



5612 SW Windflower Dr.

Corvallis Oregon 97333 USA

Telephone: 1(541)760-8742

Email: badegebishaw@gmail.com

Ethiopian Environment and Sustainable Development Council (EESDC)

October 4, 2025

**Ethiopian Environment and Sustainable Development Council
Press Release**

The Ethiopian Environmental and Sustainable Development Council (EESDC) extends heartfelt congratulations to the people of Ethiopia and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on the successful completion of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). This monumental achievement exemplifies Ethiopia's unwavering commitment to sustainable development and the equitable use of its natural resources for the benefit of both present and future generations.

The completion of the GERD marks a historic milestone, reflecting a spirit of national unity, regional cooperation, and the collective dedication of diverse stakeholders. The vision and leadership of policymakers, the expertise of engineers and scientists, the support of financiers, and the steadfast commitment of the Ethiopian people have all been pivotal in realizing this significant national endeavor.

As we celebrate this occasion, it is crucial to recognize the responsibilities that accompany such a transformative project. Ensuring the sustainable management of the dam, protecting its surrounding ecosystems, and maximizing its developmental and humanitarian potential will require ongoing vigilance, collaboration, and adherence to international best practices.

EESDC strongly believes in and advocates for the following:

- The energy generated from the dam should be prioritized to alleviate poverty and combat environmental degradation in Ethiopia. This initiative must also promote rural electrification for the more than 60 million Ethiopians currently living without electricity.
- Implementing integrated watershed management is essential to sustainably manage water resources and protect other natural resources, including fisheries and biodiversity, while also addressing deforestation and climate change.
- Establishing a protective buffer zone around the GERD reservoir will help trap sediment and extend the dam's life. Safeguarding GERD through national sediment control and watershed stewardship is an urgent imperative.
- The GERD should foster regional cooperation through payment for ecosystem services that benefit both upstream and downstream countries.

The EESDC reaffirms its unwavering commitment to supporting this endeavor by providing advanced professional expertise, mobilizing its global networks, and promoting sustainable environmental stewardship. In doing so, we aim to ensure that the GERD remains a model of clean energy generation, equitable development, and ecological harmony, contributing not only to Ethiopia's national aspirations but also to peace, prosperity, and regional integration.

Thank you.

Ethiopian Environment and Sustainable Development Council
