

Beautifying Sheger River Development Project — Addis Ababa's Contested Riverside Greening Programme

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Ethiopia

Quality score: 7/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Addis Ababa's flagship plan targets 69 km of riverbanks with parks and stormwater ponds, but an independent review found most promised measures unbuilt, sewer outflows untreated, and resident participation minimal.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	0/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-08-23

City of Addis Ababa (Beautifying Sheger project office), financed via the African Development Bank Urban & Municipal Development Fund with Italian, Chinese and Korean development agencies and UN-Habitat — accessed 2026-08-23

allAfrica.com: Addis Ababa "Beautifying Sheger" River Development Project — accessed 2026-08-23

WCSCD: The Danger of Ambition and Neglect — The Case of Beautifying Sheger — accessed 2026-08-23

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