



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 1,111,337, 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.

Achievements - April to June 2011

Crop productivity & production 80 Qt of haricot beans were planted by 666 farmers. Also Irish potato are flowering at 4 ha for 61 farmers. Improved seeds for teff and wheat are prepared and ready for the meher season. The construction of seed banks and DLS is on-going and 75% is finalised. The construction of Derkeye river diversion weir shows the erection of a 5m dam so far while Belete spring development achieved 450m primary canals, 330m secondary canals, 27 drop structures and reservoir foundation. 206 hand dug wells are under construction, and together 44.5 ha is until now prepared for irrigation. Finally, check dam constructions are half way and protect farmlands from further erosion already.



1. Derkeye river dam 2. Belete spring reservoir 3. Irish potato field

Livestock Up to now, 4.8% and 4% of the livestock of the total population received services from the hybrid bull and he-goats respectively. The construction of water ponds for livestock is at 95% while the animal health posts are finalised in Mirab-Badewacho and at 75% in Enemore districts. Woreda veterinary health clinics equipped with prioritised materials.



4. Animal health post 5. FTC 6. Waterpond

Extension services 4 FTC are at 80% of accomplishment while education and training materials started to be distributed.

Best practice Re-capturing of soils in eroded gully side after installing gabion check dams by desperate farmer who gradually had lost his land to erosion.

Plan for the next quarter – July up to Sept 2011

- Training of development agents & model farmers & distribution of IEC materials;
- On site continued construction of irrigation works; Finalisation, equipping and hand over of construction works: seed banks, DLS, animal health posts, FTC, check dams, hand dug wells;
- Training on irrigation practices; Plantation of cereal seeds;

This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of ECC-SADCO, Emdibir Catholic Secretariat, Sodo Catholic Secretariat, and Caritas International Belgium, and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

