



Ethiopia Wheat Value Chain Development Project

The Climate Resilient Wheat Value Chain Development Project (CREW) is a five year investment project by the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Ethiopia's agricultural sector. The project aims to improve the climate resilience of wheat production and increase smallholder farmers' incomes by promoting yield-enhancing seeds, irrigation technologies, and climate-adapted innovations, along with strengthening market and financial linkages. It also targets to strengthen institutional capacity for effective, results-oriented implementation and advance gender inclusion through targeted support for women and youth economic participation within the wheat value chain.

Adaptation Need

Ethiopia’s wheat sector is highly vulnerable to climate change, with rising temperatures and prolonged dry spells reducing yields and increasing postharvest losses. To strengthen food security and reduce reliance on disrupted global supply chains, the country must invest in climate-resilient wheat production—through promotion of heat-tolerant varieties, improved irrigation, and value chain infrastructure for storage, processing, and market access.

GCA’s Added Value

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) is providing targeted technical assistance to strengthen climate adaptation in Ethiopia’s wheat value chain. This includes identifying different groups of smallholder farmers based on their connectivity, literacy levels, and adaptation needs; assessing digital service providers and matching their services to specific farmer groups; and designing tailored digital advisory bundles that fit both the farmers’ needs and the service providers’ capabilities. GCA will also prepare a feasibility study and integration plan, facilitating stakeholder alignment on digital extension priorities, and supporting the training of extension agents using the Ethiopian Digital Climate Advisory Platform (EDCaP). GCA, in collaboration with CGIAR partners – CIMMYT, CIAT, IWMI, is also scaling climate-smart wheat systems by embedding resilient wheat varieties in Ethiopia, digital tools, and irrigation innovations into national systems to help smallholder farmers adapt to climate change.

Total Investment Value Influenced

\$94.00M

Beneficiaries

2.30M smallholder farmers

IFI Implementation period

2023 - 2027

Program

Food Security

Partners

African Development Bank, CIAT, IWMI, CIMMYT

Status

In progress

Countries



SDG contribution



PROJECT GOALS

Mainstreaming Adaptation and Resilience

GCA is mainstreaming adaptation and resilience within the CREW project by deploying proven digital advisory platforms and bundling real-time climate data with tailored agronomic recommendations to equip Ethiopia's smallholder wheat farmers with the tools to anticipate and manage climate risks. These integrated efforts will also strengthen Ethiopia's extension systems by promoting inclusive, localized, and climate-informed support—enhancing the resilience, productivity, and stability of the wheat value chain in the face of a changing climate.

Expected Outcomes

GCA's technical assistance contributes towards ensuring climate-risk responsive and sustainable outcomes on:

250,000 Farmers practicing climate-smart agriculture: and 25,000 ha under irrigation and efficient water management.

Enhanced national agricultural extension services system with at least 600,000 farming households benefitting from e-extension and digital climate advisory services.

200 women and youth trained as wheat extension agents.

200 Women and youth trained with leadership and management skills within wheat cooperatives.

TIMELINE

GCA Support Status

Technical Assistance Preparation

GCA Support Implementation

June, 2023

GCA Support Completion

Monitoring

Project Investment Value

Total Investment Value
\$94.00M

IFI INFLUENCING
VALUE

\$54.00M

OTHER INFLUENCING
VALUE

\$40.00M

IFI partners



African
Development Bank

Partners

CIAT

IWMI

CIMMYT

CONTACTS

Lead contact

PROJECT MANAGER

Mercy Nyambura

Senior Program Officer, Food Security & Rural Well-being

GENERAL MEDIA INQUIRIES

info@gca.org

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

FoodsecurityTeam@gca.org

African Development Bank Project Portal

