

**MINISTRY OF URBAN AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF URBAN PLANNING AND  
URBANIZATION**

**URBAN PROFILE OF ROBE CITY**



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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This document contains urban profile of cities/towns in Ethiopia that shows an overview of multi-sectorial images of activities. It is prepared by FDRE Ministry of Urban and Infrastructure. Ministry of urban and infrastructure is a federal organization which has its own duties based on proclamation number 1263/2021 “undertaking studies relating to urbanization, in coordination with other relevant bodies establish system for integrated urban development & preparation of national spatial plan; follow up implementation of same” is among the duties specified for the ministry office.

Urban profile is a single document that captures all information’s from both primary and secondary data sources such as cities urban Planning Institutes, Ethiopia statistical service (ESS) based on the checklist that has been prepared. Urban profile offers a detailed snapshot of existing situation of cities/towns able to provide a set of information for citizens, internal and external customers, researchers, academicians etc. The preparation of urban profile is the beginning job to establish urban observatory in Ethiopia. It also encourages to generate, collect, organize and disseminating quality urban data useful for recognizing cities/town worldwide.

This profile is proposed to show the detail profile of Robe City brings new concept of merging city which is a seat of Bale Zone as well as Sinana District as a Major City separated from the regiopolis as an administrative territory.

## 1. ORIGIN AND FOUNDATION OF ROBE CITY

Robe town is found in Bale Zone of Oromia National Regional State at 430 Km Southeast from Regional and National Capital Finfinnee. Historically, Robe Town was found and established in the year 1923 acting as a Deputy of district administrator next to Goba Town acting as main district center to Sinana and for the first time Robe Municipality was established in the year 1955.

Currently, Robe City is established under the provision of proclamation No. 250/2015 E.C. following new concept of merging city enacted by the council of Oromia National Regional government composing one large town and one medium town (Robe and Goba). Robe city is selected as a third order regional city through incorporation of Robe Large town, Goba medium town and surrounding two rural localities.

## 2. PHYSICAL CHARACTRSTICS OF ROBE CITY

### 3.1 Administrative Structure

- Name of the City/Town: Major City Administration
- Region: Oromia Region
- Zone: Bale zone
- Woreda: Robe-wereda
- Kebeles (administrative units): fourteen (14)
- Administrative function: City
- No of sub cities; three
- Area of City: 24450.3 hectare

### 3.2 Location

- **latitude:**
- **Altitude:**
- Distance from Regional Center (km) finfine: 430km
- **Location map of the town**

### **3.3 Topography**

- The altitude of the town (above sea level):
- Dominant topography (Slope) of the City:
- dominant soil type: reddish soil
- Shape of the city:

### **3.4 Climate**

- The mean annual temperature of the town:
- The average annual rainfall (in mm):
- The prevailing /dominant/ wind direction:

### **3.5 Principal Constraints for the physical expansion of the city**

- Natural:
- Man Made:

## 4 DEMOGRAPHY

### 4.1 Population size of Robe town

Table 4.1 Population size of Robe town

Sex	Population size	Percent
Male	17,526	53.03
Female	15,522	46.97
Total	33,048	

[Ethiopian Statistical Service, 2023]

## 5 BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES

### 5.1 Education Services

Table 5.1: Ownership of schools in 2022

No	Educational Level	Number of Schools				Remarks
		Government	Private	NGO (Others)	Total	
1	Special Boarding school	1	-	-	1	
2	Kindergarten	2	22	-	24	
3	Primary (1-4)	2	8	-	10	
4	Junior Secondary School (1-8)	17	19		36	
5	Senior Secondary	10	0		10	
6	TVET	1	-	-	1	
7	College	2	2	-	4	
8	University	2	2	-	4	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>90</b>	

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

## 5.3 Health Services

### 5.3.1 Ownership of Health Institution

Table 5.3 Type of Health Institution by Number and Ownership in 2015 E.C

No.	Type of Health Institutions	No. of Health Institution			
		Government	Private	NGO/ Other	Total
1	Referral hospital	1	-	-	1
2	General hospital	1	-	-	1
3	Health center	4	-	-	4
4	Health post	9	-	-	9
5	Clinic	-	32	-	32
6	Pharmacy	1	2	-	3
7	Drug store	-	31	-	31
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>65</b>	-	<b>81</b>

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

## 6. MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Table 6.1 Municipal Services

Available municipal services (in number)							Market (in number)		Urban greenery		
Abattoir services	Municipal cemetery	Religious cemetery	Fire Brigade	Ambulance	Public Library	City/Town Hall	General	cattle	daily	Shaya, Togona, Bamo	Coverage %
1							3	2	1		

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

## 6.4. Worship and Cemeteries

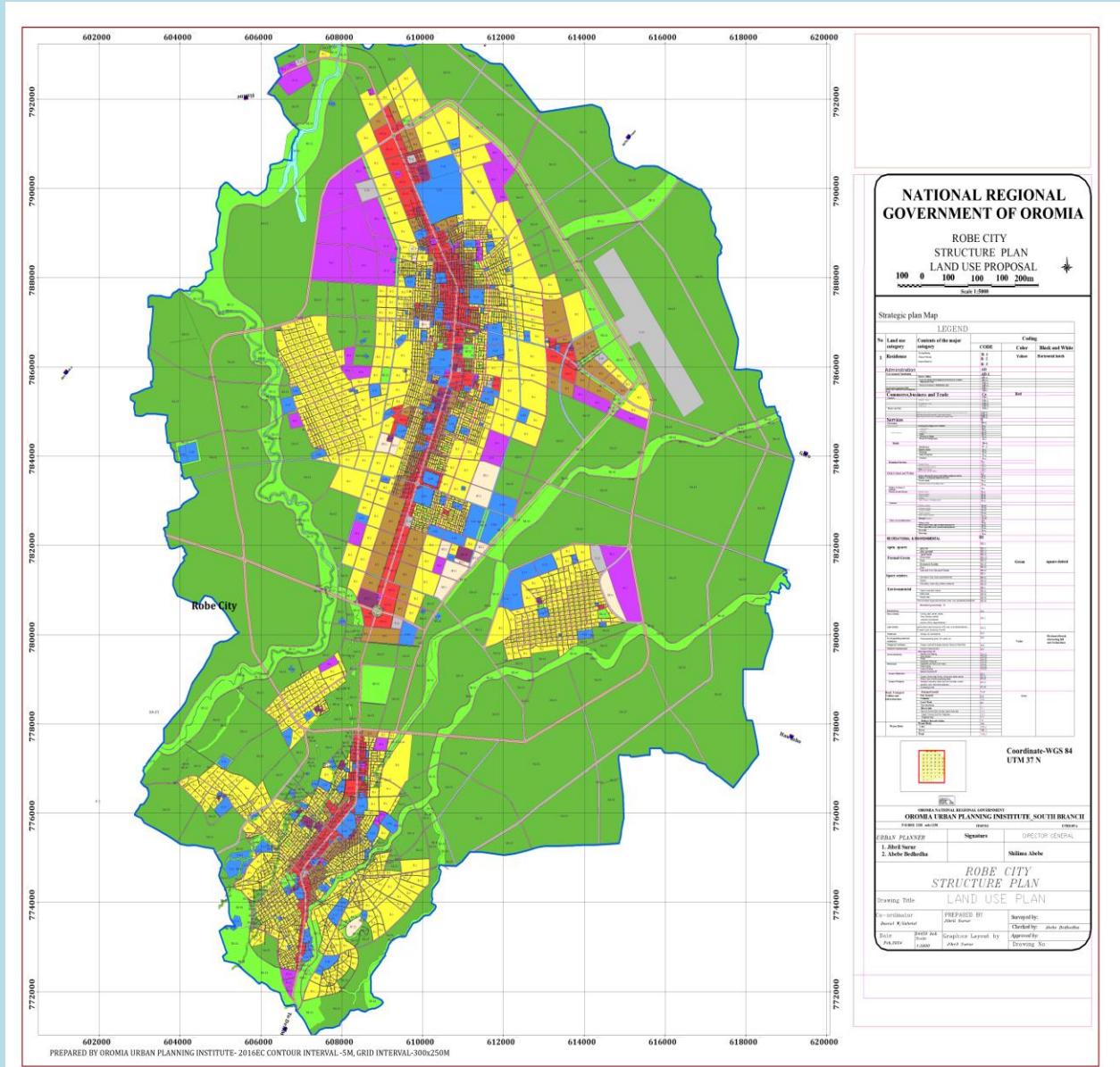
Table 6.1 worship places and cemeteries in robe town

Ser No	Religious Institutions	Worships	Cemeteries
1	Orthodox Christian	9	5
2	Islam	25	11
3	Non-Orthodox Christians	28	2
4	Catholic	1	1

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

## 7. URBAN PLANNING

- Types of urban plan: structure plan
- Year of plan prepared: 2016
- Period of plan expired: 2026
- proposed Special land use proposal of Robe major city



## 8. ECONOMIC CONDITION

### 8.1 Major economy Activities of Robe town

Table 8.1 Formal Economic Activities of Robe City (2011-2014)

Types of Economic activities	2011	capital	2012	capital	2013	capital	2014	Capital
Whole seller	320	24,300,600	640	48,601,200	960	72,901,800	1280	97,202,400
Retailer	2010	20900400	4020	41,800,800	6030	62,701,200	8040	83,601,600
Service delivery	1193	19771071	2386	39,542,142	3,579	59,313,213	4,772	79,084,284
Industry	125	37320700	250	74,641,400	375	111,962,100	500	149,282,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>3648</b>	<b>102,292,771</b>	<b>7296</b>	<b>204,585,542</b>	<b>10944</b>	<b>306,878,313</b>	<b>14592</b>	<b>409,171,084</b>

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

### 8.2 Financial institutions in Robe Town

Table 8.2 Financial Institutions in Robe Town

S.No	Name of Bank	Number of branches	Ownership
1	Awash Bank	4	Private
2	Commercial Bank Of Ethiopia	12	Government
3	Cooperative Bank of Oromia	5	Private
4	Oromia Bank	5	Private
5	Nib International Bank	1	Private
6	Buna International Bank	2	Private
7	Sinqe Bank	4	Private
8	Dashen Bank	2	Private
9	Hibret Bank	1	Private
10	Abyssinia Bank	2	Private
11	Berhan Bank	1	Private
12	Wogagen Bank	1	Private
13	Addis Bank	1	Private

14	Zemen Bank	2	Private
15	Development Bank of Ethiopia	1	Government
16	PEAC	2	Private
<b>Total</b>		<b>46</b>	

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

### 8.3 Revenue of Robe Town

Table 8.3 Robe City Annual Revenue 2011-2015

Year	State revenue			Municipal revenue	
	Plan	achieved	%	achieved	%
2011	85,406,502	97,344,503	>100	48,123,200	>100
2012	99,980,795	109,282,973	>100	50,058,039	94.41
2013	132,820,213	157,527,977	118.60	82,963,925	110.34
2014	277,055,581	282,151,068	101.84	104,608,398	98.88
2015	434,585,684	393,375,823	90.52	168,208,408	>100

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

### 8.3 Economic Linkage

## 8.4 Development Potentials for Investment in the City

- Having huge potential to produce different types of crops by using irrigation in areas where the water can be piped to the farmland.
- Having various types of agro climatic zones that are suitable to produce different types of crops and also have huge agricultural area to modernize agricultural practices by using inputs and technologies.
- Having an exciting surrounding natural and cultural heritages and resources such as Bale Mountains National parks (Tullu Dimtu Mountain, Sanate plateau, Red Fox), Harena and Dinsho Forest and Wild Lives, Rivers, and Water Falls, Sof-Umer Cave, Dire Sheik Hussein, Madda-Walabu (Origin of Oromo people, linguistic, culture and Gada-System) and various amusing landscapes.

picture 8.1 The hinterland potentials of Robe major city



## 9. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- air port accessibility: yes

### 9.1 Road and Transport

Table 9.1 Road hierarchy of Robe major city

S/N	Hierarchy	Width	Length km	Area in hectare
1	PAS	50	70.554	353.77
2	SAS	30	96.347	289.041
3	CS	20-25	210.536	421.072
4	CS	15-20	115.713	173.5695
	<b>Total</b>	<b>982.552</b>	<b>1726.8545</b>	<b>Total</b>

Source: Oromia Region: Urban Planning Institute; Socio-economy Study Report of Robe Town, 2024

### 9.2. Telephone, Postal and Electric Power service

### 9.3 Water Coverage

Table 9.3 Water Services in recent year 2014 E.C.

Water Services						
Source of water (underground or under surface)	Customer Type /Type of connection/	Number of Public taps	Average annual production(m <sup>3</sup> )	Average annual consumption	Estimated demand:	Coverage (%)

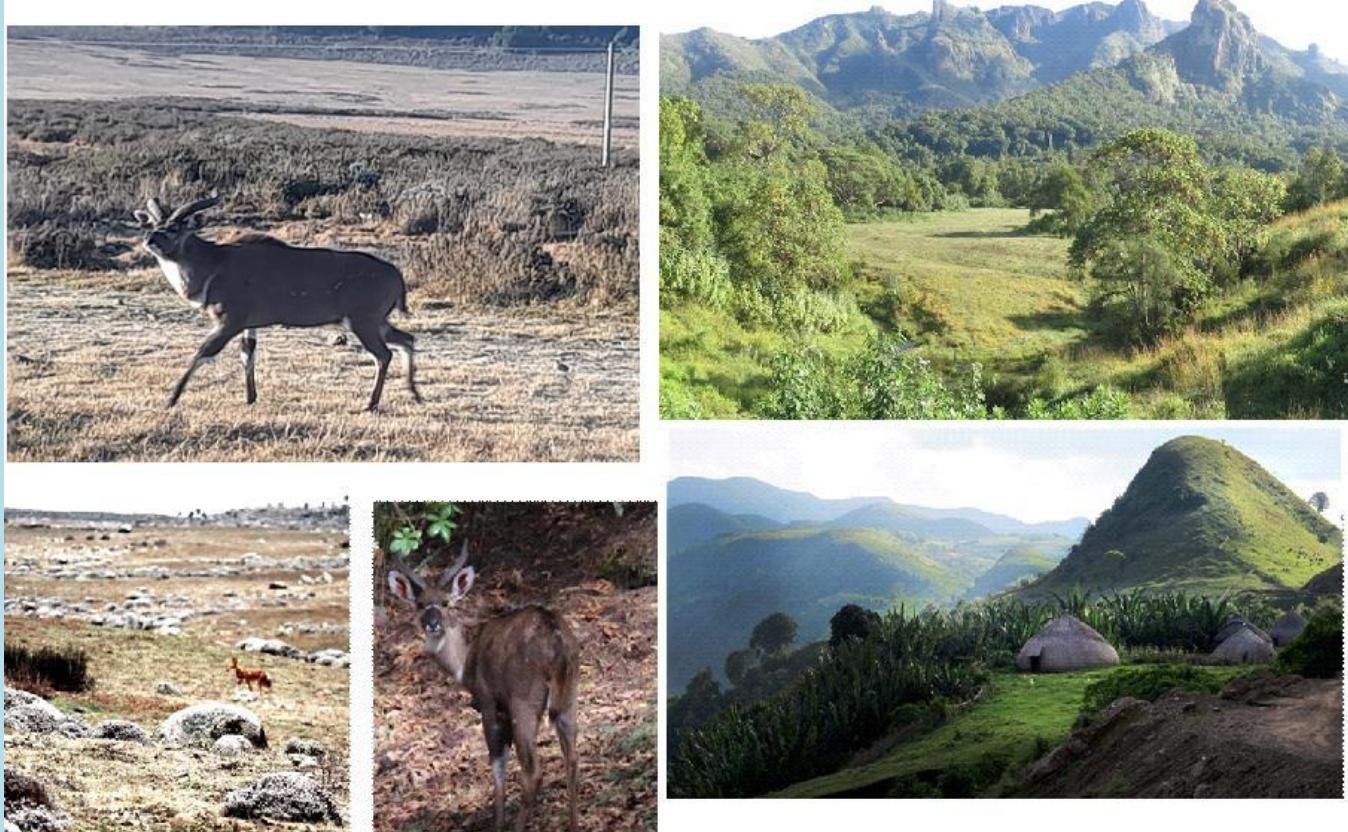
## **10.CULTURE AND TOURISM**

### **10.1 Cultural Center:**

## 10.2 Tourism:

The Bale mountains national park, the Gabra Guracha Lake at Sannate, Dirre Sheik Hussein Shrine, Sof Umar cave, Madda Walabu and others are the major tourism potentials.

The hinterland potentials of Robe major city



The tourist attraction areas of Bale zones



Mikael hill of Goba sub city, June 2023



## **REFERENCES**

- Oromia Regional State: Institute of Urban Planning; Revised Structure plan of Robe Town Socio Economy Study Report, 2023.
- Ethiopia Statistical Service population Survey Study Report, 2023.