Livelihoods and Resilience Building of Drought Affected Households and Vulnerable Groups

Most of the residents in the Dollo and Korahe areas of south-eastern Ethiopia make their living from livestock production. The areas are arid and semi-arid, characterized by high temperatures and low and erratic rainfall. Frequently faced with climate-induced shocks, Dollo and Korahe zones are faced with recurrent and protracted droughts, spanning from 2015 to 2017. This has led to scarcity of feed and water for livestock.

Over 20,777 households from ten woredas of Dollo and Korahe zones now reside in IDP camps having lost 50% to 70% of their small ruminants and 65% to 90% percent of their cattle.

Agro-pastoral households have also been negatively affected by the extended drought and unable to harvest any crops. Depletion of livelihood assets and extreme food insecurity resulting in internal displacement and a sharp increase in the population requiring humanitarian assistance.

The Project will benefit a total of 125 400 (20 900 households) individuals in the two woredas, of these households, 15 percent will be single female-headed.

UNDP's Approach

The intervention will focus on providing support to livelihoods of drought affected households. Through the intervention, 20,000 of the affected 20,777 households will be targeted to strengthen their resilience to future risks and shocks. The twin-pronged approach will focus on:

i. Stabilising the livelihoods most threatened by the current drought; and
ii. Enhancing the resilience of pastoral and agro-pastoralists against disasters and climate variability

The following progress is expected by the end of the project period:

- 1 500 livestock-dependent households will have enhanced feed security to be able to withstand livestock feed shortages brought about by drought.
- In addition, the of the target woredas, zones as well as the wider Somali region shall have the capacity to deliver improved animal health service to the households.
- The targeted households will have improved their agricultural productivity and natural resources management through using climate smart technologies piloted on 20 000 ha of land.
- 1 500 women and youth shall have increased their food security and income of through diversifying and improving their livelihoods.
- Regional and woreda institutions shall have enhanced capacity to handle climate and disaster risk reduction, adaptation, preparedness and response.
Highlight of Project Activities

- Provide supplementary livestock feed for 3,000 core breeding stock including lactating animals;
- Train 600 community members and extension agents on feed resources management and utilization;
- Promote efficient utilization of 50 ha of cultivated forage crops
- Improve water use efficiency and sanitary conditions of water through construction of 10 water troughs
- Provide animal health services to 60,000 animals;
- Support 500 households to address the mortality and morbidity of young stock by providing them with appropriate young stock management good practices
- Build the capacity of 55 community health workers and Government animal health offices for effective disease surveillance and reporting
- Establish sustainable water sources and facilities (e.g. development and rehabilitation shallow well, hand-dug wells, and deep well and introducing spate irrigation schemes) capitalizing water-points and water infrastructures already developed by UNICEF
- Support the restoration of 30,000 ha of degraded rangelands

Partnership

The project brings together UNDP and FAO with the Austria government with project activities implemented in partnership with the following relevant regional bureaus:

- Regional Water Resource Development Bureau (WRDB)
- Regional Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPB), and the
- Regional Pastoral and Livestock Bureau (RPLDB)
- Regional Agricultural Development Bureau (RADB)
- Other partners include Jijiga and Kebredehar Universities as well other stakeholders at woreda level and organisations that are operating in the zones such as IRC, MSF, VSF-S, OWDA, SC and AAH.

Funding

- Government of Austria: USD 3,484,320.00 funding channelled through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund.
- UNDP and FAO co-funding: USD 400,000

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