

Our Goals

- Establish, in an agricultural region of Ethiopia, a university and training center that focus primarily on the environment and agriculture.
- Educate and train farmers, middle managers, and leaders in the principles and practices of sustainable agriculture and resource management.
- Establish a botanical garden to preserve plants and serve as a biological library for teaching and respite.
- Promote agribusinesses and diversify the economy.
- Empower women in agricultural and community development.
- Foster international links in teaching and research.
- Promote noticeable positive change in the environment and agriculture of the region.
- Create a model institution to be emulated and multiplied elsewhere in Ethiopia and Africa.
- Attract other qualified individuals among the Ethiopian diaspora into this collaborative project.

Next Steps

- Purchase and secure land by December 2017.
- Draw up business and site plans.
- Discuss options for economic development with government officials.
- Begin work on developing a comprehensive university curriculum and practical training program for agricultural and environmental studies.
- Explore options for women's empowerment within local cultural settings.

Initial Costs

Land purchase & fencing:	\$220,000
Campus & research development	\$1,200,000
TOTAL:	\$1,420,000

BEAUTC is a charitable organization and all donations to this project are tax deductible.

About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the funds needed to purchase and fence the land have already been donated.

To make your donation or inquire about this project, please contact us or make donation online at www.beautc.org.

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Bethel Environmental and Agricultural University and Training Center

BEAUTC



Train a Farmer – Feed a Nation



Ethiopia is a country with a long history and rich diversity of peoples, cultures, landscapes, and natural resources. In the late 1800s more than half the country was still covered with dense natural forests, and Ethiopia was known as the “water tower of Africa”. Today Ethiopia is the second most populous country in Africa, with more than 91 million people, but only the tenth largest in area (1,112,000 km²). The dense forests are mostly gone, and water is increasingly scarce.

Agriculture has been practiced in Ethiopia for thousands of years. Experts believe this area to be the origin of many of the crops now cultivated around the world. Agriculture currently accounts for about 46% of Ethiopia’s GDP and 85% of total employment.

The Problem

Ethiopia’s population has grown by 40% since 2000. This rapid increase, along with land scarcity and a changing climate, has led to growing pressure on the land, particularly in the highlands, which have 95% of the country’s cultivated land. Many social and physical factors, including poor education and resource management, deforestation, drought and desertification, and land degradation from overgrazing and soil erosion, interact to threaten Ethiopia’s agricultural productivity, and thus its food security.

Our Answer

To help reverse this devastating trend, we plan to establish an educational institution and training center that focus on training and equipping farmers, community leaders, and agricultural specialists at all levels in practices that will revitalize, protect, and preserve the country’s valuable land and water resources. The overall goal of this project is to reduce environmental degradation and increase Ethiopia’s capacity to produce more and better food, thus stabilizing livelihoods, reducing poverty, and improving people’s nutrition and health.

BEAUTC

We have named this venture the Bethel Environmental and Agricultural University and Training Center (BEAUTC). We are planning to locate this facility near Wolliso, in the Oromia Region of Ethiopia, a prime agricultural region where land is available for purchase.



Who We Are

We are a group with expertise in agriculture, economics, and development. We see education and training as a way of helping people have a decent life today and a more hopeful future, through a better

understanding of the principles and practices of environmental stewardship and sustainable agriculture.

BEAUTC is governed by two affiliated boards of directors, one in Ethiopia and one in the U.S. We have worked together to develop the vision for this project.



Our Vision

Ethiopians and other Africans will experience a vibrant and thriving environmental and agricultural landscape.

Our Mission

To establish a university and training center focused primarily on environmental stewardship and agricultural productivity that will serve the people of Ethiopia and other parts of Africa.

Our Purpose

To impart environmental and agricultural knowledge and skills that will enable Ethiopians and other Africans to protect their environment and practice sustainable agriculture.