dissemination capacities in each woreda. Based on the findings from this assessment, MoPD is currently refining the agriculture sector result matrix and its associated metadata by providing a series of trainings to woreda experts and triangulating the administrative data.

### **3.4. Revised Planning and M&E Policy Framework**

The Ministry has conducted supervisory work to follow up on the implementation capacity of Proclamation 1263/2014 on executive organs. By this, the ministry was able to assess whether institutions are effectively playing their roles and implementing the mandates bestowed upon them by the proclamation. In addition, the consultation conducted with the Plan, Finance, and Budget Affairs Standing Committee and the whole Parliament together led to an agreement on the content, scope, and principles that must be established in the upcoming M&E policy framework.

As a result, a technical committee that reviews the existing policy gathering data of legal frameworks and research related to M&E prepared a draft Planning and M&E policy. The draft document was presented and wide discussions with relevant stakeholders were held to receive input and feedback.

### **3.5. Medium-Term National Development and Investment Plan (MTDIP)**

The Medium-term Development and Investment Plan (MDIP) document has gone through various revisions and refinement processes. A preliminary draft of both the plan and its results frameworks was presented, discussed and shared with the DPG at the retreat held in late April. In the successive months the Ministry of Planning & Development has worked with line ministries and specialized institutions to



complete the gaps in the results matrix. Inputs from different stakeholders have been incorporated to the final document. Currently the design is finalized, and the document is being printed. The MTDIP will be shared with development partners and other key stakeholders in the first quarter of 2025 both in soft and hard copy.

### **3.6. Preparation for High-Level Business Forum (HLBF)**

The Government of Ethiopia and DPG agreed to organize a High-Level Business Forum (HLBF) in 2024, however due to multiple factors the forum date is pushed to May 2025. The forum is expected to provide a platform for the tripartite voices – Government, development partners and private sector. The forum will enable the Government of Ethiopia and development partners to listen to the private sector issues and address existing constraints for effective engagement and contribution to sustainable, inclusive socio-economic growth as well as attract new investors to Ethiopia. The HLBF Preparatory Taskforce is constituted of Government institutions under MoF's leadership and DPG actors. A draft concept note has been prepared by United States and the Netherlands and feedback was provided by the taskforce.

The HLBF is expected to give enough attention to Small and Medium Enterprises to foster private sector engagement and contribute to sustainable development and inclusive growth. DPG ExCom proposed topics such as industrial parks, job creation, liberalization, logistics, security and improving the overall business environment to be discussed with the GoE using existing platforms before the forum. The forum will endorse the outcome of preparatory round table dialogues and private-public dialogues conducted under the leadership of the Ethiopian Investment Commission on selected topics. Furthermore, the engagement of regional authorities and joint working groups was emphasized in the preparation.

The following sub-committees – under an Oversight Committee - have been established to address different aspects required for and effective preparation of the Forum: Private Sector Engagement; Deal & Proposal Preparation; Logistics, Promotion & Media Engagement; and Government Offices Coordination. The oversight committee tasked the different sub-groups of HLBF to conduct their respective meetings before January 2025 and report back. Accordingly, the Private Sector Engagement sub-committee organized a meeting in December to agree on challenges identified by the private sector to be discussed in the forum and cluster them into groups. The deal preparation committee also met and agreed on next steps, while the Logistics Committee agreed to start the procurement through UNDP of two firms which will support the preparatory work in terms of marketing, multi-stakeholder engagement, communications, event management and follow-up of commitments.



#### **IV. DECISIONS' IMPLEMENTATION - A MORE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT DPG STRUCTURE ESTABLISHED, ALIGNED WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

The second output of the DPG Pooled Fund project facilitates the implementation of decisions using effective coordination of DPG structures including the Executive Committee (ExCom), Heads of Agency (HoA), and Technical/Joint Working Groups (T/JWG) for the realization of the SDGs and the national development goals through strengthened policy dialogue.

The second output contributes toward effective coordination of development efforts through harmonized support to the Government priorities. The target was to organize eleven monthly meetings, half of them co-chaired by MoF and bi-annual Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus consultation between UNCT and DPG. In 2023, DPG held regular monthly meetings and two HDP nexus consultations between UNCT and DPG, while in 2024 only one consultation between UNCT and DPG was held on HDP nexus. In 2024, the DPG Secretariat planned to organize monthly Heads of Agency and Executive Committee, quarterly Effective Development Cooperation Taskforce and biannual Joint DPG-Humanitarian Country Team Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus meetings; implement the DPG Communication Strategy and conduct the evaluation of the DPG Pooled Fund Phase VI project as well as develop the Phase VII project document. The consultant who evaluated the DPG Phase VI project recommended the Effective Development Cooperation Taskforce to be replaced by the existing DPG ExCom and MoF's relevant focal points to avoid redundancy in the DPG structure.

##### **4.1. DPG Pooled Fund Project**

The DPG Pooled Fund Project Steering Committee, composed of the two DPG co-chairs, and the UNDP Resident Representative and high-level representatives of the Ministries of Finance and of Planning & Development met on 31<sup>st</sup> January at the Ministry of Finance. In the meeting the 2024 annual work plan was discussed and approved. The project steering committee agreed on the importance of sequencing activities and continuing support to the national capacity for integrated planning, M&E, development financing and multistakeholder coordination towards achieving national priorities.

In early June, the DPG Secretariat compiled proposed topics from Heads of Agencies to be discussed in the fiscal year July 2024 to June 2025. Subsequently, DPG co-chairs met with H.E. State Minister Semereta Sewasew to agree on priorities for the year until February 2025 leaving the remaining period to be decided in early 2025. In line with the decision of the High-Level Development Forum (HLDF), MoF requested a reprogramming of funds for the successful organization of the High-Level Business Forum (HLBF) in early 2025. In the reporting year, the DPG Pooled Fund Project Steering Committee virtually approved the budget reprogramming request from MoPD and MoF to reallocate resources to the organization of HLBF and pension contribution to MoPD project staff. On Joint Working Groups (JWGs), State Minister Semereta suggested following up more closely the work of a selected number of groups and ensure they contribute to implementation of recent macro-economic reform and upcoming high-level fora.

In addition, an international consultant has been hired to evaluate the performance of phase VI and formulate phase VII project of DPG pooled fund. The consultant carried out a desk review and two rounds



of discussions with relevant stakeholders such as the private sector, DPG Heads of Agencies, cochairs of Joint and Technical Working Groups, the Government of Ethiopia represented by Ministries of Finance and of Planning as well as Civil Society Organizations to gather information on the views and priorities related to the project. Later the consultant presented the draft evaluation report and the key elements of the new phase VII project document to DPG ExCom and HoAs. In line with feedback received in the above-mentioned consultations, the consultant recommended to strengthen the role and operationalization of Joint and Technical Working Groups in the DPG by receiving secretariat support from 3 newly recruited national staff in the DPG Secretariat, the annual development of Mutual Accountability Frameworks through which government and DPG agree on must-not-fail milestones to be achieved in a maximum period of two years that contribute to specific targets of the National Development Plan and that would be developed by Joint and Technical Working Groups and approved at the High Level Development Fora, the Effective Development Cooperation Taskforce to be replaced with an expanded DPG ExCom – which would include government counterparts – and meet twice a year to discuss on effective development cooperation issues, and multi-year financing of DPG member agencies to ensure predictability of funding.

#### 4.2. DPG Executive Committee Meetings

In 2024 a total of nine DPG ExCom meetings were organized. In the first quarter ExCom met twice to discuss the preparatory work for the High-Level Development Forum (HLDF) and the Joint Communiqué issued by the GoE and DPG and reflected on the HLDF with the aim of improving the outcome of future High-Level Fora. It was proposed to organize a High-Level Business Forum (HLBF) engaging high-level officials and private sector representatives taking advantage of the momentum created around “*improving the overall business climate and partnership*”. There was consensus that the presence and engagement of regional Presidents, senior government officials and Ministers in the HLDF showed the Government’s high-level commitment to strengthen the partnership with development partners. ExCom suggested having more space for dialogue besides statements by Ministers and Ambassadors for future meetings. In addition, the international consultant who did the scoping study of aid information management in Ethiopia explained his work noting that the Aid Management Platform (AMP) is more complex and cumbersome compared with other systems, as it uses 15 different programming languages. The study indicated that developing a new system is more feasible than upgrading the existing system.

In the second quarter, ExCom met three times as planned and deliberated on the quality of the partnership with the GoE to address national development priorities. Moreover, World Bank briefed the ExCom on the package the bank is preparing for the various upcoming reforms and discussed private sector participation in Ethiopia. There was consensus that private sector -ed development will take time to percolate to the government machinery, particularly in the regions as the efforts of various actors engaged in bringing forward the private sector agenda are undermined by the existing eco-system. Moving forward, the lack of coordination at different levels of the government and the urgency of addressing bottlenecks needs attention. It was noted that the Ethiopian Investment Commission, the Ethiopian Capital Market Authority, and the Ethiopian Securities Exchange are trying to find the link with federal and regional institutions.



In the third quarter ExCom met twice to agree on priorities for the fiscal year and the overall humanitarian situation in the country. The prioritized topics comprises the macro-economic reform and its implications, State Owned Enterprises (SoEs) reforms, preparation for COP 29, the industrial policy reform, Technical and Vocational Education and Trainings (TVETs) & youth policies, development efforts in conflict-affected areas, DPG-EHCT Joint consultation on HDP nexus implementation, High-Level Business Forum (HLBF) and the alignment of development coordination to the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan. Furthermore, the new Representative of the World Food Programme (WFP) in Ethiopia briefed ExCom members on the assurance measures put in place to tackle food diversion issues. WFP focuses on food assistance and in ensuring long term food security, resilience building and livelihood strengthening. The Programme is going through restructuring to respond to the current realities on the ground as funding is a major challenge. Given WFP is the backbone for the entire humanitarian response in Ethiopia providing logistic services, including UNHASS flights in the Northern part of the country, resource mobilization is deemed fundamental. Excessive earmarking of resources and projectization can result in a deterioration of the overall logistical capacity for an effective humanitarian response in Ethiopia. The WFP Representative requested partners to provide technical and financial assistance, stating that the funding target agreed at the Humanitarian Summit in Geneva earlier in 2024 has not been met.

In the fourth quarter two ExCom meetings were held to discuss the preparation of High-Level Business Forum. The ExCom decided to hold tri-partite dialogue among the private sector, development partners and the Government to foster a conducive environment for the private sector development and exchange on existing challenges in the sector. The Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC) and the Dutch Embassy will lead on organizing the private-public dialogues (PPDs). The HLBF was planned to be held in late January but was pushed to March to give enough time for preparations. Recently the date has been shifted again to 6-8 May 2025, considering that Ramadan fasting is in March and keeping the Forum in that period will reduce participation of investors and actors from Arab States. The last ExCom meeting of 2024 focused on the outlook of the Ethiopian economy and the consultative meeting on *“Early results of the comprehensive macroeconomic reform and its implications for Ethiopia's long-term economic transformation”* organized by the Ministry of Planning & Development on 20th November. The presenters were H.E.s Ministers Dr. Fitsum Assefa (Planning) and Ahmed Shide (Finance), as well as the Governor of the Ethiopian National Bank. It was noted that although attendance was strong from civil society, there were few DPG members present. ExCom members highlighted the importance of building durable peace and focus on the most vulnerable to allow for socio-economic development.

### **4.3. DPG Heads of Agencies Meetings**

In the reporting year, the Ministry of Finance in close collaboration with the DPG Secretariat arranged nine Heads of Agency meetings preparing concept notes and agendas, inviting relevant government ministries and agencies, aligning presentations and briefings with the scope and timeframe of DPG HoA meetings and providing logistical arrangements and refreshments. In the first quarter there was a plan to organize the High-Level Development Forum in March, therefore the DPG HoA meeting originally planned for March was cancelled. Instead, two meetings were held in February focusing on National Disarmament, Demobilization of Ex-Combatants & Rehabilitation (DDR) to complement other initiatives



in the country such as the 3RF, the National Dialogue and resilience building efforts. It was noted that a sequenced approach and Community Based Reintegration will be followed in the demobilization process. The rehabilitation includes psycho-social support, civic education and needs-based skills training, among others. Additionally, voluntarism, gender responsiveness and conflict sensitivity will be considered in the implementation of DDR, while people centeredness, accountability and transparency are among the guiding principles of the programme.

In the second quarter, the Heads of Agency meetings focused on food systems' transformation and nutrition as well as private sector participation. Strengthening Food Systems coupled with investments in social service delivery were noted to be critical for Ethiopia. There is ample space for improvement in terms of productivity, sustainable natural resources management, engagement of the private sector or risk management. A wide number of programmes are being implemented in support of food security and nutrition with development partner support, but it is vital to agree on mechanisms for effective coordination and alignment to the Ethiopia Food Systems & Nutrition (EFSN) agenda. H.E.s the Ministers of Agriculture and of Health updated Heads of Agencies and Ambassadors on pathways to improve food production, transformation, storage and distribution in a more sustainable manner for better health outcomes. The Ethiopian Food Systems & Nutrition Transformation agenda is fully integrated in the national development plans and reforms to address political and economic bottlenecks that affect food systems and human development. To this effect, multi-stakeholder collaboration needs to be strengthened.

The private sector is expected to increasingly become the engine of growth for the Ethiopian economy and the economic reform agenda will play a critical role in alleviating constraints to both foreign and domestic investors. It was highlighted that having a regular public-private dialogue to come up with solutions to investors' problems/concerns, strengthening alignment with federal institutions, digitalization, and provision of tailored services to investors is central to private sector development in Ethiopia. Possible areas of collaboration with development partners include infrastructure development, technology & innovation, quality assurance, policy & reform compliance, strategic studies, Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and capacity building for sustained development. It was noted that the establishment of a capital market is the most efficient mechanism to create access to capital for the private sector, since the country has a huge need. The major milestone in capital market development is the establishment of the Ethiopian Securities Exchange (ESX) in October 2022 by the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE). Ethiopian Investment Holdings drafted several rules and regulations, with the regulatory framework currently finalized. The ultimate objective of the capital market would be to finance private sector activity in a way that contributes to inclusive economic development in strategic sectors such as fertilizers, agro-industry, and others.

In the third quarter, DPG HoAs met to deliberate on the macro-economic reform aimed at supporting vulnerable groups by temporarily subsidizing key commodities such as fuel, fertilizer, and the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP). The fiscal framework allocates around 1.5% of GDP for mitigating measures in the first year of implementation of the programme. The floating exchange rate policy adopted by the Central Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) helped to close the gap between the official and parallel market. While important measures have been taken to address the exchange rate distortion, the reform is



expected to take a while to have full effect. Likewise, the World Bank took synchronized steps to modernize the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), lift restrictive bans on cereal export, increase wage for civil servants and expand safety net programmes, among others. It was recommended to assess the impact of the reform on selected basic commodities to address root causes of humanitarian need in the country. The National Medium-Term Revenue Strategy has been devised learning from best practices in broadening the tax base without adversely affecting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). On debt sustainability challenges, it was noted that Ethiopia needs to negotiate the terms and conditions with its external creditors bilaterally.

In the last quarter, DPG Heads of Agencies discussed on Ethiopia's Macroeconomic Reform and its implications on the fiscal and monetary policies to create an inclusive, market led economy. H.E. State Minister of Finance Dr. Eyob Tekalign presented the overall reform journey since 2018. It was noted that the Government of Ethiopia plans to move away from subsidies gradually and build a well-paid meritocratic civil service. A Medium-Term Debt Strategy is developed to maintain the budget deficit at 1% of GDP. The reform necessitates key macro institutions in the country to be strengthened, such as the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) and the Ethiopian Revenue and Customs Authority among others. It was underscored that immediate debt relief is vital for long term development even if external debt is reduced by half. The Governor of the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), H.E. Mamo Mehretu explained DPG members that the reform has been a fundamental reset, which shifted to an open market exchange and interest rate policy with the aim of correcting longstanding macro imbalances. NBE is working on the liberalization, inclusion, and digitization of the financial sector. He noted that in 2023, seventy percent of the financial sector credit went to the private sector, which indicates a major shift on policy. On the State-Owned Enterprise (SoE) Reform the objective is optimizing the government's asset base, make Ethiopian Investment Holdings (EIH) a strategic arm of GoE in attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and create wealth for future generations. A subsidiary rating system is introduced to improve corporate competency. It was noted that EIH is flexible to work with partner agencies using modalities such as Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).

Moreover, Heads of Agencies engaged with the Ministry of Industry, Labor and Skills Development. Despite the historical underperformance of the sector, it now it contributes 6.8% of GDP, with plans to increase to 17.2% by 2030. Initiatives like Ethiopia Tamirt (Made in Ethiopia) aims at creating a competitive and sustainable manufacturing industry and addressing challenges through public-private collaboration. Besides, the Council of Ministers has approved a manufacturing industry policy which will play a key role in bringing sustainable growth to the sector, focusing on exports, import substitution, job creation, and private sector engagement. Even though the recent macroeconomic reform has resolved constraints in foreign exchange access, limitation in infrastructure and weak backward and forward linkages persist. Challenges in the sector include finance and raw materials, limited human capital, low technological capability, and limited infrastructure. The Minister of Labor and Skills, H.E. Muferihat Kamil, presented the Ministry's comprehensive reform agenda, which aims at building Ethiopia's human capital. With a population exceeding 120 million of which 70% are youth, Ethiopia is set to capitalize on its demographic dividend to achieve its growth aspirations. The reform is a critical step towards empowering the workforce to drive economic growth. The ministry's initiatives include modernizing TVET curricula to align with priority sectors such as manufacturing, mining, and tourism. The ministry



has identified skills development, job creation, industrialization, peace, and institutional capacity building as the strategic pillars of the sector. To address labor market mismatches, a demand-driven training structure has been implemented, leading to the realignment of TVET programs.

Last but not least, DPG members discussed the National Dialogue Initiative with H.E. Prof. Mesfin Araya, Commissioner of the National Dialogue. The Commissioner explained the mandate of the Commission, accomplishments in the past 3 years, and methodology used to engage various groups including women, youth, and people with disabilities. He explained how the commission is structured and works with international institutions to share best practices. The Commission plans to cover 75% of the country by the end of December 2024. Besides, it has engaged the Ethiopian diaspora through 11 virtual meetings held with the US, Europe, Canada, the Pacific, the Middle East, and Africa. Professor Mesfin indicated that finance, the number of constituencies, ongoing conflict and political and humanitarian crises were among the key challenges the commission faced. Credibility and limited participation of different groups, communication gaps due to language barriers, withdrawal of a few political parties, media involvement, perception, and bias have been some of the risks the Commission has overcome. The next step is to identify trustworthy conveners and facilitators, who are neutral and impartial, to hold the national plenary, agree on the outcomes and submit the results to relevant stakeholders.

H.E. Hanna Arayaselassie, Minister of Justice, presented the progress made in drafting the National Transitional Justice policy and the next steps. The Minister highlighted the key timelines and roadmap of the process. A team of experts assessed the national context and considered experiences from other countries in the transitional justice policy. Eighty consultations have been held so far in the country - 11 in Addis Ababa, 47 in Dire Dawa, and the remaining in other parts of the country. The Transitional Justice Policy is designed to be inclusive, and victim centered. The document has incorporated feedback from women GBV victims, CSOs, rights groups and political parties and was adopted in April 2024. The Ministry of Justice will coordinate the overall process with support from stakeholders such as the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, the National Dialogue Commission, CSOs and political parties. Currently, experts are working on drafting legislation to establish a special bench for transitional justice implementation. Additional commissions such as Truth and Human Dignity will be established to investigate violations dating back to 1995 and manage conditional amnesty, reparation, and institutional reform issues considering the rights of different victim groups. The Ministry of Justice has received a zero draft policy document and identified key stakeholders. The next step is establishing a coordination platform for consultation, experience sharing, resource mobilization and operationalization of the policy.

#### **4.4. Joint Meeting of DPG and EHCT on HDP Nexus**

It was agreed by DPG-EHCT Nexus Accelerator Group to organizing bi-annual joint meeting of Development Partners Group and Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team members, however in the reporting year only one meeting was held, as the group needed more time to prepare with the government counterparts in advance for the second meeting. The DPG-EHCT joint meeting was held in the third quarter of 2024 to discuss the implementation of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus implementation in Ethiopia. The humanitarian need in Ethiopia one of the highest in the world with a total of 21.4 million people requiring humanitarian assistance, while the Humanitarian Response Plan



(HRP) targeted 15.5 million, which needs a total of \$3.2 billion. Around 4.5 million people in need are displaced due to conflict, drought, floods, and other factors. Humanitarian partners reached 6.7 million people with either monthly distributions of food assistance or non-food assistance with the support of various Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Limited humanitarian response has been delivered in hard-to-reach and partially accessible areas due to ongoing conflicts. The HRP was funded only at 13.8% excluding government contribution and carry-over balances. In 2024, the plan was to cover almost 50% of zones by household level assessments, through the increased use of Smart surveys, Vulnerability-Based Targeting (VBT) and the roll-out of the Multisectoral Needs Assessment.

EU supports DPG-EHCT Nexus Accelerator Group efforts through conducting assessments, which was presented to DPG and HCT members. The finding of the assessment indicated that out of the six areas considered four - economic, environmental, human and security - need attention in Ethiopia. According to the study, Ethiopia's fragmented aid landscape, coupled with lack of accountability and coordination, undermined HDP nexus implementation. The study proposes focusing on geographic areas, fixing aid delivery systems, providing targeted support to the nexus architecture and improving analytic capacities. In terms of next steps, the first proposed action is identifying geographic areas of convergence, followed by the identification of strategic outcome areas and select key initiatives aligned to the HDP nexus approach for better collaboration and results. The study suggested the implementation of a first phase in the lowlands and a second phase in Northern Ethiopia.

The HDP Nexus Accelerator Group has advanced the preparation of an operational framework for the implementation of Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus in Ethiopia. The nexus architecture is proposed to have a strategic, technical and implementation level of reporting. DPG-EHCT provides strategic decision making and leadership, the Nexus Accelerator Group operationalizes the nexus at federal level, while the Nexus Technical Group is expected to support the Nexus Accelerator Group and regional coordination groups in implementing the nexus at federal and regional levels using an area-based approach. The technical group is comprised of 16 members from bilateral partners, UN agencies, NGOs, the Nutrition Cluster, and the DPG Secretariat. The group aims to draft the Nexus Strategic and Operational Framework at national level and establish regional nexus coordination groups, which will be responsible for developing and implementing regional nexus action plans at the local level. Aligning several ongoing initiatives and targeted infrastructural development were deemed important to implement the nexus.

DPG Heads of Agencies and EHCT recommended including more partner agencies working on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and health in the Nexus Technical Group to address protection, gender, and other issues. The inter-agency evaluation conducted in Tigray, Afar and Amhara indicated the necessity of a humanitarian system reform in Ethiopia. The existing delink between federal and regional structures made nexus implementation difficult. Lack of resources was flagged as a bottleneck in the coordination mechanism of UNRCO, while taking collective responsibility to look into systemic issues was underscored.



#### **4.5. Technical and Joint Working Groups (T/JWGs)**

The DPG co-chairs met on 30<sup>th</sup> August with Technical and Joint Working Groups' leads to exchange views on how to make working groups more efficient. The challenges T/JWGs face and the way forward for strengthening working groups to be more impactful were discussed. Working Groups' leads highlighted that strategic engagement of the government represented by Ministers and/or State Ministers and ensuring multi-sector collaboration play an important role in vitalizing working groups. High turnover of government officials and capacity gaps were cited as a major challenge in working groups' functionality. Furthermore, having a secretariat and keeping the coordination framework simple was recommended. The overall Sector Working Group framework should be fit-for-purpose and take advantage of existing structures rather than creating duplication. Moreover, existing structures in sectors like agriculture and health could be leveraged to engage non-traditional partners in the realization of the national development priorities. The co-chairs agreed to engage line ministries to engage in working groups, capacitate ministries to respond to emerging needs and explore ways to engage non-traditional donors where possible.

#### **4.6. DPG Communication**

The Development Partners Group (DPG) made significant strides in strengthening its communication and collaboration tools throughout 2024. The first three quarters focused on building foundational digital platforms, improving internal processes, and implementing a strategic communication plan. The fourth quarter marks the consolidation of these efforts and sets the stage for continuous improvement in 2025.

##### **4.6.1. Digital Infrastructure and Engagement**

A major achievement in the first quarter was the launch of the DPG website and an online collaborative platform, aimed at improving internal and external communications, respectively. These platforms allow DPG members and Joint Working Groups (JWGs) to manage calendars, collaborate on tasks, conduct surveys, and share information seamlessly. Though still in its early stages, the online collaborative platform is gaining traction, with some JWGs already actively engaged. The DPG Secretariat continues to provide regular support to these groups to encourage broader participation.

By the second quarter, the website was fully launched, populated with valuable content from DPG members, agencies, and JWGs. Digital communication efforts were bolstered with the creation of an online media bank to store multimedia assets, enhancing the accessibility and sharing of resources. Additionally, a comprehensive media database was established to foster stronger relationships with the media and provide essential resources for outreach when the need arises.

In the third quarter, content creation was further advanced with the continuous update of both the DPG website and the online collaborative platform. A wealth of news, success stories, and event updates were uploaded, ensuring that DPG initiatives were showcased effectively. Furthermore, the DPG Secretariat developed a new Communications Strategy, followed by a six-month plan for various communication interventions, which contributed to ongoing improvements in DPG's visibility and engagement.



#### **4.6.2. Branding and Standardization**

The DPG updated its logo to create a more modern and cohesive brand identity. This new emblem was approved by Heads of Agencies in the second quarter. To support consistency in communication, various standardized templates were developed, including those for report cover pages, PowerPoint presentations, and social media, as well as a set of guidelines for the online collaborative platform, the DPG X account, and website content submissions. The third quarter saw the development of several permanent communication tools, as outlined in the DPG Communications Strategy. These included a presentation template, DPG video elements templates, designing the DPG Terms of Reference (TOR), infographics, folders, and a boilerplate for external communications. These materials ensure that DPG's communications remain consistent, professional, and aligned with its mission.

#### **4.6.3. Social Media and External Communication**

DPG's presence on X (formerly Twitter) was further institutionalized, with the DPG cochairs ensuring that tweets accurately reflected the group's activities and achievements. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was introduced to guide engagement on the platform, ensuring consistency and alignment with the group's messaging.



## **V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION: A SYSTEM FOR MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY ESTABLISHED BETWEEN GOE AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

The Ministry of Finance aims at promoting economic growth through macro-economic stability, fiscal policy, public finance management, external resource mobilization and private-public partnership. The third output of the project strengthens development effectiveness by reinforcing monitoring and evaluation systems in the Ministries of Planning & Development and of Finance through capacitated staff for informed decision making and improved policy dialogue. It is envisaged that strengthened monitoring and evaluation systems will contribute to better alignment and harmonization in resource allocation and utilization. The third output of the project supports Ethiopia to participate in the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) monitoring surveys and provide reliable data on Official Development Assistance (ODA), which contributes to improved transparency and mutual accountability for better results.

In 2024, the target was to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation system of Ministry of Planning and Development- Digital Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation System (DPMES) and roll-out the system to sub-national level as well as track Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows to Ethiopia with improved aid information management system administered by the Ministry of Finance. To this effect, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) planned to organize kick-off and validation workshops/consultations for the Global Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) monitoring survey. Ethiopia participated in the 2024 UN Political Forum of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) of SDG Implementation. Moreover, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) planned to finalize the scoping study of the aid information management practice in Ethiopia and start implementing its recommendations; provide capacity building training to MoF aid information management personnel; organize refresher trainings to Development Partners focal points; conduct ODA mapping & data cleaning exercise; prepare ODA statistical bulletin; conduct experience sharing workshop for T/JWGs; begin implementation of the recommendations of the Ethiopian Development Finance Assessment/Sustainable Finance Strategy; and participate in the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and other potential communities of exchange. On the other hand, the Ministry of Planning & Development (MoPD) planned to further deploy a full-fledged online digital planning, monitoring and evaluation system and achieved to roll-out the system at federal/ministerial level.

### **5.1. Development Finance Mobilization**

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) endorsed at the third Financing for Development Conference held in Addis Ababa in July 2015, recommended Member States to design their own Sustainable Financing Strategies setting up Integrated National Financing Frameworks. The Ministry of Finance, with support from the DPG Secretariat and international and national consultants, conducted a Development Finance Assessment (DFA) and subsequently formulated an Integrated National Financing Framework (DFA-INFF), later rebranded as the Ethiopia's Integrated Sustainable Financing Strategy (E-ISFS). This strategy aims to establish a new national financing architecture through policy, regulatory, institutional, and market reforms, enabling Ethiopia to transition to a sustainable financing model and bridge the financing gap for the TYDP and Agenda 2030 SDGs. The E-ISFS was endorsed by the Ministry of Finance leadership



on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. In the last quarter of the year UNDP HQ has committed \$320,000 to support the initiation of the implementation of the strategy.

## 5.2. AMP ODA Data Cleaning and ODA Mapping

An ODA data cleaning activity was officially initiated in late 2023 to improve ODA data quality through a review and validation process. To achieve this, a comprehensive guideline outlining the methodology and field definitions was prepared. Subsequently various bilateral meetings were held with 27 development partner Agencies, including GAVI and the Global Fund, to receive feedback on the cleaning exercise. Furthermore, trainings were provided to several agencies to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge. AMP access was granted to additional 86 staff members to the existing Aid Management Platform (AMP) focal points to support this initiative and finally a validation meeting was conducted with 11 agencies to verify the data cleaning process.

In late 2024, MoF conducted data analysis to identify gaps in the database. The first analysis was a comparison of AMP data with data from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) focusing on disbursements from partners to Ethiopia over a five-year period from 2018 to 2022. The results indicated that AMP has an overall disbursement coverage of 88.5% and the level of disbursement was estimated to be around 57% compared with OECD data. The second analysis aimed at identifying data quality improvement in AMP following the data cleaning exercise and the gap in the system. The finding indicated the presence of empty fields across 1,224 active (ongoing) projects. The visibility and duplication of reporting by multilateral entities such as UN Agencies and World Bank remained a challenge. MoF plans to resolve this issue with the development of a new aid information management system with the support of the World Bank.

## 5.3. Development of a New Aid Information Management System

The findings of the scoping study conducted by an international consultant confirmed that it is more convenient to build a new system for tracking Official Development Assistance (ODA) than to upgrade the existing Aid Management Platform from a technical, financial, and operational standpoint. Based on these findings, MoF decided to proceed with building a new system and deliberated with relevant directorates of the ministry to figure out how to get the support from World to develop and guide the process of building a new system. Accordingly, the Ministry agreed to establish a steering and technical committee; collect detailed system requirement from stakeholders to have a better understanding of the workflow and specifications; hire a consultant to develop the Terms of Reference (ToR), which will be reviewed by the technical committee for endorsement; and inform the Information Network Security Agency (INSA), the Ministry of Technology, Artificial intelligence, and Ethio Telecom about the system development at certain milestones. The consultant will be responsible to refine the requirements gathered by the Ministry and bridge any gap; facilitate the transition from planning to coding phase by engaging in the design process; and handle software engineering focusing on structure, navigation, user interfaces and database design with the support from MoF developers during the designing stage.



Although MoF has decided to create a new system, it will continue to gather ODA data and clean AMP so that when the new system is fully developed, MoF will migrate updated data from the existing Aid Information Management System rather than collect new data from scratch, which will help in continuity/building on the existing system.

#### 5.4. EFY 2015 ODA Statistical Bulletin

The design and printing of the Annual Development Cooperation Report of the EFY 2015 has been finalized. The statistical bulletin provides an overview of Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows to the country, disaggregated by sector. The report identifies priorities of the national Ten-Year Development Plan that require further support to attain targets and promotes transparency and accountability in development cooperation for better use of resources. The soft copy of the report has been uploaded on MoF and DPG websites, and the hard copy has been printed and shared with development partners and other relevant users.

#### 5.5. Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) Monitoring Survey

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), adopted at the Third Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa in July 2015, provides a comprehensive framework for financing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It emphasizes an integrated approach, utilizing various financial resources to support national development priorities and the 2030 Agenda. The Ministry of Finance, representing the Government of Ethiopia, has actively engaged in the previous three GPEDC monitoring rounds (2014, 2016, and 2018) and remains committed to the 4<sup>th</sup> round (2025-2026). This multi-stakeholder exercise aims to track the implementation and effectiveness of development cooperation commitments, promoting collective accountability and contributing to achieving the SDGs and Agenda 2063 in Ethiopia.





On November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Ministry of Finance (MoF), in collaboration with the DPG Secretariat, hosted a workshop to prepare for the forthcoming GPEDC monitoring survey. This event was attended by representatives from Development Partners, the Private Sector, and Civil Society Organizations. The workshop aimed at providing information on the technical aspects of the survey. Key topics covered included evaluating national development strategies, results frameworks, employing country systems, ensuring transparency, and adhering to the principle of "*leaving no one behind*." The training was informed by insights from an international workshop that took place in Addis Ababa from July 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> as part of the GPEDC's 4<sup>th</sup> Monitoring Round.

The Aid Information System Coordinator shared the key milestones and deadlines for online reporting. However, due to Christmas break the deadline for submission was extended to January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Only 50% of development partner agencies submitted their questionnaires through the Online Reporting Tool (ORT) at the end of 2024. The remaining 25 agencies have missed the deadline and are currently at various stages of completion, requiring follow-up.

## **5.6. Digital Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation System (DPMES)**

DPMES has been deployed and utilized for the past three years, however due to a capacity gap in planning, monitoring and evaluation, the experts of line ministries were not able to fully implement the DPMES within federal institutions. Implementing DPMES within federal institutions will help in refining the system based on real-time feedback, addressing hiccups and creating a standardized set of best practices.

### **5.6.1. Rolling out of DPMES to the Sub-National level**

MoPD prioritizes building planning, monitoring, and evaluation capacity of line ministries as well as of the core team at the Ministry as a means to contribute to achieving national development targets and improve policy dialogue with DPG and alignment to the National Development Plan. Once the system is functioning optimally at the federal level, and users are well-trained and familiar with DPMES, MoPD can confidently move to pilot the rollout at the subnational level starting with a single ministry or sector at the subnational level, using sector-specific plans and results matrices. This will enable MoPD to further tailor the system to meet the unique needs of sectors and regional entities. The main advantage of this phased approach is to minimize risks and ensure scalability of DPMES across both federal and regional levels, contributing to more effective governance, transparency, and accountability nationwide.

The Digital Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation System primarily rely on the result matrix of the national development plan as an input for comprehensive upgrading. Currently the result matrix of the national development plan as well as upgrading of the system have been completed. MoPD conducted several tests and deployed the system on Ethio-telecom's online server to ensure that power interruption would not affect its operation.

### **5.6.2. Capacity Development Support to Line Ministries**

Advanced training sessions focusing on data analysis, reporting, and utilization of DPMES for strategic planning and decision-making were held from July 15-26, 2024. After this advanced training, practical



trainings were provided from August 1<sup>st</sup> for a team of planning and M&E experts from all ministries and responsible institutions. As a result of these sessions, 2016 fiscal year performance and 2017 EFY quarterly plan have been entered into the DPMES enhancing the proficiency of planning monitoring and evaluation experts. Further to this, a workshop which aimed at enhancing the capacity of line ministries and affiliated institutions was held in September 2024.

The training sessions focused on practical scenarios that users encounter in their daily interactions with the DPMES, ensuring that they can effectively address and resolve challenges as they arise. Experts are encouraged to engage in these sessions regularly, which allow them to stay up to date with the latest system features, best practices, and troubleshooting techniques. Additionally, the in-house training model fosters a collaborative learning environment where users can share their experiences and solutions with one another. This peer-to-peer interaction not only enhances the overall learning experience but also strengthens the collective expertise of the team. By prioritizing continuous in-house training, the organization ensures that its workforce remains skilled, confident, and capable of fully utilizing the DPMES to achieve strategic goals. Feedback from line ministries on the M&E system assessment has been incorporated in the final document of the revised M&E policy framework.

### **5.6.3. DPMES Training Center**

The objective of establishing the demonstration and training center is to provide a comprehensive platform to showcase the capabilities of DPMES, while equipping stakeholders, including line ministries, with the skills and knowledge needed to effectively utilize the system. This involves creating a fast, secure, robust, and dynamic digital planning, monitoring, and reporting system; enhancing the development process and security; integrating information and data presentation; facilitating digital communication; and delivering targeted training programs for capacity building.

Despite encountering several challenges during the procurement process, the purchase of some essential equipment has been completed. However, the procurement of additional materials required for the training center is still ongoing. The training center will serve as both a demonstration hub for the system's functionalities and a capacity-building platform for line ministries and other stakeholders. The next steps include finalizing the design of the training center and expediting the acquisition of the remaining equipment to ensure the facility is fully equipped and operational.

### **5.7. SDG Tracker Tool**

The customization of the SDG tracker tool is progressing in phases. The first beta version of the Goal Tracker for Ethiopia is currently being configured, with a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This involves setting up content management systems, uploading data, and integrating indicators linked to Ethiopia's Ten-Year Development Plan (TYDP), SDGs, and Agenda 2063. Key milestones completed include the integration of relevant data and metadata from Ethiopia's previous Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and ensuring the platform reflects the Country's strategic priorities.



The tracker is being tailored to Ethiopia's context with features such as data gap analysis, interactive visualizations, and a comprehensive data explorer. The customization process includes ongoing updates and improvements to the code base, as well as continuous collaboration between the Ministry of Planning and Development (MoPD) and the development team to ensure that the platform meets the country's monitoring and reporting needs.



## VI. CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED AND WAY FORWARD

### 6.1. Challenges

- ❖ The finalization of the result matrix of the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan (MTDIP) was delayed until the third quarter of 2024, which dragged implementation of planned activities such as the printing of the document, which can serve to orient alignment of T/JWGs priorities and DPG investments towards the national priorities and targets.
- ❖ Customizing the SDG tracker tool to enable Ethiopia monitor progress made in sustainable development goals using an online, user-friendly, open-access portal was delayed a couple of months due to lack of funding. Further to this, availability of quality and disaggregated data is a critical input for the tracker.
- ❖ Deployment of fully-fledged and upgraded Digital Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation System (DPMES) and roll-out to sub-national level.
- ❖ Conflicts throughout the country hinder implementation of the national development plan.
- ❖ Limited technical capacity, particularly in the area of results-based management and gender equality affected the quality of reports received from Implementing Partners.
- ❖ Timely and accurate aid data entry by development partner agencies' focal points continued to be a challenge for the completion of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) mapping exercise.

### 6.2. Lessons Learned

- ❖ The Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan (MTDIP) is crucial to translating the national development goals into programmes and projects to achieve targets. The delay in the finalization of the plan affects the operationalization of technical and joint working groups. Hence, the Secretariat requested MoPD to share the draft document with DPG members to start their planning using the draft document until the final document is ready.
- ❖ In the third quarter, resources were secured for the recruitment of an international consultant who will develop SDG tracker.
- ❖ The consultant who developed the DPG Pooled Fund Phase VII project document proposed DPG member agencies to contribute multi-year resources for the project.
- ❖ In order to minimize the risk, MoPD decided to roll out DPMES in the agriculture sector as a pilot. Once the system is functioning optimally, the ministry will scale up and roll the system out to regions in a phased manner.
- ❖ Hostilities in different regions resulted in a challenging economic and social situation in the country.
- ❖ Capacity development and system strengthening support to the Ministry of Finance as well as to the Ministry of Planning and Development are some of the DPG's core activities which contribute to effective development cooperation and decision making.
- ❖ Bilateral consultations with development partners' focal points were instrumental to review aid information entered for the ODA mapping exercise, resolve challenges, and validate data.



### 6.3. Recommendations and way forward

- ❖ The final MTDIP will be finalized and shared with DPG members for proper alignment in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of their respective programmes.
- ❖ MoPD shared with the consultant who is developing SDG tracker the MTDIP Key Performance Indicator (KPI) matrix of the 10-year development plan so that she will link it with SDGs to customize the tool for Ethiopia.
- ❖ The Ethiopian Sustainable Finance Strategy has been approved by leadership in the Ministry of Finance. The strategy aims to expand sources of finance in a sustainable manner for the country.
- ❖ DPG Ambassadors emphasized the importance of fulling implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA).
- ❖ Capacity building training is required for MoPD and MoF teams to implement the planned activities in the specified timeframe and report accordingly.
- ❖ The ODA mapping exercise will enable MoF to clean Aid Management Platform (AMP) data and transit to implementing the findings of the aid information management scoping study. The Government of Ethiopia has decided - in line with recommendations of the scoping study on aid information management in Ethiopia - to develop a new aid information management system and expressed intention to mobilize resources to do it.



## 6.4. Risk Log

Project Title: Phase VI: Development Partners' Support to National Development Plans				Project ID: 000127695	Date: April 25 <sup>th</sup> 2023
No.	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Management response
1.	Conflict in the Northern part of Ethiopia and political unrest in many parts of the country affects the implementation of activities, particularly in regions.	Oct 2020	Political	Basic service delivery was adversely impacted in conflict affected areas. Field visits to monitor implementation of public and partner agencies' projects were affected. The conflict has no direct effect on most of the activities of the project, which are carried out in Addis Ababa. A number of consultations and activities in the regions affected by conflict may need to be suspended or delayed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- JWGs are advocating for the continuity of basic service delivery in affected areas.</li> <li>- Monitoring continued using virtual means of communications and reports.</li> <li>- MoF devised and put in place mechanisms to ensure effectiveness of delivery of social services in conflict-affected areas and project funds are spent for intended purposes.</li> <li>- PDRM hub conducts regular spot checks and verification of records.</li> </ul>
2.	COVID-19 pandemic creates uncertainty and difficulty to implement planned activities due to restriction on movement and gathering.	Feb 2020	Regulatory	Big annual events such as Annual Progress Review meetings of the national development plan, HLF, SWGs meetings and trainings are being held in person as the pandemic is with hybrid/online options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Virtual/hybrid meetings using zoom and MS-teams.</li> <li>- Training videos on YouTube were utilized to ensure project continuity.</li> </ul>
3.	Non-predictable funding and absence of multi-year commitment from DPG members affects implementation of planned activities.	Dec 2015	Financial	Activities in the approved work plan could not be implemented and adversely affected staff retention. Resource mobilization for programmes in Ethiopia affected by conflict in Ukraine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular resource mobilisation efforts were made by the Secretariat to ensure funding and multi-year commitments advocated by MoF, DPG Co-Chairs, ExCom, and SC members.</li> </ul>
4.	Alignment and coordination structure of DPG with GoE	Nov 2022	Strategic	Misalignment of SWGs to the recent restructuring of the government Ministries and organizations inhibits effectiveness of policy dialogue and development cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International consultant has been hired by the project to investigate the challenge and propose recommendations to improve efficiency.</li> <li>- T/JWGs have been reactivated to implement joint plan of action.</li> <li>- Evaluation of DPG phase VI project recommended to replace EDCTF with the existing DPG ExCom to make decision on HLF and T/JWGs.</li> </ul>
5.	Limited implementation capacity of IP to deliver planned activities in time.	Jan 2023	Organizational	Affects timely and effective delivery of project outputs and results.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project provides capacity development support to IPs, which is expected to decline the risk over time.</li> </ul>



## VII. DPG PHASE VI PROJECT RESULTS MATRIX

UNSDCF OUTCOME 3: By 2025, All people in Ethiopia benefit from an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economy			
UNSDCF Output 3.5. 2030 Agenda integrated in development plans and budget allocations at national and sub-national level with adequate financing mobilized			
Project Name: DPG Phase VI- Development Partners' Group Support to Development Plans in Ethiopia			
OUTPUT 1: Decisions making - A structured, inclusive, and evidence-based policy dialogue			
Indicator	Base Line	Target	Actual Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Launch of the 3-year National Development Plan organized to DPs and national plan shared.</li> <li>Annual development plan EFY 2022-2023 prepared and shared</li> <li>- Voluntary National Review (VNR) report on SDGs and Agenda 2063 prepared and shared</li> <li>- Launch of SDG goal tracker for Ethiopia using the DPMS</li> <li>- High Level Development Forum (HLDF) and (if confirmed by Government) High Level Business Forum (LLBF) conducted.</li> <li>- DPG HoAs retreat organized with action points followed through</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The 3-year Development Plan under preparation</li> <li>- Annual development plan EFY 2022-2023</li> <li>- MPD reported on Voluntary National Review (VNR) of SDGs to the HLPF in 2021</li> <li>- No SDG goal tracker</li> <li>- No High-Level Forum (HLF) held since 2019</li> <li>- No Retreat of DPG HoAs in 2023</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Completion and dissemination of the 3-year National Development Plan (2023-2026)</li> <li>- Annual development plan for EFY 2017 (2024-2025) developed</li> <li>- Voluntary National Review (VNR) report on SDGs and Agenda 2063 developed</li> <li>- SDG goals tracked regularly with the national development goals</li> <li>- 1 High Level Development Forum (HLDF) and (if confirmed by Government) 1 High Level Business Forum (HLBF) on agreed theme</li> <li>- Annual retreat of DPG HoAs conducted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MoPD finalized the 3-year medium-term national development and investment plan incorporating comments from line ministries as well as judiciary and legislative bodies in the result matrices. An advanced version of the Plan and Results Framework was presented to DPG at the retreat held in April.</li> <li>- Design of Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan is finalized and printing is ongoing.</li> <li>- Annual Development Plan for EFY 2017 has been developed and is under implementation.</li> <li>- MoPD technical team revised the existing M&amp;E policy collecting data on legal frameworks.</li> <li>- MoPD uses the Digital Planning, Monitoring &amp; Reporting System (DPMES) to track implementation of national priorities.</li> <li>- MoPD integrated the result matrix of the MTDIP to DPMES.</li> <li>- MoPD organized advanced training for planning and M&amp;E experts from line ministries.</li> <li>- MoPD is rolling out DPMES to agricultural sector as pilot before rolling the system out to the sub-national level to minimize risks.</li> <li>- The Development of the SDG goal tracker is progressing well with the help of an international consultant to track implementation of SDGs and Agenda 2063 targets in Ethiopia.</li> <li>- High-Level Development Forum (HLDF) was held on 14<sup>th</sup> March between GoE and DPG. A joint communique has been signed.</li> </ul>



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparatory work for the organization of a High-Level Business Forum (to be held in early May 2025) is underway.</li> <li>- DPG Annual retreat was held on April 30<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
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**OUTPUT 2: Decisions Implementation - Close coordination and optimized GoE/DPG and SWGs alignment**

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Actual Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPG co-Chairs meetings with MoF and MoPD held, and priorities agreed upon</li> <li>- 11 monthly DPG ExCom and DPG HoA meetings held with action points followed through</li> <li>- Number of visits to new DPG website after launch</li> <li>- Quarterly EDCTF meetings held</li> <li>- Final Review of DPG Phase VI project report produced, and DPG Phase VII project document developed</li> <li>- DPG-HCT biannual meetings on nexus implementation held and actions agreed upon followed through</li> <li>-Satisfactory performance of DPG Secretariat as per results of online survey involving DPG HoAs, IPs and T/JWGs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPG Co-Chairs meetings with Ministers of Planning &amp; Development (MPD) and Finance (MoF) to align priorities</li> <li>- Non-functional DPG website</li> <li>- Effective Development Cooperation Task Force (EDCTF) revamped and Joint Working Groups (JWGs) aligned with National Development Plan (NDP) structure</li> <li>- DPG Phase V project final review conducted</li> <li>- DPG-HCT joint biannual meeting on HDP nexus initiated</li> <li>- DPG Secretariat providing satisfactory service to DPG HoAs, IPs &amp; T/JWGs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eleven DPG ExCom and eleven DPG HoA meetings organized</li> <li>- New DPG website developed and operational</li> <li>- Review of DPG Phase VI project and preparation of DPG Phase VII project document</li> <li>- Satisfactory performance of the DPG Secretariat and proper utilization of DPG PF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 9 DPG ExCom meetings were held in 2024.</li> <li>- 9 DPG HoA meetings were held on prioritized topics, agreed with Government.</li> <li>- DPG website has been developed and launched and is operational, as it is a DPG online collaborative platform and X account. 2029. The DPG website received 2289 visits in 2024.</li> <li>- DPG co-chairs met with Technical &amp; Joint Working Groups leads to discuss on how to improve efficiency and agree the way forward. The draft DPG Pooled Fund Phase VII Project document proposes the development of annual Mutual Accountability Frameworks through which the profile of Joint Working Groups is upgraded through contribution of achieving specific milestones that contribute to national development plan targets.</li> <li>- The first Joint DPG-EHCT meeting on HDP nexus was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July to discuss the development of an operational framework for the implementation of the HDP nexus in Ethiopia.</li> <li>- The evaluation of the DPG Phase VI project has been completed and the findings presented and approved by DPG and government. The findings have informed the formulation of the DPG Pooled Fund Phase VII project document, a draft of which is already completed by the end of December.</li> <li>- The evaluation of the DPG Pooled Fund VI project indicates – based on broad consultations with DPG actors – a perception of satisfactory performance of the DPG Secretariat and of a cost-effective project,</li> </ul>



**OUTPUT 3: Monitoring and Evaluation / Transparency, mutual accountability and result oriented approach supported at national and sub-national level**

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Actual Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of recommendations of the aid information management scoping study, either upgrading of existing AMP system or developing a new one</li> <li>- Volume and quality of reported ODA project data is improved and better used for programming and coordination</li> <li>- Annual ODA flow report prepared and disseminated</li> <li>- Number of well-trained focal points with enhanced skills on ODA data management</li> <li>- Integrated National Financing Framework roadmap produced</li> <li>- Implementation of DPME system in regions (gradual)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aid Management Platform (AMP) managed by Development Gateway (DG)</li> <li>- Limited volume of ODA project data reported by DPs</li> <li>- Annual statistical bulletin published by MoF using AMP data</li> <li>- Regular trainings conducted to AMP focal points (new and refresher)</li> <li>- Scoping study on aid information management under conduction</li> <li>- Development Finance Assessment (DFA) under conduction</li> <li>- Digital Monitoring and Reporting System implemented at federal level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aid information management system and practice adjusted following recommendations of scoping study</li> <li>- Volume and quality of ODA data improved</li> <li>- Annual ODA flow report produced and disseminated</li> <li>- Annual new user and refresher training for aid information management system focal points</li> <li>- Recommendations of the scoping study on aid information management approved by DPG and GoE</li> <li>- Consultation and Implementation of the findings of DFA</li> <li>- Digital Planning, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation System rolled-out to regions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The international consultant who conducted the scoping study of aid information management presented the findings of the study.</li> <li>- Based on the findings of the scoping study, MoF has decided to develop a new Aid Information Management System.</li> <li>- ODA mapping and data cleaning exercise continued to improve the quality of data that will be migrated to the new system.</li> <li>- Annual statistical bulletin for EFY 2015 printed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>- Development Finance Assessment was completed and its findings used to develop an Integrated National Financing Framework/Ethiopian Sustainable Financing Strategy, which has been completed and approved by MoF senior leadership.</li> <li>- MoPD integrated the result matrix of the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan into the Digital Planning, Monitoring &amp; Reporting System (DPMES) to enable line ministries to report using the online system.</li> <li>- The 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring survey of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) started. UNDP Joint Support Team provided virtual briefing to the national team to use the online reporting tool. 50% of DPs have submitted the required data using the Online Reporting Tool (ORT).</li> </ul>
<p><b>VALUE FOR MONEY:</b></p>	<p>All procurement, recruitment and project implementation procedures ensure value for money principles. A competitive process is used and the least price with best quality product/service is selected.</p>		
<p><b>SAFEGUARDING MEASURES TO COUNTER AID DIVERSION:</b></p>	<p>Under UNDP's Anti-fraud Policy, UNDP staff members, non-staff personnel, vendors, implementing partners and responsible parties are not to engage in fraud or corruption. All staff members and non-staff personnel have essential duties in ensuring that fraud is prevented, detected, and dealt with swiftly. The policy provides that "all incidents of fraud and corruption are to be reported, will be assessed and, as appropriate, investigated in accordance with the Investigation Guidelines of the UNDP Office of</p>		



	<p>Audit and Investigations (OAI) and the UNDP Legal Framework for Addressing Non-compliance with UN standards of Conduct (UNDP Legal Framework) when applicable. UNDP will rigorously pursue disciplinary and other actions against perpetrators of fraud, including recovery of financial loss suffered by UNDP. All UNDP project/programme activities are governed by mutually pre-agreed Annual Work Plans approved by UNDP Resident Representative, State Minister of Finance, and a Senior Management member of the Implementing Partner (IP). UNDP regularly and routinely monitors actual progress and completion of the agreed activities. Prudent financial management is also maintained with regular spot checks by UNDP staff to ensure compliance and to inspect financial records keeping. If the need arises to make adjustments to the Work Plans/activities and corresponding budget, implementing partners are required to follow the established UNDP Project Management Guideline which requires partners to seek “reprogramming approval from UNDP”, which is granted only after a rigorous review/scrutiny by UNDP officers and officials. If partners/we have identified project activities that could not be implemented within the project duration for various reasons, UNDP in consultation with implementing partners, will introduce either what we call ‘delivery acceleration plan’ or initiate a ‘no-cost extension request’; With such rigorous compliance standards in place, it is fair to say that probability for fund diversion is almost zero. UNDP ensures that all IPs understand and fully comply with the (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices and (b) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation (OAI) Guidelines (UNDP Anti-Fraud Policy).</p>
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## VIII. SUMMARY OF DPG MEETINGS JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2024

Date of Meeting	Topics Discussed	Action Points	Status of Implementation of Action points
<b>DPG SC Meeting</b>			
31 <sup>st</sup> January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of DPG Pooled Fund Phase VI project performance in 2023 and approval of project's</li> <li>- Annual Work Plan (AWP) in 2024</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Start implementation of AWP 2024.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
<b>DPG ExCom Meetings</b>			
20 <sup>th</sup> February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation for the HLDF</li> <li>- Planning for DPG Retreat</li> <li>- Humanitarian Situation in Ethiopia</li> <li>- DPG Communications Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPG Secretariat to send invitation with relevant information in advance of the forum.</li> <li>- ExCom meeting in March will be longer than usual to discuss the agenda of DPG retreat.</li> <li>- DPG co-chairs to meet with GoE to address risks and opportunities in food security including front-loading funding and pivoting existing programmes to meet the growing needs.</li> <li>- DPG Communication to prepare HLDF communication pack and prepare a plan for 6 months with achievable targets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
19 <sup>th</sup> March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reflection on the HLDF</li> <li>- Findings of Development Finance Assessment</li> <li>- Aid Information Management Scoping Study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dedicate at least one full day for HLF &amp; select a more convenient time and venue for all participants.</li> <li>- DFA roadmap to be clustered into 4 categories for ease of follow-up and implementation.</li> <li>- Compare the feasibility of AMP and new system in table for decision making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will be considered for future meetings</li> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPG retreat</li> <li>- Reflection on Geneva Humanitarian pledging conference.</li> <li>- Addis road corridor project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carefully select a venue for DPG meetings within Addis Ababa closely consulting with HoAs for improved turnout.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>
29 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow-up on DPG retreat</li> <li>- Food system transformation and nutrition</li> <li>- DPG HoA meeting on Private Sector Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A follow-up meeting with T/JWG pillar leads to capture the outcome of the retreat.</li> <li>- A follow-up meeting between ExCom and T/JWGs pillar leads and co-chairs to discuss on MTDIP and selected targets.</li> <li>- Organize a separate meeting to streamline various plans.</li> <li>- GoE to launch Ethiopia's sustainable financing plan on the side event of FFD4 prep meeting in Addis.</li> <li>- Interested DPG HOAs to have a call with the Aid Information Management scoping consultant to better understand the pros and cons of developing a new system.</li> <li>- DPG Secretariat to prepare a letter for MoA, MoH and MoF to coordinate support by DPG.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not yet</li> <li>- Not yet</li> <li>- Not yet</li> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
20 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reflection on PSD &amp; HLBF preparation</li> <li>- Update on WB DPO</li> <li>- Joint DPG-EHCT meeting on HDP nexus implantation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPG Secretariat to follow-up on High-Level Business Forum</li> <li>- Share good practices and diagnostic studies to address existing disconnects and challenges in the private sector development/industrialization.</li> <li>- Share ToR for the evaluation of phase vi and formulation of DPG project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> <li>- In progress</li> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Break</li> </ul>		
20 <sup>th</sup> August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Priorities for the fiscal year (July 2024 – June 2025)</li> <li>- Way forward for Joint Working Groups (JWGs)</li> <li>- Macro-economic Reforms and Implication of IMF Support Package to Ethiopia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Based on feedback received from the DPG Secretariat to adjust the proposed calendar of DPG HoA meetings.</li> <li>- DPG Secretariat to send out letter from StM Semereta Sewasew to brainstorm on the way forward.</li> <li>- DPG co-chairs to have a follow-up meeting with StM Semereta Sewasew on next steps.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Done</li> </ul>



23 <sup>rd</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Briefing by WFP Representative</li> <li>- Preparation for High-Level Business Forum (HLBF)</li> <li>- Joint Working Groups (JWGs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPG Secretariat was tasked to share the letter sent by MoF with technical and joint working group leads.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
24 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluation of DPG Pooled Fund Phase VI &amp; Formulation of Phase VII Project.</li> <li>- Development of SDG Tracker for Ethiopia.</li> <li>- Approve agenda of upcoming DPG Heads of Agency meeting on Industrial Development Policy &amp; Skills Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ExCom members invited to provide feedback on the proposed DPG phase vii project document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
21 <sup>st</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- State and Outlook of the Ethiopian Economy.</li> <li>- High-Level Business Forum Preparations.</li> <li>- Reflection on how to strengthen the role of Joint Working Groups in DPG delivery.</li> <li>- Rescheduling of upcoming DPG Heads of Agencies meetings and fields visits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ExCom highlighted the importance of durable peace and strengthening strategic economic sectors to boost economic growth sectors, including through enhanced exports.</li> <li>- Procurement of consulting and event management firms will be conducted by UNDP.</li> <li>- EIC will identify topics for private-public dialogues among GoE, DPs and the private sector.</li> <li>- DPG T/JWGs will have an important role in the preparation of the High-Level Development Forum.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>
<b>DPG HoA Meetings</b>			
12 <sup>th</sup> February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Socio-economic briefing</li> <li>- Briefing on Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR).</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development partners requested to build synergies, sequence planning to complement existing programmes before implementation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>
27 <sup>th</sup> February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentations on Climate Change, Resilience and Food Security</li> <li>- Panel Discussion on Food Shortage in Northern Ethiopia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Agriculture to organize a separate meeting on food systems in Ethiopia.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Done</li> </ul>
13 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Food Systems Transformation &amp; Nutrition (FSTN)</li> <li>- FSTN roadmap, governance structure and game changing solutions.</li> <li>- Enablers and flagship programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strong collaboration with stakeholders including the private sector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>
4 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiatives advancing broader private sector development.</li> <li>- Trade/business development and regional integration</li> <li>- Investment promotion and care</li> <li>- Capital market development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GoE and partners to continue dialogue using ground-breaking initiatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPG-EHCT Joint meeting on HDP nexus implementation in Ethiopia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development in coming months of Operational Framework for HDP Nexus Implementation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>
5 <sup>th</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposed DPG Heads of Agency Meeting Topics and Schedule</li> <li>- Macro-economic Update &amp; IMF Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>	
1 <sup>st</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ethiopia's Macroeconomic Reform: Its implication on Fiscal and Monetary Policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GoE and DPG will work closely in the preparation of the High-Level Business Forum in January 2025 and agree on common messaging.</li> <li>- GoE to materialize accession to the World Trade Organization before its upcoming General Assembly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>
26 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reforms in Industry, Labor and Skills Development Sectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development partners urged to support business ecosystem development and engage in bilateral agreements at the county level.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>
13 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update on the National Dialogue Initiative.</li> <li>- Update on the Implementation of the National Transitional Justice.</li> <li>- Showcasing Response, Recovery and Reconstruction Efforts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development partners were invited to peace building efforts in Ethiopia by mobilizing adequate resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In progress</li> </ul>



EDCTF Meetings			
21 <sup>st</sup> March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation on Development Finance Assessment – Ethiopian Sustainable Finance Strategy (ESFS)</li> <li>- Presentation on preliminary findings of the Scoping Study on Aid Information Management in Ethiopia</li> <li>- Presentation on Monitoring Survey of the Global Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DFA Consultant to present the final findings to the study to DPG on 30<sup>th</sup> April at the DPG retreat.</li> <li>- Aid information management scoping study to be finalized and presented in the DPG retreat on 30<sup>th</sup> April.</li> <li>- Ethiopia will participate on the 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring survey of the GPEDC, and the process will be started in May 2024.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Done</li> <li>- Ongoing</li> <li>- Ongoing</li> </ul>
DPG Retreat			
30 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reflection on HLDF</li> <li>- MTDIP and alignment to national development priorities</li> <li>- Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF)</li> <li>- DPG communication strategy</li> <li>- Breakout session for pillar leads to strengthen partnership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve collaboration with JWG co-chairs and pillar leads</li> </ul>	In progress