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Abiy Raises Over \$25m for 'Beautifying Sherger Project'

By Our Staff Writer

ADDIS ABEBA - A fundraising effort aimed at beautifying the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, has raked in over \$25 million dollars from a section of the project supporters.

PM Abiy Ahmed's office disclosed that the latest amount of funds had been raised from

local and international support including from the Italian government which contributed 5 million Euros.

Two United Nations outfits - UNIDO & UNDP - gave a million dollars each whilst the African Development Bank (AfDB) gave 600,000 US dollars.

Artist Mahdir Assefa has

also made unspecified amount contribution to the project.

The largest tranche of over 17 million dollars were deposits at the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia.

The project essentially aims to lift the image and potential of the capital. With the goal of creating many jobs in the project phase, it also aims

to create riverside economies, increase urban tourism, and provide the city's residents with areas of respite.

The funds paid towards the 'Beautifying Sherger Project,' will culminate in a dinner event 'Dine for Sherger,' slated for this weekend.

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A seat at the event is valued at 5 million birr. Among others, donors get a plaque with their names along the project route and a photo op-

portunity with the PM. Abiy's office has over the last few months published four rounds of depositors for the dinner. Mostly state-

run outfits and businesses operating in the country had been listed as well as a number of individuals.