



## **The European Union supports the reintegration of returnees and the management of labour migration in Ethiopia with 10 Million Euro (240 Million Birr)**

(29 January 2015) The European Union has granted 10 Million Euro (240 Million Birr) to support the reintegration of returnees and the management of labour migration in Ethiopia, with a focus on Ethiopian migrants who returned from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The project will directly assist around 50 000 people including returnees, victims of trafficking, potential migrants, migrants and their families and other local vulnerable community members including unemployed youth. Indirect beneficiaries are estimated to be around 1.5 million people.

*"I am very pleased that this important migration project has now been agreed upon between the Government of Ethiopia and the European Union. The project will not only help thousands of returnees to successfully reintegrate into their communities of origin. It will also help other vulnerable community members improving their livelihood, and help further strengthening the legal migration management system in Ethiopia, thereby providing a safer alternative to irregular migration and trafficking in human beings",* said Koen Doens, Director for East and Southern Africa from the Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development.

EU support will assist with reintegration:

- It will provide access to services such as schooling, medical services, and psycho-social counselling.
- It will also assist returnees and vulnerable community members in gaining access to career guidance, skills training, finance, and employment.

The EU grant also aims to improve the management of legal migration:

- It will enhance the capacity of relevant government institutions at federal and regional level.
- Based upon needs, the programme will support development of further policy and legal frameworks which will facilitate safe and legal migration and safe return for migrants.
- It will also sensitise communities to take informed decisions about migration.

The programme will focus on families and communities, as they play a crucial role in the migration and reintegration process. Activities will be conducted to better inform them on migration and help them understand the dynamics of migration and return migration, with particular focus on those at risk of exploitation and trafficking. Such activities will include family re-orientation, community networking and awareness raising programmes.

As female migrants are particularly vulnerable, the activities will include specific activities targeting women.

The reintegration support will be carried out by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in close cooperation with the Government of Ethiopia and civil society organisations, while the migration management and sensitisation components will be implemented by the relevant Government of Ethiopia authorities, in particular the Ministry of Labour and Social Services, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### **Contact person**

Solomon Kebede

Press and Information Officer

Phone: 0911 684 101

Email [solomon.kebede@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:solomon.kebede@eeas.europa.eu)

Website: [http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ethiopia/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ethiopia/index_en.htm)