

Concept Note: Water and Energy Week in Ethiopia

1. Background

Ethiopia is recognized as one of the fastest growing economies in Africa, driven by rapid industrialization, expanding agricultural sectors, and increasing urbanization. Yet, this remarkable economic growth presents significant challenges, in particular meeting the rising energy demand while ensuring sustainable management of water resources.

Water and energy are vital pillars of Ethiopia's development trajectory, impacting health, education, economic growth, and climate resilience. Despite progress, the sectors face challenges such as resource scarcity, climate variability, infrastructure deficits, and institutional gaps. An integrated approach and multi-stakeholder engagement are essential to address these issues effectively. The Water and Energy Week aims to catalyze momentum, share innovative solutions, and foster partnerships that will enhance sustainable resource management.

2. Objectives

- Promote Integrated Resource Management

Facilitate discussion and collaboration among various stakeholders to develop integrated approaches to water and energy resource management, ensuring alignment with Ethiopia's sustainable growth strategies.

- Showcase Innovative and scalable solutions in water and energy sectors

Provide a platform to exhibit state-of-the-art technologies and best practices in hydropower, bioenergy, water conservation, and other renewable energy technologies.

- Expand Stakeholder Engagement (Facilitate dialogue among policymakers, private sector, development partners, academia, and communities)

Engage government agencies, private companies, research institutions, and civil society organizations in constructed dialogue and collaborative decision-making.

- Spark investments and policy reforms to promote sustainability.

- Strengthen capacity-building and knowledge sharing.

Organize capacity-building workshops and training sessions to enhance technical, managerial, and policy-related competencies in integrated water-energy management.

3. Thematic Areas

- Sustainable and Integrated water resource management and Water and Climate Information System
- Renewable energy promotion (solar, wind, small hydro, bioenergy)
- Water-energy-Food nexus and integrated planning
- Climate adaptation and resilience strategies for IWRM
- Access to clean water and affordable energy
- Policy, regulation, and investment climate
- Trans boundary Water Resources Governance and Management (This theme focuses on the governance and management of trans boundary water resources, including the principles of equitable and reasonable utilization, and the challenges and opportunities of cooperation among riparian countries.

4. Proposed Event Dates:

Last week of October to the first week of November (e.g., October 28 - November 1, 2025)

5. Key Activities

A. Pre-event Preparations (3 months prior)

- Establish an organizing committee
- Stakeholder mapping and engagement
- Identify themes, speakers, sponsors, and partners
- Develop marketing and communication strategy
- Secure venue(s), logistics, and materials

B. Main Activities (Week of the event)

Table

Activity	Description	Participants
Opening Ceremony	Keynote speeches, official launch	Government officials, partners, media
Technical Workshops	Sector-specific sessions, e.g., renewable tech, policy reforms	Experts, practitioners, academia

Exhibition	Showcasing innovations, technologies, projects	Companies, NGOs, government agencies
Site Visits	Visits to water projects, renewable energy plants	Participants, media
Policy Roundtables	Discussions on integrated policies, financing	Policymakers, sector leaders
Media Campaigns	Radio, TV, social media outreach	General public, stakeholders
Awards & Recognition	Highlights of excellence in the sectors	Innovators, implementers

C. Post-event Activities

- Publish event report and key recommendations
- Follow-up collaboration meetings
- Monitoring commitments made during the event
- Media follow-up and dissemination

6. Expected Outcomes

- Increased stakeholder awareness and commitment
- Strengthened partnerships and networks
- Enhanced policy dialogue and reforms
- Increased investments, project launches, and pilot initiatives
- Capacity building in relevant sectors
- Development of actionable roadmaps

7. Implementation Plan

Timeline & Milestones

Table

Timeline	Activities	Responsible Parties	Outputs
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3 months before	Planning kickoff, stakeholder mapping, invitation of speakers, and sponsors	Ministry of Water and Energy, Organizing Committee	Detailed work plan, stakeholder list
2 months before	Finalize venue, logistics, and marketing materials	Event Management Team	Operational readiness
1 month before	Confirm participation, initiate media campaigns, and remote engagement	Communications Team	Public awareness, media outreach
2 weeks before	Finalize program, print materials, logistics checks	All stakeholders	Readiness for event execution
1 week before	Final coordination meetings, participant registration	Event team	Final participant list
Day 1	Opening Ceremony & Keynote addresses	Ministers, sector leaders	Official launch
Day 2-3	Workshops, exhibitions, site visits	Sector experts, participants	Knowledge sharing, demonstrations
Day 4	Policy roundtables and stakeholder dialogues	Policymakers, NGOs, private sector	Policy recommendations
Day 5	Awards ceremony, closing remarks	Sector leaders	Recognition of achievements
Post-event	Report on publication, follow-up meetings	All stakeholders	Action plan, partnerships

8. Budget & Resources

The following budget components are identified and will be quantified

- Venue and logistics
- Promotional materials and media
- Event branding and signage

- Technical equipment and translation services (if required)
- Participant facilitation (travel, accommodation)
- Exhibition setup and materials
- Miscellaneous expenses

Funding will be sourced through:

- Government budget allocations
- Contributions from development partners
- Corporate sponsorships
- In-kind support from partners

9. Monitoring & Evaluation

- Set clear KPIs (attendance, partnerships formed, projects initiated)
- Feedback surveys from participants
- Regular progress reports on action items
- Post-event review to assess impact and lessons learned

10. Conclusion

The Water and Energy Week in Ethiopia is an important milestone to galvanize efforts towards sustainable water and energy management. Through targeted activities, strategic partnerships, and policy engagement, this event aims to unlock Ethiopia's potential, foster innovation, and accelerate progress toward national and global development goals.