



Delegation Dispatch

In-house bulletin of EU Delegation to Ethiopia

The Ambassador's Corner



As Ethiopia's 2019 kicks into full swing, I am proud to continue to build on the successes of 2018, and I look forward to a productive and prosperous year for all.

That what started on 23 September with the takeover by TPLF of Mekelle, Axum and Shire airports in Tigray has developed into fighting on multiple fronts in northern Ethiopia. We call for an urgent end to the military confrontation and that a window for talks will open. There are no military solutions, dialogue is the only way for lasting peace.

I am proud to bring you the year's first edition of our EU Delegation to Ethiopia Dispatch, this public channel for us to share regular updates about our work is an important method of connection.

The European Union remains committed to sup-

porting Ethiopia's efforts to promote sustainable and inclusive economic development, its green energy initiatives, and digitalisation. As well as creating more opportunities for young people and strengthening health systems. Through all our cooperation, we aim towards a more prosperous future, especially under the EU's Global Gateway strategy.

In Ethiopia as elsewhere in the world, peace and security are essential foundations for development and prosperity. They are the conditions through which Ethiopia can unlock its full potential. The European Union firmly believes that sustainable peace can only be achieved through inclusive discussions, reconciliation, and engagement. At a time when the Horn of Africa faces complex challenges, dialogue and co-operation remain indispensable tools for building trust, preventing conflict, and securing a more peaceful future for all.

Greater mobility and stronger people-to-people connections between Ethiopia and Europe will also open further opportunities for business, education, cultural exchange, and cooperation. I look forward to continuing to strengthen these people-to-people ties. I am particularly pleased to congratulate the 55 outstanding Ethiopian students who have been awarded full

Erasmus+ scholarships. These young women and men represent the future of Ethiopia and a lasting bridge between our two peoples. Through bridge between our two peoples. Through education, knowledge and international exchange, they will gain skills and experiences that can contribute to Ethiopia's future development.

In the spirit of Meskel, let us renew our commitment to dialogue over division, and cooperation over confrontation. The European Union remains a strong, trusted and committed partner for Ethiopia, and I eagerly await the positive developments that 2019 will doubtless bring to Ethiopia, and to our common aims.



What's New in the Delegation?

Inside this issue:

Press & Info	2
Admin Team	3
Human Development	4
ECHO	5
Green Deal Team	6
Governance & Peace	7
From the History Book	8

Mission Statement of Our Delegation

To build a competitive, innovative, and trust-based EU-Ethiopia partnership rooted in shared values for sustainable investment.

Press and Information

Ethiopia: Joint Local Statement in support of AU-led mediation efforts in Northern Ethiopia

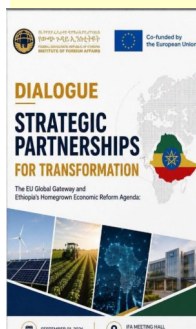
The Delegations of the European Union to Ethiopia and to the African Union issue the following statement together with the Diplomatic Missions of the EU Member States - Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden - and together with the Embassies of Canada, Norway and the United Kingdom in Addis Ababa.

1. We are following developments in the Northern Ethiopia with great concern.
2. We encourage all parties to engage constructively and in good faith on the implementation of the Permanent Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA). We welcome renewed consultations by AU High Representative for the Horn of Africa, former President Obasanjo, including his recent visit to Ethiopia and his meetings in Addis Ababa and Mekelle.
3. A renewed military confrontation in the Tigray region, already severely affected by drought and with high humanitarian needs, would be devastating for the people of Northern Ethiopia.

EU Wishes Ethiopians Happy New Year, Ambassador Says Union "Solid and Reliable Partner for Ethiopia"



European Union (EU) Ambassador to Ethiopia Sofie From-Emmesberger has extended her New Year best wishes to the people of Ethiopia, stressing that the Union is a solid and reliable partner for Ethiopia. The Ambassador wished Ethiopians peace, prosperity, good health and happiness.



The EU Delegation and the Institute of Foreign Affairs (IFA) exchanged views on EU Global Gateway and its potential to complement Ethiopia's Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda, in a spirit of partnership grounded in shared priorities and mutual ambition.

The EU Delegation to Ethiopia was honoured to attend the Commemoration of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, organized by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, and the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.



The European Union Delegation to Ethiopia, represented by Ambassador Sofie From-Emmesberger participated extensively in the Horn of Africa Initiative Trade Ministers' Meeting.

As a member of the Horn of Africa Initiative, the European Union remains committed to supporting trade facilitation, regional economic integration and stronger cooperation across the region.

Through enhanced connectivity, collaboration and



trade, we can unlock new opportunities and advance our shared vision of sustainable growth and shared prosperity for the people of the Horn of Africa.

Administration Team

Welcoming Our New Diplomatic Colleagues

The Admin Section is pleased to welcome our new diplomatic colleagues who joined the Delegation. We supported their arrival and settling-in arrangements, including airport reception, accommodation, protocol formalities and the preparation and handover of their residences.

We warmly welcome:

George KATSOULIS

Kate O'SULLIVAN

Daphnee RAYNAUD

Alex CALOTA

Daniela Oana GAGU

We wish them a warm welcome to Ethiopia and every success and happiness during their assignment with the Delegation!

Team Building Event – Strengthening Team Spirit and Collaboration

As part of our efforts to promote a positive working environment and strengthen team spirit within the Delegation, the Admin Section is also organising a team-building event scheduled for 5 November 2026.

The event will provide an opportunity for colleagues to step away from their usual daily routines, interact in a more informal setting, and strengthen cooperation and communication across the team. Through a range of activities, the event aims to encourage team spirit, mutual understanding, collaboration and a stronger sense of belonging.

The Admin Section is currently working on the practical arrangements to ensure that the event is well organised and provides an enjoyable and

meaningful experience for all participating colleagues.

Human Development Team

On 31 August 2026, the European Union attended the Ministry of Labor and Skills' National Consultative Meeting in Addis Ababa, reaffirming its commitment to close cooperation with Ethiopian partners on skills development, labour and inclusive employment. Opening the conference, H.E. the Minister reflected on the Ministry's five-year reform journey and outlined future priorities, including better aligning skills development with labour market demand, strengthening private sector engagement, and equipping young people for the digital economy through modern skills, coding and AI.

On 16 July 2026, the final evaluation dissemination seminar of the EU Trust Fund (EUTF) programme "Stimulating Economic Opportunities and Job Creation for Refugees and Host Communities in Ethiopia in Support of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)" brought together representatives from the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, EU Member State agencies, UN agencies, implementing partners and other international NGOs.



A joint mission by the European Union Delegation, CARE, and NEWA was conducted on 13 to 14 August 2026 in Dessie Town, South Wollo Zone, to review implementation progress of the EU-funded Project: ARISE project - Integrated GBV Response and Social Reintegration in Amhara region. The mission combined a biannual review meeting with field visits to selected project interventions. The visit provided an opportunity to assess early achievements and identify implementation bottlenecks in a challenging operating environment.



With support from the European Union, UNICEF and WFP have helped restore essential education services for conflict-affected children across six regions of Ethiopia, giving thousands of children the opportunity to return to safe and inclusive learning environments.

At the project's Final Evaluation, Validation and Dissemination Workshop on 23 July 2026, partners came together to reflect on achievements, lessons learned and the path ahead. The project also introduced the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme through capacity building and local food procurement, while introducing the innovative School Connect digital system to enhance programme monitoring and reporting.

Education opens the door to hope, recovery and opportunity. The European Union remains committed to supporting Ethiopia so that conflict-affected children can learn, grow and build a brighter future.



ECHO

DG ECHO Addis: saying goodbye to two colleagues...

In July, two of key team members of DG ECHO Addis office ended their posting, after three years of high commitment and valuable contributions during a challenging and evolving humanitarian context in Ethiopia: **Olivier BEUCHER** – Head of Office, and **Maria BERNARDEZ ERCILLA** - Technical Assistant (picture).

We wish them the best for their next adventures and hope we cross their paths again.

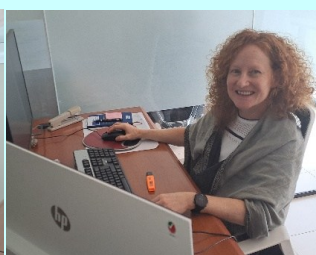


From left to right, Olivier Beucher and Maria Bernardez

In the month of August 2026, the ECHO office in Ethiopia received the replacements: Roman MAJCHER (from 24.08) – HoO; and Silvia MORIANA (from 03.08) - Technical Assistant.



Roman Majcher



Silvia Moriana

DG ECHO field monitoring missions: Supporting partners delivering humanitarian assistance in hard-to-reach areas.

In July, DG ECHO team conducted field monitoring missions... nothing unusual, this is part of our reasons to be part of the Field Network: working closely with partners, supporting them in the implementation of the projects and meetings with key stakeholders and beneficiaries.

But what is remarkable is that partners manage to operate in very hard-to-reach areas, despite armed clashes, insecurity, and logistical challenges such as poor road conditions... This requires preparation, humanitarian access negotiation, quality delivery of principled intervention, and acceptance, support and ownership of the projects by the local population. Indeed, nothing would be possible without the determination and courage of the communities to strive to get again basic services. The humanitarian actors make a paramount difference to help the most affected populations where public services cannot deliver anymore.

*Field monitoring mission in **Oromia region, East and West Wollega**: ongoing insecurity continues to strain local livelihoods schools, and essential services. **Rise*** project delivers an integrated response that combines Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) with Education in Emergencies to restore safe drinking water infrastructure, keep displaced children in protective learning environments, and boost local coping capacity.*

**Consortium led by People in Need, with Geneva Global and Center of Concern.*



***Amhara region, East Gojjam**, remote kabele of Enargi Enawega woreda: iHope* project supports the community to get back children to school after more than two years of interruption: Home-Based Instruction programme is offered for socialisation, basic literacy and maths, even if school, blackboard, chalks, etc. are forbidden by the Unidentified Armed Groups. Local means and dedicated facilitators are mobilised. This programme also provides psychosocial support and protection case management.*

Children claim their future and remain full of hope and dreams: peace, becoming a pilot, a teacher or a doctor...

** Consortium led by Plan International Ethiopia, with Geneva Global, Imagine One Day and World Vision Ethiopia.*

Green Deal Team

EU recognised at the EVA's 39th Annual Conference

The Ethiopian Veterinary Association (EVA) held its 39th annual conference on 28-29 August 2026, with the theme of Veterinarians: Guardians of Food and Health at the Ministry of Agriculture. The conference is the flagship gathering for Ethiopia's veterinary sector, bringing together close to 2,000 professionals, researchers, and policymakers focused on advancing animal welfare, veterinary ethics, livestock development, and the "One Health" initiative across the country.



As part of the conference, EVA organised a recognition ceremony to acknowledge organisations that have provided support to the Association over the years, including the EU. The EU has supported EVA through the HEARD and RESTORE projects, including through capacity building, financial support, data integration, and other areas of institutional strengthening. In recognition of this continued partnership, EVA presented a trophy to the EU, highlighting the longstanding collaboration between the two organisations and the EU's contribution to strengthening Ethiopia's veterinary sector.

Horti-LIFE Green Growth Project launched

The European Union joined the Government of the Netherlands, SNV and Ethiopian partners to launch Horti-LIFE Green Growth. The total budget of the action is EUR 50.8 million in which EU contributed EUR 14.6 million. It is an initiative supporting smallholder farmers through clean energy, innovation and stronger agricultural value chains. The project will expand access to practical renewable-energy solutions such as solar-powered irrigation, biodigesters, solar cold storage and solar dryers.



These technologies can help farmers reduce post-harvest losses, use water more efficiently and continue producing despite increasingly unpredictable weather conditions.

Governance and Peace Team

EU Supports Milestone in Ethiopia's Justice Journey: Expedite Justice Project Achieves Tangible Impact

On 27 August 2026, the EU Delegation to Ethiopia joined Project Expedite Justice and the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) to celebrate a groundbreaking initiative that has delivered real change. A defining achievement was the release of wrongfully detained prisoners in Benishangul-Gumuz, made possible through collaborative prison monitoring exercises between local NGOs and the EHRC. This landmark effort not only restored freedom to innocent individuals but also demonstrated how institutional partnerships can deliver concrete justice.



The EHRC's Deputy Commissioner highlighted that "true justice restores dignity and trust," underscoring the project's focus on victim-centered approaches.

The Head of Delegation (HoD), Ms Sofie From-Emmesberger, met with the President of the South Ethiopia Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations (SECCSA), Mr Bogale Bitane Menza, and his legal counsellor for a courtesy visit to exchange views on a partnership between the two institutions. The President of the South Ethiopia Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations (SECCSA) illustrated the numerous activities carried out by the Chamber of Commerce to promoting trade, investment, entrepreneurship, and sustainable economic development in the South Ethiopia region and on the upcoming South Ethiopia Investment Summit which will take place next November.

The Chamber based in Arba Minch serves as an important bridge between the business community, government institutions, development partners, academia, and international investors.

Inclusive Capital Markets project formally launched its 1st inaugural Steering Committee meeting

On 17 September 2026, the first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting of the Inclusive Capital Markets (ICM) project was held, marking an important milestone in the project's formal launch and governance set-up. The meeting was chaired by the Ethiopian Capital Market Authority (ECMA), with the European Union Delegation to Ethiopia as a Co-Chair.

The session brought together key institutional partners, including representatives from the Ethiopian Securities Exchange (ESX), Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, National Bank of Ethiopia, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations, Agence Française de Développement, and Expertise France.



Ethiopia's National Dialogue Commission Closes Landmark Plenary, Recommendations Now to Head to Parliament

On 22 August 2026, the Ethiopian National Dialogue Commission (ENDC) held its closure ceremony at the Addis International Convention Centre, marking the culmination of a process launched in 2022 and built on 2024 agenda-gathering consultations across all 1,234 woredas, followed by regional consultations and a national plenary of roughly 4,000 delegates across eight thematic working groups, from peacebuilding to socio-economic issues.

The proceedings began with a speech from Chief Commissioner Professor Mesfin Araya who underscored that the ENDC's scope went far beyond mere "administrative boundary disputes" and voiced hope for regional and interregional dialogues to carry forward implementation.

From the History Book

Several key historical milestones in the development of European integration and the European Union occurred during the month of **August**.

Key August Milestones in EU History

August 1975 — Helsinki Final Act

August 1994 — publication of the accession treaty for the 1995 enlargement

August 2008 — EU mediation in the Russia–Georgia conflict

August 2014 — provisional application of parts of the EU–Ukraine Association Agreement

August 2020 — EU response to the Belarus crisis

August 2021 — EU response to the Afghanistan crisis.

September marks several pivotal moments in the history and institutional calendar of the European integration process.

Key September Milestones in EU History

September 1929: French Prime Minister Aristide Briand delivered a historic speech at the League of Nations in Geneva advocating for a federal European union.

September 1946: British leader Winston Churchill gave his famous speech at the University of Zürich calling for a "United States of Europe" and the creation of a Council of Europe.

September 8, 1952: The Special Council of Ministers of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)—the precursor to the modern Council of the

European Union—held its very first meeting in Luxembourg.

September 20, 1976: The Act introducing direct universal suffrage for the election of the European Parliament was signed, giving the assembly direct democratic legitimacy.

September 2008: A severe global financial and economic crisis erupted, triggering major coordinated EU economic governance reforms.

State of the Union (SOTEU): Traditionally held each September, the President of the European Commission delivers the annual State of the Union address to the European Parliament, reviewing past achievements and outlining the upcoming legislative roadmap.

European Day of Languages: Celebrated annually on September 26 since 2001 (co-initiated with the EU) to promote linguistic diversity and language learning across Europe.



For further information
Solomon Kebede
Press and Information Officer
Solomon.kebede@ecas.europa.eu
EU Delegation to Ethiopia