

## **AFAR REGION**

### **1. First cycles school at Korenti village in Keluwan Kebele**

Lorenti village is located in Keluwan kebele of Gulina woreda, zone 4. It is located 10 km away from woreda town of Keluwan and about 240 km from the Regional capital Semera. It is the 2nd populated kebele in the woreda and has a population of about 4000. This kebele is inhabited by pastoral communities. Before the advent of PCDP in 2004, the inhabitants of the kebele were suffering from lack of education service due to the absence of school in the kebele. Because of this, it was difficult to send children to the distance schools. So it is possible to say that there were no any children attending school in the kebele mainly at Korenti village.

Based on the community's priority demand, an action plan was prepared with technical support of MST and MOT. With the support of PCDP and communities enthusiastic participation, two blocks with four class rooms and two staff offices were constructed in the village. The community was involved in all steps of project identification prioritization, procurement of the required materials, implementation, as well as monitoring and evaluation. A kebele level community project management committee was established and able to implement the project and oversee the progress by full sense of ownership.

Following this, the woreda education office was assigned two full time teachers. The school was well furnished and very conducive teaching learning atmosphere is created. On top of that health post is contracted in the near by with the support of PCDP, and the government has assigned a health worker. All this integrated approach of the project support stimulated the initiative of the families to send the children including girls to schools. In the year 1999 E.C, 55 female and 38 male students were attending the school from grade one to two.

The students families and teaches are saying the enrolment will certainly increase in the coming years which necessitates additional buildings to accommodate the initiation. The accessibility and good atmosphere of teaching learning process has highly paved ways to girl's enrolment to schools. There is encouraging development of education need in the kebele. The community

expressed its satisfaction and is working closely with the teacher for further improvement of the school. This school is a ray of hope for pastoral children to get better education.

## **2. Health Post Project at Laliyard village in fokissa kebele**

Laliyard village is located in Fokissa kebele of Golina woreda in zone four administration. Fokissa kebele is one of eight kebeles of Golina woreda. It is located three km north west of the woreda capital kelwan and over 270 km away from the regional capital Semera. This kebele is inhabited by about 3000 pastoral and agro pastoral communities. It is the 3rd populated kebele of the woreda.

Before the advent of PCDP in 2004, the inhabitants of the Fokissa kebele were suffering from various diseases mainly due to absence of health institution in the kebele. Because of this problem there was a high rate of mortality. For this reason, the communities of Fokissa Kebele identified, prioritized and proposed the construction of Health Post project at Laliyard village in 2004, and finally they submitted their proposal to the Woreda Development Committee with technical support of MST and MOT. With the support of PCDP and communities participation the health post project was constructed at Laliyard village in 2004. By PLA methodology the communities were involved in all steps of project identification, prioritization, implementation, as well as monitoring and evaluation. A kebele level project management committee was established and able to implement the project and oversee the progress by full sense of ownership.

Following this, the Woreda Health Office assigned a health worker. The Health Post was well furnished and equipped. There is motorized water pump in the kebele. There is also 1st cycle school. Extension project was constructed in the near by with the support of PCDP. Then over 600 people have got medical treatment in this project up to December 2006. As a result, the health service coverage of the woreda has increased. This all integrated approach of the project support stimulated the initiative of settlement of pastoralists by constructing their houses near by the project site.

The communities expressed their satisfaction that they are working closely with the health post worker for further improvement and maintenance of the project. This health post is showing a ray of hope for pastoralists to get better health services.

### **3. Women Income Generation Project in Humodoita kebele**

Humodoita kebele is one of seven kebeles of Afambo wereda in zone one administration. It is the center kebele of the wereda. It is also located 20 km south east of Aysaita town and 90 km away from Semera town of the regional capital. This kebele is inhabited by about 3000 agro pastoral and pastoral people. It is 2nd populated Kebele in the woreda.

Before advent of PCDDP in 2004, the Humodoita kebele particularly women were suffering from economical problem mainly due to the absence of income generation activities besides to absence of grain mill that women walked for three hours to Aysaita town. In addition, there are no residential houses for all civil servants of Afambo wereda along with shortage of other facilities such as transportation, water, electricity, shop, cafeteria, restaurants etc.

For this reason, all civil servants who work in Afambo woreda lived in Aysaita town and hence they did not regularly attend their office works in the afternoon (half day). As a result the people of the woreda did not get adequate service delivery.

Therefore, poor women of Humodoita kebele, Erawisa women Cooperative Society identified, prioritized and proposed construction of residential house rent project in 2004 and finally they submitted their proposal to the woreda development committee for approval with a technical support of MST and MOT. With the support of PCDDP and women participation, 25 residential rooms were constructed in 2004.

Following this, the Erawisa a women cooperative society well furnished and equipped the residential house. They have rented on residential room by Birr 50 a month since 2005. There is also Dilohina women cooperative society grain mill house project which was constructed near by with the support of PCDDP. Due to the establishment of this grain mill, women can save money,

time and energy besides the work loads it reduces. At present over 400 people are benefiting in this project by increasing their income. They deposited over Birr 11,000 in Aysaita branch Commercial Bank of Ethiopia. Over 100 private houses were constructed due to the establishment of wereda capital town.

At present, all civil servants are living in Humodoita kebeles of Afambo woreda and doing their office works full day because all the above mentioned facilities were full filled. Women expressed their views and opinions that they have been empowered in order to identify, prioritize, prepare, implement, monitor and evaluate their development project in the future without men support. It is a good vision of women equally with men.

#### **4. Community road at Argoba Wereda**

Argoba special wereda is one of the 29 administrative weredas of Afar region. The wereda is accessible either through Awash-Dulcha –Gachene or Debrebrihan- Ankober-Gacheni.

It consists of 13 administrative kebeles and inhabited by Over 15,000 populations that are pastoral and agro-pastoral. It is established recently and there was no access road that links communities of the 13 kebeles to the capital of the wereda, Gacheni.

Moreover, due to inaccessibility of kebeles, none of them were getting social services. When PCDP started working in the wereda, communities prioritized first the road issue. During the CAP preparation communities have justified the importance of the road that it was prerequisite to undertake any development activities in the wereda.

Following the appraisal and approval of communities' access road proposal, they have executed 74 km access road that links all of the 13 kebeles with the woreda capital.

Consequently, other social services like schools, health posts are being constructed. Extension packages like animal health services, prevention of outbreak of pests, deliver of relief are timely

reaching to the communities. Mothers who have been dieing of deliver problems are coming to the health center safely.

At last we have been asked an elder to tell us the difference before and after the construction of the community roads. He symbolized the differences in two words by “dark and light”