

Press release

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Development cooperation: Saxon-Ethiopian innovations represented at the Africa Climate Summit 2025

German development cooperation promotes knowledge transfer and supports partners in implementing adapted solutions to achieve global development goals. On behalf of the BMZ, the DBFZ is implementing the “ETH-Soil” project in Ethiopia. Since 2021, successful and sustainable capacity building has been taking place for the quality-assured production and application of biochar-based fertilizers from biogenic residues. Against this backdrop, the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture has decided to share the positive effects of ETH-Soil with colleagues from other African countries at the Africa Climate Summit (ASC2) from September 8-10, 2025.

The international Africa Climate Summit (ASC2) aims to coordinate concrete measures and financing options to combat climate change on the African continent. In the Ethiopian pavilion, a panel discussion on September 10, 2025, will focus on the exchange of experiences from Ethiopia on the long- and short-term effects of soil improvers based on biochar. Teshome Bogale, director general of the ETH Soil project partner Oromia Agricultural Research Center, will moderate the exchange of experiences and report on almost four years of practical biochar trials within the ETH Soil project. With the project coming to an end in late 2026, the event is an important signal of the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture, the Oromia Regional Government, and its research institute to support the developed approach for soil health health improvement.

Also on September 10, 2025, DBFZ will host a side event in the Team Europe pavilion. Together with experts from Africa and Europe, DBFZ scientist Dr. Annett Pollex will discuss the certification of carbon sinks created by the application of biochar to soil – a prerequisite for the participation of small and large producers in the voluntary carbon market. As part of the Ethiopian Clean Cooking Alliance's Clean Cooking Side Event on September 8, Dr. Kerstin Wilde (ETH-Soil project manager) will also present cookers developed for rural regions in Ethiopia and Togo as part of the DBFZ research projects “HeRoTogo” and “ETH-Soil.”

The DBFZ's long-standing commitment to development cooperation projects with a focus on Africa enables it to implement convincing and evidence-based concepts and technologies for the valorization of unused biomass potential with African partners. In recent years, research projects carried out by the DBFZ have achieved groundbreaking milestones such as the development of

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virtually emission-free stoves, the establishment of biogas laboratories, and ongoing training in plant technology and measures for soil improvement and thus food security.

Background Africa Climate Summit

The Africa Climate Summit (ASC2) is the follow-up event to the Africa Climate Summit 2023 and will take place from September 8 to 10 in Addis Ababa, hosted by the African Union Commission and the country of Ethiopia. High-ranking representatives from international politics, NGOs, donors, and the private sector will be in attendance. The “Team Europe Pavilion” is the joint stage of the European Union and its member states, showcasing how Europe's climate partnership with Africa works in practice. As part of the Global Gateway initiative, Europe is investing in Africa's ecological transition: from renewable energies and climate-friendly agriculture to sustainable financing and innovation.

Further information:

<https://africaclimatesummit2.et/>

www.eth-soil.com

www.dbfz.de/en/herotogo



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