Ethiopia - Oromia Water and Energy Resource Development Bureau (OWERDB)

Country Ethiopia

Oromia Water and Energy Resource Development Bureau (OWERDB) is one of the executing bureaus of Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia. The Bureau is mandated to manage, develop and control all water, mineral and energy resources of the region in support of socio-economic development.

This governmental body regulates all water suppliers in the Oromia regional state. In the smaller settlements so called Woreda Water Teams (WWTs) are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the water infrastructure. In the larger towns more autonomous Town Water Supply and Sanitation Services Enterprises (TWSSSEs) are responsible. Aside from its regulatory function OWERDB is also often directly involved in technical and financial support of both the WWTs and the TWSSSEs, thus forming a key actor in the region.

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About VEI

Established in 2004 by Dutch water utilities, VEI has developed into an effective organization operating worldwide. VEI implements Water Operator Partnerships (WOPs) with dozens of water operators, aiming at sharing knowledge and skills to make the partner water operators stronger, financially sustainable and more (climate) resilient. VEI creates improved access to water and sanitation services, for approximately 350,000 people every year, mostly in low-income areas in Africa, Asia and Latin-America. Standing side by side as water operators, we strive to continuously increase our impact for people living in poverty, by systemically improving the maturity of working processes of our WOP partners, supported by peer-to-peer collaboration, training, technical assistance and smart investments.

VEI is a full subsidiary of Vitens N.V. and Evides Waterbedrijf N.V. and implements the international Corporate Social Responsibility policy on behalf of seven Dutch drinking water utilities:

- Vitens N.V.
- Evides Waterbedrijf N.V.
- WML
- Waterbedrijf Groningen
- Brabant Water
- WLN
- PWN

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