

Progress report



1 Basic information

- Reporting period- Jan to 31 Dec 2011
- Total budget (in €) for the reporting period- € 1.468.902 (Care: € 607.242; Cordaid: €746.660; ERC: € 115.000)
- Name of the person who compiled the report – Sinkinesh Beyene
- Date of the report- Jan 2012

2 Context of Individual Organisations

2.1. Change in External Environment

CARE Ethiopia

The actual project implementation was delayed by some months due to extended time taken by the Afar Regional Government signatory bodies to review the proposal and provide comments before signing the official agreement. The individual project implementation agreement with CARE NL was also signed in May 2011. On the other hand, the current severe drought that affected the horn of Africa for prolonged time period has also a considerable impact on the implementation of the project. In addition, due to flash flooding in the project implementation area, the irrigation scheme planned to be completed in 2011 was not accomplished (only 30%). As a result, some key activities like risk assessment, baseline survey and immediate result activities were not accomplished in the reporting period. Similarly, the budget planned for the FY 2011 was under spent due to the above mentioned factors. Despite the challenges CARE and its local partner, Support for Sustainable Development (SSD), have made improvements since August 2011. For example, connections were created with the local and regional government through the initial launching workshops organized. These pave the ways for other community workshops and trainings that helped other PfR activities to start immediately. As a result, communities are very much interested to the project initiatives. For instance, the local government and communities have constructed the road through community mobilization to facilitate entry to the project site. Labor contribution to the

irrigation scheme under construction is another improvement to mention. Technical and back up support from the country team is another input that push as all to move the planned activities forward. Other improvements also include: recruitment of key field staff by SSD that supported the project start up in the community.

Internally improvements include the planning of detailed project activities, timely budget transfer from CARE Ethiopia with sub grant agreement, orientation to SSD team (finance + program). External refers to the creation of conducive environment (launching workshops, partnership agreements, etc).

CORDAID and (implementing partners ACORD and AFD)

The severe drought disaster that affected the horn of Africa in 2010/11 for prolonged period has a considerable impact on the implementation of PfR program at each organization level. Due to complete failure of 'Hagaya' rain (short rain) which was expected to rain from Oct – Dec, 2010 and delayed, erratic and short 'Ganna' (main rain) from March – May, 2011 most of the southern and south eastern lowlands of Ethiopia are highly affected by drought. As a result the targeted community for PfR program by ACODR was victim of the disaster.

In response to the drought emergency, Cordaid and the implementing partner supported the community contingency plan from Jan to March 2011 both in Kenya and Ethiopia through Cordaid own fund and in collaboration with ECHO the implementation of the drought emergency response activities is continued under project *Drought Intervention Ethiopia* from May to September 30 2011. In addition, the emergency response intervention is undertaking through nine implementing partner organizations since August 2011 to support large number of affected community by SHO-Cordaid fund.

ERCS

As ERCS the external factors that hindered the timely implementation of the planned activities is the late start of MFSII CCA/DRR/EMR program due to the uncompleted pledged activity which is small scale irrigation project of Ebinat/Woreda and the 2010 financial report. The main factors hampered the irrigation activity are shortage of cement and price inflation of cement, unable to get daily laborer (because of lack of trust to the contractor and government campaign for the natural resource conservation activities). Moreover, lack of commitment from the contractor side and lack of regular monitoring by ERCS WATSAN department and natural factors, like heavy rainfall at the upper stream contributed to the delay of

the project accomplishment. Another hindering factor is time constraint to implement the PfR activity plan as considerable time period was shifted to complete the 2010 pledge activity.

2.2 Organisational Developments

CARE Ethiopia

CARE has provided an orientation to SSD team (finance and program people) on the donor rules and regulations, reporting schedules, monitoring tools and coordination of planned activities. Both CARE and SSD have excellent regional representation in terms of implementing development and emergency projects and the relationship is very smooth. SSD has hired qualified and experienced field staffs for the proper coordination and monitoring who are capable of implementing and collaborating with the communities. In addition, SSD has strong program and finance team in the head office that can provide continuous technical backstopping and regular monitoring supports to field project staff and stakeholders. Moreover, CARE team will regularly monitor the implementation of the project activities and organize discussion forums for further improvements and progresses.

The active participation, commitment and support of the local government and communities have witnessed contributions since the start of actual implementation. In addition, SSD has been working in the neighboring Woreda of DEWE for the past three years and have good knowledge and experience of implementing DRR projects. This would facilitate sharing of experiences among the communities of the two Woredas. Moreover, the regional and Woreda people have a regular plan (quarterly) to jointly monitor the performance of the project in collaboration with CARE and SSD team.

CORDAID

Since 2006 Cordaid is supporting drought management and Disaster risk reduction programs in Ethiopia with the objective of contributing to the long-term commitment of enabling vulnerable communities to be resilient. Accordingly, Cordaid employs the Drought Cycle Management and Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction approaches in planning and implementation of its DRM projects through its implementing partner organizations. These programmatic approaches are built up on many years of lessons learned from previous initiatives by Cordaid partners and other stakeholders engaged in DDR.

Consequently, for capacity building on CMDRR Cordaid is working with IIRR through provision of CMDRR training, resource mobilization and field

accompaniment to back stop CMDRR/community institutional development. Cordaid Regional and County Program Management Units are regularly providing support to partners through feedback sessions on planning and project implementation, monitoring and evaluation. In addition, Cordaid CMDRR global advisor gives accompaniment support to the PMU. As long term partners ACORD and AFD are also part of this wider effort on building resilient community. The ACORD staff (both who are at the front line/field, and national office) are at a better position than earlier (before the project inception) for implementation of the PFR. Some points that could be cited are:

- 1) During the year, the respective staff has been attended and engaged in series of technical workshops/training events which is believed meaningfully contribute to the staff capacity to implement and manage the intended project.
- 2) Better practical experiences gained by the staff while implementing related development and emergency activities during the year.
- 3) The project office and the staff (in Mio) is also believed to be at a better position in building relationship with local stakeholders (government sector offices..) and target communities while being engaged on implementation of other projects at the area (emergency,..).

As a result, for successful implementation of the PfR project staff training, experience sharing and learning, community awareness raising, CMDRR committee organizing, CMDRR center establishing and related activities are accomplished during the inception project period.

ERCS

The ERCS, based on the strong commitment by the National Governing Board, has embarked on change process in order to improve its service delivery capacities to the communities, financial management, accountability and effectiveness. In line with this strong emphasis has been placed on a vision to become a key humanitarian actor in-country. The change process has been moved forward by the newly appointed secretary general (CEO) and the senior management team.

The ERCS has a full time working food security and climate change adaptation program coordinator and a project coordinator assigned for Climate proof DRR/CCA/EMR. In addition, the NLRC program delegate based at Nairobi, Kenya, is regularly monitoring and supervising and giving technical assistance for successful program implementation.

3 Results

Strategic Direction 1: Community (direct intervention)

Sustainable economic development and poverty reduction; strengthening community resilience

1.1. Improved knowledge to DRR

1.1.1. PfR program launching workshops

CARE in collaboration with SSD has conducted regional and Woreda level launching workshop to create awareness among the stakeholders about the project goals, objectives and approaches. Accordingly, 75 people (11 female & 64 male) from the four kebeles participated on the Woreda level workshop and 15 people (all male) are involved in the regional level workshop that includes the signatory bureau heads. In addition, 66 people (46 male & 20 female) have participated in community level awareness raising program that focuses on DRR and EWS.

Similarly, ACORD and AFD organized a PfR project launching workshop with the objective of declaring the official start of the project for relevant partners and stakeholders. Participants of the launching workshop in both cases were CMDRR committee members, district and Zonal government line offices officials and experts, and ACORD and AFD project and head office staffs. The event was also beneficial to reach at common understanding on the PfR project, and also define roles and responsibilities among the partners and actors in the implementation processes..

ERCS head quarter and field staff also conducted program inception workshops and finalized community actions plans development. Target area selection was undertaken based on the level of vulnerability of the community to food insecurity, disasters, and decision of the local government. Accordingly, 600 community members in five Kebeles have been participated in awareness raising community discussion on DRR/CCA/EMR.

1.1.2. Organize training on climate trend and risk mapping

CARE Ethiopia and the implmenitng partner SSD organized a five days DRR ToT training workshop for 36 participants drawn from Woreda offices, kebele leaders, and community and project staff. The purpose of the training was to equip the participants with necessary skills and knowledge that would help them to mobilize the community to facilitate the DRR assessment and establishment of CMDRR committee. So, it was considered as an entry point to the



different DRR related activities interventions planned in subsequent years.

Accordingly, four sessions have been organized for DRR committee selection and establishment and awareness creation. In these sessions, about 253 people (64 female) were involved and community level early warning systems (CEWS) and disaster risks assessment were part of the discussion topics.

1.1.3. Conduct climate trend and risk mapping and response plan

In CARE Ethiopia/SSD implementation area the target communities have selected and prioritized their hazards. Vulnerability and capacity assessments were undertaken with possible recommendations on mitigation measures, survivability and community readiness and coping strategies including preparation of hazard and vision mapping. Hence, relevant data on community risk assessment is collected and the community action plan and contingency plan preparation is underway.

1.1.4. Provision of capacity building materials

In order to capacitate field project staff with the knowledge and skill of community managed disaster risk reduction and to smoothly facilitate project implementation, different contextual and generic guiding manuals and formats were prepared and provided including: DRR risk assessment guideline, job description of the DRR committee, saving and credit scheme management and training manuals by CARE. Similarly, ERCS undertook translation and adaptation of four community development training manuals in to Amharic (local language) for easy reference by the project staff and the community.

1. 2. Access to water, Sustainable ecosystem management; Enhance livestock health and livelihood protection and diversification

1.2.1. Improved Access to water

ERCS conducted Construction design and hydrologic study of one of the multipurpose springs aimed at benefiting 100 households and its construction is started.

1.2.2. Natural resource and ecosystem conservation

50,000 different types of seedling (such as Acasiasaligna, Shiness mole) produced and planted on 25 ha of degraded land through ERCS support.

1.2.3. Enhance livelihood protection and diversification

1.2.3.1. Organizing Saving Groups

CARE Ethiopia implementing partner SSD organized five saving groups with 25 members who are poor women in

Kilintinadersadakebele. The group members are given basic business training and provided with seed capital in a revolving fund scheme Experts from Woreda women affair and cooperative offices in collaboration with SSD field staff are continuously providing technical support to the group members.



1.2.3.2. Irrigation Scheme under construction

As part of drought hazard mitigation measure, CARE Ethiopia planned to construct one irrigation scheme that benefits the communities residing in the targeted four Kebeles. The scheme will irrigate 40 ha of land. At the reporting period the construction of intake structure is about 30% of the original plan due to rocky nature of the topography and repeated failure of the machinery (excavator) to accomplish the excavation work in time. The remaining work will be



completed in FY 2012 first quarter. In addition, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was conducted for the irrigation project in collaboration with the project staff, communities, DRR committee and Dewe woreda pastoral office environmental management desk experts.

From ERCS side the construction of two irrigation schemes, Mariam wuha and Bubugn site and extension of Mariam Wuha canal by 746 meter is completed. In relation to these, two irrigation user's associations with a total of 334 members are established and became operational. Moreover, 334 direct irrigation water beneficiaries of both site trained on practical irrigation water use, scheme maintenance, point operation, and water and sanitation and market oriented agricultural practices, in cooperation with local Water Resource Development and Agriculture and Rural Development Offices experts.

1.2.3.3 Drought Emergency Response Intervention

As indicated in section 2.1, in ACORD the planned PfR project activities were not implemented mainly due to the prevalence of severe drought and delay in project appraisal and approval process. However, in collaboration with Cordaid the project staffs have been engaged on emergency response activities to save the lives and livelihoods of the target communities through the following interventions.

- Water trucking for three months at target communities both for human and livestock consumption
- Food aid provision to the most affected beneficiaries through integration with range land management (bush clearing/burning, etc.)
- Construction/rehabilitation of water schemes (traditional Ella, and ponds, PVC tankers installation)
- Slaughter destocking carried out to transfer cash to the beneficiaries and also avail food for the victims
- Support in veterinary service conducted (de-worming and provision of Multivitamins)

The above mentioned activities had enormous contribution in minimizing the extensive drought risks on the lives and livelihoods of the community. This emergency response intervention was also beneficial in maintaining and strengthening collaboration particularly among the local stakeholders for the upcoming joint action and implementation of the PfR project.

Strategic Direction 2: Civil Society (capacity building)

Enhanced capacity of CSOs/CBOs to advocate for DRR/CCA/EMR

2.1. Enhanced capacity of the CSO's/CBOs to effectively facilitate DRR/CCA/EMR interventions

Capacity building is one the key thematic area of Climate Proof-Disaster Risk Reduction Project in creating awareness among the communities and stakeholders on Community managed disaster risk reduction and mitigation measures to increase resilience and enhance community readiness for risk management. Based on this premise the following activities are carried out in the reporting period.

2.1.1. Organize and train Disaster Risk Reduction committees

Institutional set up of CBOs/community managed disaster risk reduction committee both at community / kebele level were established and strengthened by CARE Ethiopia. A project management committee having 5 members, CMDRR committee comprised of 44 members (from four Kebeles) and saving & Credit management committee with 5 members have been elected and their duties and responsibilities are defined. Consequently, five days intensive training on CMDRR is for 44 participants (36 male & 8 female). The DRR project staff and Woreda government experts, development agents and community members have participated on the training. Topics covered included: DRR assessment and planning, roles & responsibilities of



stakeholders in DRR, traditional early warning system, women empowerment & equal participation and climate change adaptation strategies.

2.1.2. Community training on community action planning and project management

Five days intensive training on community action planning and project management was organized and provided to 32 community members

(24 male & 8 female) from Woreda and kebele level participants by CARE Ethiopia. Since the focus of the project is largely on community disaster risk reduction and enhancing better capacity to deal with disaster risks, the action plan training was mainly focused on different disaster risks the project communities are vulnerable to and the various coping strategies that the community is employed.



2.1.3. CMDRR training - the country team discussed the importance of capacity building training for the concerned staff of each alliance organization on M & E (outcome mapping), Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR), etc. for the successful implementation of the planned program activities. Based on the decision made on the country team meeting two staff from each partner organization who are responsible for PfR project were attended the CMDRR training organized by IIRR from June 06 to 17, 2011.

2.1.4. Organize experience sharing visit

CARE and its implementing partner SSD have organized an experience sharing visit for 29 participants (20 community members, 2 staff from the DRR project and 6 DAs/government experts). The two days experience sharing visit was held in one of SSD's DRR project sites, Dylenagerarokebele of Mille Woreda of Afar region which has a well-established and experienced community disaster risk reduction committee. The exposure visit was an excellent opportunity for the newly established Dewe project DRR committees to learn how the Mille Woreda DRR committees participated and involved in the community managed DRR risk assessment / mapping, project planning processes, implementation and M&E systems , community contingency planning and actions executed by the community, community institutions/CBOs and local government.

2.2. Enhanced capacity of CSO's/CBOs to advocate for DRR/CCA/EMR

2.2.1. Participate in DRR/CCA/ERM network/coalition

Two ERCS staff participated in climate resilience workshop organized by Addis-Ababa University in collaboration with John Hopkins University (JHU). The theme of the workshop was implementation of community participatory VCA, which is inconformity with our Partnership for Resilience Project. ERCS made a briefing on PfR program goals and the three strategic areas to the workshop participants on behalf of PfR Ethiopia program. ERCS has also participated in world DRR day workshop. Moreover, ERCS have established collaboration with John Hopkins University and Addis-Ababa University (knowledge & resource organizations) and strengthened cooperation with meteorological Agency of Ethiopia in 2011.

Strategic Direction 3: Institutional Environment (policy dialogue)

Policy dialogue and advocacy for stronger DRR/CCA policies and increased resources at all level

3.1. PfR experiences, lessons learnt and best practices are made available and contribute to policy development and support for implementation.

3.1.1. Documentation of learning agendas and community mobilization

As Cordaid and its implementing partners ACORD and AFD planned the PfR project was build up on the CMDRR inception projects in Mio and Nanagatom districts. As a result the field staff in both organizations conducted documentation, community mobilization and awareness rising on CMDRR, CCA and EMR.

ERCS's also documented the achievements and experiences of its pilot Climate change induced disaster risks reduction project through climate change impacts reduction participatory videoing, in cooperation with RC/RC climate center and NLRC Journalists. Lessons learnt and best practices are made available and contributed to the Horn of Africans Great Green wall funding initiative and PfR programme implementation.

3.1.2. Go Green Africa Fair and Conference – is a climate change, impact mitigation/adaptation initiative organized by Initiative Africa with the objectives of creating a forum where local and international governments, business, non-profit communities come together and reach at collaboration and agreements on a focus on developing tools and resources for local climate action. PfR Ethiopia Country team participated on the event and used the opportunity to advocate about the new partnership for resilience and for a wider impact in the areas of DRR, CCA and EMR as PfR did on Geneva Global Plate Form.

The team organized a booth and a side event (panel discussion on environment protection/restoration and promotion of sustainable rural livelihood). Each member organization prepared leaflets, posters, short film on best practices, research outputs and other display materials and invited relevant stakeholders to participate on the conference and on the panel discussion.

Discrepancies;

In general terms as a country program, the PfR country team made significant progress in the areas of mutual learning and information sharing through regular meeting, key staff training in CMDRR, logical framework and action plan preparation and facilitating training on outcome mapping and baseline survey at community level. However, substantial delay has been observed in terms of the implementation of planned activities for the reporting period at each organization level due to major internal and external factors described under section 2.1.