

DEBRE BIRHAN CITY CLIMATE GOALS & STRATEGY (2025–2035)

A 10-Year Climate Action and Resilience Framework

The Debre Birhan city Climate Goals and Strategy (2025-2035) outlines a comprehensive, science-aligned and policy-consistent roadmap for climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience building over a 10-year period.

Vision

- ✓ A climate-resilient, low-carbon, inclusive, and prosperous Debre Birhan by 2035, where people, infrastructure, and nature thrive in harmony with a changing climate.

Policy Alignment

This strategy is fully aligned with:

- Ethiopia’s Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE)
- Ethiopia’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Paris Agreement
- Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM)
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Quick Facts: Debre Birhan City

- Estimated population: ~450,000, growing at 2.7% annually
- High-altitude, cold climate with increasing climate variability
- Rapid urban growth and infrastructure expansion
- Emerging industrial zones and agro-processing activities
- High dependence on biomass energy at household level
- Exposure to climate hazards: cold extremes, flooding, drought stress, and water scarcity

Why Climate Action Matters

Rapid urbanization and industrial growth are increasing pressure on energy systems, land use, waste management, and public health.

Key Climate Action Pillars

1. Mitigation Strategy

- Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Expand renewable energy production
- Promote energy-efficient buildings and clean cooking
- Strengthen sustainable urban mobility and public transport
- Improve waste management and circular economy practices
- Integrate climate-smart land use and green infrastructure

2. Adaptation & Resilience Strategy

- Protect communities from extreme weather events
- Strengthen water security and climate-resilient supply systems
- Improve flood risk and stormwater management
- Address public health and climate-sensitive risks
- Promote ecosystem protection and nature-based solutions
- Support food security and urban agriculture
- Enhance community resilience and social protection

Priority Sectoral Interventions

- **Energy & Buildings:** Energy efficiency, clean cooking, renewable energy deployment
- **Transport:** Public transport enhancement, non-motorized mobility, gradual electrification
- **Waste Management:** Waste reduction, composting, recycling, methane mitigation

- **Land Use & Urban Planning:** Urban greening, ecosystem protection, compact development

10-Year Implementation Roadmap

Phase I: Foundation & Readiness (2026–2027)

- Establish City Climate Change Unit
- Pilot priority mitigation and adaptation actions
- Strengthen institutional and technical capacity
- Develop detailed sectoral action plans

Phase II: Scale-Up & Investment (2028–2031)

- Expand successful pilots citywide
- Implement major climate-resilient infrastructure investments
- Mobilize national and international climate finance
- Strengthen MRV and reporting systems

Phase III: Consolidation & Optimization (2032–2035)

- Achieve targeted emission reductions
- Complete formal city GHG inventory
- Optimize systems and climate policies
- Review and update targets beyond 2035

Key Impact Indicators

Environmental Impacts

- Reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Improved air and water quality
- Enhanced urban green cover

Health Impacts

- Reduced climate-related health risks
- Improved indoor air quality
- Increased resilience of health systems

Economic Impacts

- Green job creation
- Reduced energy and resource costs
- Increased climate investment and innovation

Long-Term Goal

Position Debre Birhan as a model Low-Carbon, Climate-Resilient City in Ethiopia by 2035, contributing to national and global climate goals while improving quality of life for all residents.