



European Union



ECC-SADCO

Quarterly UPDATE

Food Facility - Enhancing agricultural productive capacities of resource poor farmers in Enemore and Mirab-Badewacho districts

Background

Started in January 2010 with the global aim to provide a rapid response to soaring food prices, this food facility project, co-funded by the European Union and Caritas International Belgium and implemented by the Ethiopian Catholic Church – Social and Development Commission through its diocesan offices in Emdibir and Sodo, has made as its general objective 'to improve the food security situation for households in above mentioned districts of SNNPR, Ethiopia'. More specifically it will 'improve physical and economic access to food for about 6,900 resource poor households in 15 PA's. Since its inception, all partners and stakeholders have contributed to the continuous progress allowing beneficiaries in the project area to benefit from the projects' action already. The action is based on three expected results and its respective activities:

1	Increased annual crop productivity and production of 3,861 households;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development of small scale irrigation schemes; - promotion of small scale seed multiplication farms and seed banks; - rehabilitating and protecting farm lands from gully erosion and water logging;
2	Improved livestock productivity and income of 6,560 households;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of local goats (asset transfer); - Promotion of improved animal breeds; - Enhancing availability of animal feed and water; - Improving access to veterinary services;
3	Strengthened and improved quality of extension services;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmer Training Centre construction; - Training of development agents and farmers; - Information, education and communication;

With an investment of Euro 1,111,456.08, a total population of 6,900 households, who can be categorised as 'very poor' and 'poor', based on their limited landholding range and livestock assets, is directly targeted while community-wide interventions will also reach the 'middle' and 'better off' incomes, a total of 10,028 households or 50,140 individuals.

At the end of the project period (October 2011), the proportion of households being food insecure as well as its level will have been reduced by increased average cash income (from on-farm income generating activities) as well as increased value of their assets.



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Achievements - January to March 2011

Crop productivity & production 206 Qt of improved seeds of teff and wheat are stored for the next season while 68Qt of Irish potato were re-distributed. The construction of seed banks and DLS started and will serve these next round beneficiaries. Also the construction of the irrigation systems started: Derkeye river diversions & Belete spring development. 121 hand dug wells are under construction and the arrangements with OMO micro credit are in process for the purchase of rope and washer pumps. Finally, 25km of drainage canals have been finalised while check dam construction is on-going.

1. Drainage canal 2. Derkeye construction site 3. Asset



Livestock Training on hybrid rams and bulls was organised for 28 participants. Collaboration was established with Areka research centre. 4 hybrid bulls and 8 rams were introduced in the project area. Up to now, 137 cows and 147 goats received services from the hybrids while 5 off spring were borne. The construction of water ponds for livestock is on-going: 50% finalised. The construction of the veterinary health post is at 10%.



4. Construction water pond 5. FTC construction

Extension services Start of construction work for 4 FTC.

Best practice Effective collaboration with the cash-for-work program on the construction of water ponds, check dams and drainage canals;

Plan for the next quarter – April up to June 2011

- Training of development agents & model farmers & preparation of IEC materials;
- On site construction of irrigation works, DLS, seed banks, animal health posts, FTC, check dams, hand dug wells;
- Procurement of veterinary health equipment & FTC audios;

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