



PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY DELEGATION: STARTUPS & CREATIVES

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's future is now. Africa's fastest growing economy, and the continent's second most populous country, is at the precipice of unprecedented opportunity for both Ethiopians and the global community. Ethiopia is demonstrating a clear intent to engage more actively with the private sector as the country strives to maintain its growth and meet its goal of reaching lower-middle income status by 2025. Investors, entrepreneurs, and philanthropists from the United States and Ethiopia will have unparalleled opportunities to bolster their vision for the future.

THE OPPORTUNITY

THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY 2019, the Secretary's Office of Global Partnerships will organize a Partnership Opportunity Delegation (POD) to Ethiopia to cultivate and enable U.S.-Ethiopia partnership opportunities, and provide unique insight and networks to bring much needed investments and connections to the Ethiopian startup ecosystem and nascent creative industry.

POD PARTICIPANTS WILL INCLUDE:

- Angel investors
- Tech ventures and startups
- Educational institutions
- Creative industry players
- Ethiopian diaspora
- Startup ecosystem developers

PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Engage government leaders in discussions on investment climate and opportunities;
- Discuss with Ethiopia's private sector leaders potential projects, partnerships, and business opportunities;
- Meet with local ecosystem builders to gain a deeper understanding of startups;
- Visit with local startups and creatives about partnership and investment possibilities.
- Attend [WiSci Ethiopia](#) activities and African Developers Conference (AfriDevCon).
- Participate in the mentorship of growing and high impact Ethiopian enterprises

Partnership Opportunities Delegation (POD) is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State's Office of Global Partnerships to facilitate partnership activities between private sectors of the U.S. and selected countries. The Ethiopia POD builds on the successes of PODs to Armenia, Tanzania, Ireland, Colombia, and Myanmar.

BACKGROUND ON ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is moving towards greater private sector participation, and has announced plans to privatize a number of enterprises and industries long-controlled by the state. The government of Ethiopia has focused on the services sector as potential engines of growth and seeks partners to develop the technology and creative industries. The country is revamping policy to rely more heavily on public-private partnerships, and has unveiled plans to improve the ease of doing business, an exciting development for the private sector both in and outside of Ethiopia.

THE PARTNERSHIP

The Secretary's Office of Global Partnerships is the entry point for collaboration between the U.S. Department of State, the public and private sectors, and civil society. The Office aims to strengthen and deepen U.S. diplomacy and development around the world through partnerships that leverage the creativity, innovation, and core business resources of partners for greater impact.

CONTACT

For more information about the POD and to join the Delegation, please email partnerships@state.gov