

# Ethiopia and GPB Global Resources Battle Climate Change

Even in 2020, global climate change and its effects are still hotly debated topics around the world. While not all can agree on the reasons for the changes the planet is going through, many countries are still affected by the rapid changes in a very threatening way.

For example, Ethiopia was covered in 35% forest and indigenous vegetation just 20 years ago. This number has fallen to just 4% in that time and without intervention was continuing to drop.

Despite economic growth in the country, the region is prone to drought and famine, and the vegetation missing from the ecosystems in the country has only increased this problem. This is a dangerous problem considering that roughly 80% of the Ethiopian population makes its livelihood in agriculture.

However, on July 29th, 2019, Ethiopia and GPB Global Resources, an oil and gas exploration company, teamed up to plant 350 million trees in a single day, in an effort to re-establish the forests that were not so long ago covering a much larger portion of the country.

According to a study by ETH Zurich, the long term effects of more widely vegetated regions around the world will greatly improve the rate at which the carbon in the atmosphere can be naturally recycled back into the biosphere.

To improve the effectiveness of implementing a strategy on such a large scale, the Ethiopian government partners with exporters such as GPB Global Resources to help with these projects.

GPB Global Resources founded by Boris Ivanov has worked with the Ethiopian government since 2014. In their agreement to find profitable petroleum extraction sites, the Ethiopian government also asked that the company make a strong effort to improve the local communities.

By 2015 the GPB Global Resources alongside Ethiopian authorities had developed a full list of community development projects with budget timelines and sustainability measures, prioritized in order of greatest need.

This spirit of cooperation lends well to how much we can accomplish to adapt to climate change around the world while building strong and healthy communities with growing and sustainable business practices.

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