



## ETHIOPIA: an overview

### Key facts



- ✓ Fastest growing economy in Africa
- ✓ Strategic country with the headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa
- ✓ Growing number of Ethiopian students in Ethiopia and studying abroad
- ✓ English-medium secondary and higher education

### General presentation

- **Population** : 102.5 million
- **Official name** : Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- **Capital** : Addis Ababa (3 million inhabitants)
- **Political System** : Federal Republic, divided into 9 states
- **Rural population** (in % of total population) : 80%
- **Annual population growth**: 2.50%
- **Major Languages**: Amharic, Oromo, Tigrinya, Somali
- **Ethnic groups** : more than 70 different ethnic groups
- **Religion**: 43% Orthodox Christians, 34% Muslims, 19% Protestants
- **Life Expectancy**: 63 (men), 67 (women)



With about 102 million people (2016), Ethiopia is **the second most populous nation in Africa** after Nigeria, and **the fastest growing economy** in the region. However, it is also one of the poorest, with a per capita income of \$783. Ethiopia aims to reach lower-middle-income status by 2025.

Ethiopia's economy experienced strong, broad-based growth averaging 10.3% a year from 2006/07 to 2016/17, compared to a regional average of 5.4%. Ethiopia's gross domestic product (GDP) is estimated to have rebounded to 10.9% in 2017.

Higher economic growth brought with it positive trends in **poverty reduction in both urban and rural areas**. The share of the population living below the national poverty line decreased from 30% in 2011 to 24% in 2016. The government is implementing the second phase of its **Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II)** which will run to 2019/20. GTP II aims to continue expanding physical infrastructure through public investments and to transform the country into a manufacturing hub. GTP II targets an average of 11% GDP growth annually, and in line with the manufacturing strategy, the industrial sector is set to expand by 20% on average, creating more jobs.

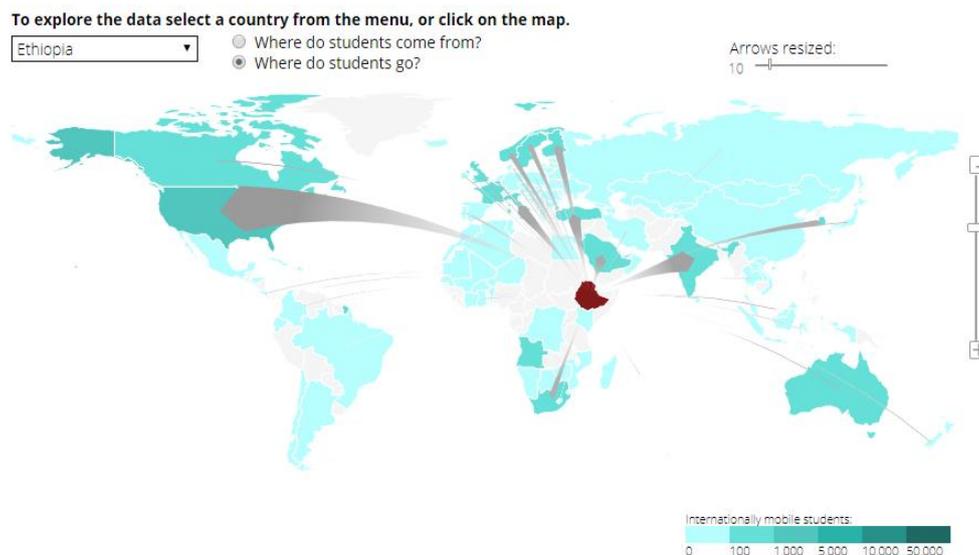


## Higher Education Institutions in Ethiopia

A rapid expansion of the higher education system is ongoing in the country. The Ethiopian government sees higher education as an important plank in its strategy for social and economic development. With 27% of government budget dedicated to education, **the education sector accounts to the largest proportion of government expenditure**. The government demonstrates a political will to extend the diversity of training courses offered by universities and to develop universities all over the country. Whereas there were only 2 public universities at the beginning of the 2000s, there are today more than 120 HEI in the country.

- **33 public universities** (and 11 more are planned to open in the next few years)
- **90 private universities**
- **Addis Ababa** is where most HEI are located, as well as 60% of the 15-18 year old school children. The standard of living in the capital is higher than in the rest of the country.
- **English** is the language used for secondary and higher education.

## Outgoing Student Mobility Figures



<http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow>

- In 2015, **6 453** Ethiopian students studied abroad, which represents an increase of **19.3% since 2010**.
- **The United States** is the preferred destination for Ethiopian students (1,601 students).
- There are however, more than 1,800 Ethiopians students in Europe mainly in Italy, Turkey, Finland, Sweden, Norway, France, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Austria, Czech Republic, Spain, Hungary, Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Malta, and Romania.
- **With a population that should double by 2050 and an average age of 24, Ethiopia shows great potential for recruitment and mobility towards European HEI.**



## Erasmus + in Ethiopia

- International Credit Mobility<sup>1</sup>**

	TOTAL	2018	2017	2016
Proposals received involving Ethiopia	90	35	25	30
Projects selected involving Ethiopia	56	23	17	16
Students and staff moving to Europe	238	87	72	79
Students and staff moving to Ethiopia	149	58	46	45
Percentage of regional budget (see chart)	8,2	8,6	7,0	9,0

- Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD)**

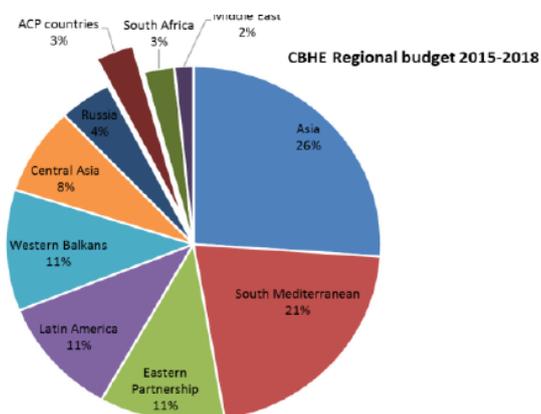
Ethiopia in EMJMD projects	TOTAL	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Total EMJMDs selected	153	44	39	27	32	11
Total proposals received	506	112	122	92	119	61
Proposals received involving Ethiopia	6	3	3	0	0	0
EMJMDs selected involving Ethiopia	1	1	0	0	0	0
Full partners from Ethiopia in EMJMDs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Associates from Ethiopia in EMJMDs	1	1	0	0	0	0

- Capacity Building for Higher Education**

Ethiopia in CBHE projects	TOTAL	2018	2017	2016	2015
Proposals received in call overall	2456	887	833	736	0
Projects selected in call overall	443	147	149	147	0
Proposals received involving Ethiopia	18	5	8	5	0
Projects selected involving Ethiopia	2	1	0	1	0
Projects coordinated by Ethiopia	0	0	0	0	0
Instances of participation from Ethiopia	5	2	0	3	0

in selected projects

Capacity building projects can be addressed to a group of countries or a single country. They can also be cross-regional, including institutions from different partner regions.



<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/erasmus-plus/factsheets/africa/erasmusplus\\_ethiopia\\_2017.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/erasmus-plus/factsheets/africa/erasmusplus_ethiopia_2017.pdf)



• **Scholarship winners from Ethiopia**

**Scholarship-winners from Ethiopia**

*from global budget*

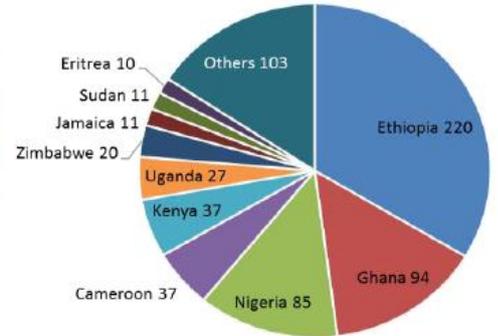
*From additional regional budget*

*Scholarships worldwide*

*EM programmes offering scholarships*

TOTAL	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>220</b>	49	45	50	38	38
<b>168</b>	32	31	29	38	38
<b>52</b>	17	14	21	0	0
<b>7259</b>	1669	1556	1347	1308	1379
	86	100	87	120	149

**Top 10 ACP Countries EMJMD Scholarship 2014-2018**



**To learn more ...**

**About development in Ethiopia**

<http://uis.unesco.org/country/ET>

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/ETH#>

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/ethiopia/overview#1>

**To learn more about student mobility from Ethiopia:**

<http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow>

**Erasmus+ and Ethiopia**

[https://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/erasmus-plus/factsheets/africa/erasmusplus\\_ethiopia\\_2017.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/erasmus-plus/factsheets/africa/erasmusplus_ethiopia_2017.pdf)

**EU-Ethiopia relations (updated February, 2019)**

[https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/factsheet\\_eu\\_ethiopia\\_0.pdf](https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/factsheet_eu_ethiopia_0.pdf)

**A publication from Nuffic about the education system in Ethiopia**

<https://www.nuffic.nl/en/publications/education-system-ethiopia/>

**A publication from the DAAD and the British Council about research, "Research and PhD capacities in Sub-Saharan Africa: Ethiopia report"**

[https://www.daad.de/medien/der-daad/analysen-studien/research\\_and\\_phd\\_capacities\\_in\\_sub-saharan\\_africa\\_-\\_ethiopia\\_report.pdf](https://www.daad.de/medien/der-daad/analysen-studien/research_and_phd_capacities_in_sub-saharan_africa_-_ethiopia_report.pdf)