

GREEN RISE AFRICA PROGRAMME

ETHIOPIA · GROW PILLAR

Scaling Green Livelihoods: 2,000 nano & micro green enterprises, 4,500 dignified youth jobs, six regions.

2,000

GREEN ENTERPRISES

4,500+

DIGNIFIED YOUTH JOBS

70%

YOUNG WOMEN

6

REGIONS

ABOUT SOIL & MORE ETHIOPIA

Soil and More Ethiopia (S&M) is a for-profit social enterprise working across sustainable livelihoods, climate resilience and inclusive green growth. S&M fields a decentralized, multidisciplinary team of agronomists, enterprise coaches, finance specialists and gender experts, with active working relationships across government, financial institutions and the private sector.

Track record: in partnership with FC Africa, S&M has directly established and supported more than 2,000 SMEs across Ethiopia's circular economy — composting, recycling and waste-to-energy — impacting an estimated 21,000+ individuals (2020–2025, MasterCard BRIDGES programme), alongside recent green-practice and clean-energy due-diligence assignments (2026 MESMER Green Practice Assessment; 2026 REACT 2.0 for AECF-funded clean-energy enterprises).

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Green RISE Africa (Resilient Impact through Sustainable Entrepreneurship) is a five-year initiative implemented by Acumen in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, strengthening Africa's green economy and expanding dignified work for young people. Under the GROW Pillar, FC Africa coordinates delivery across Ethiopia through a network of Named National Entrepreneurship Support Organizations (NESOs).

Soil and More Ethiopia is a Named NESO for Ethiopia. S&M will identify, mobilize, diagnose and support 2,000 green nano and micro enterprises (70% nano / 30% micro) across Amhara, Oromia, Sidama, Central Ethiopia, South Ethiopia and South West Ethiopia — contributing to a cumulative minimum of 4,500 verified Youth in Work outcomes, with at least 70% young women, 7% forcibly displaced persons, and 3% persons with disabilities.

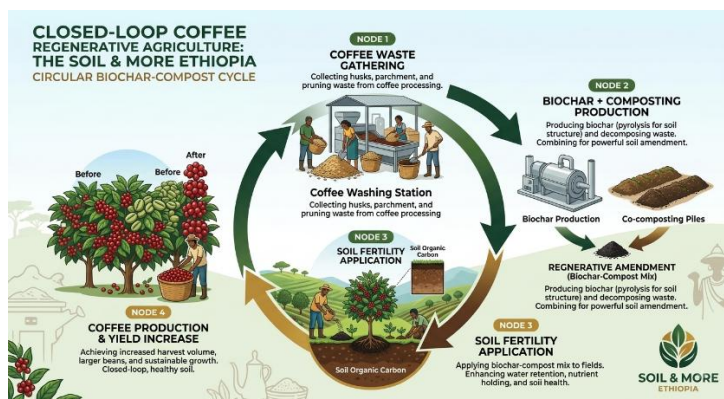
PRIORITY GREEN SECTORS

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE — 35%

CIRCULAR ECONOMY — 35%

RENEWABLE ENERGY — 25%

ECO-TOURISM — 5%



OUR DELIVERY APPROACH

Enterprises progress through a seven-phase pathway — from ecosystem mapping and diagnostics through legal formalization, hands-on green skills training, access-to-finance facilitation, and market linkages — delivered by five Regional Coordinators and twenty Enterprise Coaches working through trusted government, cooperative and civil-society networks rather than cold outreach.

1. Ecosystem Mapping & Hub Set-up	2. Value Chain Opportunity Assessment
3. Enterprise Outreach, Diagnostics & Selection	4. Legal Formalization
5. BDS Training & Innovation Labs	6. Access to Finance Facilitation
7. Market Linkages & Growth	

WHERE WE WORK

AMHARA	OROMIA	SIDAMA
CENTRAL ETHIOPIA	SOUTH ETHIOPIA	SOUTH WEST ETHIOPIA

A flagship cross-sector value chain converts coffee-washing-station by-products (pulp, husk) into compost and biochar, paired with improved-variety coffee nurseries developed with the Ethiopian Coffee and Tea Authority — closing a nutrient loop and giving Regenerative Agriculture and Circular Economy enterprises a built-in local market.

EARLY PROGRESS — SINCE AUGUST 2026

- ▶ Service Provision Contract signed with FC Africa; core leadership team (Program Director, Deputy Program Director, Project Coordinator, MEL & Inclusion Specialist, Multi-Sectoral Green Specialists) mobilized.
- ▶ Enterprise diagnostics tool and baseline assessment tool developed, adapted from S&M's existing field-tested survey instruments.
- ▶ Recruitment of five Regional Coordinators and twenty Enterprise Coaches under way across all six target regions.
- ▶ Institutional partnership outreach launched with government job-creation offices, cooperatives/unions, and women's, disability and displacement-focused organizations.

WAY FORWARD — CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP

S&M invites the following partners to join this effort:

- ▶ **Financial institutions** — MFIs, RuSACCOs and banks to extend character-based and group-lending products to enterprises without conventional collateral.
- ▶ **Buyers & off-takers** — businesses and cooperatives ready to source compost, biochar, solar products, recycled materials and other green outputs at scale.
- ▶ **Government & community institutions** — continued collaboration with woreda trade offices, cooperatives and unions to fast-track enterprise formalization and market access.
- ▶ **Investors & co-funders** — early conversations on climate finance and carbon-revenue mechanisms that can sustain enterprise support beyond Year 1.

Program Contact

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