

OROMIYA REGION

Metageferssa Destitute women's group: A case of Donkey & Jerican project

There are as many as poor and destitute pastoral communities in Arero woreda who relied on social supports from the community as well as food aid from the government and NGOs. Despite this, poverty is becoming the most prevalent problem among these pastoral communities especially the women. A focus group discussion was held with women's group members and the group chair women. Pre project(PCDP) intervention, all of the group members were identified as vulnerable/destitute a result of loss of asset and they depend on daily subsistence of income earned of Birr 2-4 per day from selling of a jerican of water and bundle of fire woods using their back at travel of 10-15km a day to support their family members.

As livelihoods diversification and income source activities are among thematic areas focused by PCDP, 24 members of household headed vulnerable and destitute women residing around Metageferssa, the capital town of the Arero Woreda in Borana zone were selected and screened by the whole community members of the kebele. This organized self help women's group with technical support rendered by MOT/MST, requested their demand based support on seed capital through proposal in the 2006/7 budget year for purchase of donkey and jericans(25lit cap) from PCDP to do business by supplying water and firewood to town dwellers. The WDC with the analysis on the economic and social feasibility accepted their request as eligible to receive fund support from PCDP and approved Birr-83,000 for the same. Consequently, these 24 female headed HHS had been organized to legal entity under general guidance of Woreda Cooperative promotion office.

Since then, the women group members received loan from bank on individual basis and each bought one donkey and 6 jericans with accessories through established community purchase committee to run their respective business. As eligibility, each group members has his own homestead, house, and give necessary husbandry and veterinary cares as well as build offices with estimated cost of Birr 5000.00. The group has by-laws and business plan and each member is contributing 10 Birr as saving every month from their own income. At present, the group has different asset such as one common office, each of the members has bought 1 steer, i.e. 24 steers for the entire member which estimated as 64,800 Birr at current livestock market price and donkeys.

In addition, group members are also generating income through renting for 30–50 Birr/trip/donkey for transportation to Moyale & Negele markets.

In general, the group members have benefited both economically and socially in that the daily income of the group members increased to 30- 40 Birr and dressing a quality clothes, developed self confidence in the society and equally send their children to school.

So far, the group has deposited 9,899.00 Birr at bank in their group account. and with this type of effective business neighboring communities are being fascinated and so far 13 applicants have been added to the group members and this has raised the group members to 37 with additional applicants are still up-and-coming.

Harallo motorized borehole water supply:-

A case for Dolollo Mekala water supply on borehole source

Harallo is one of the 19 administrative kebeles in Dirre woreda of Borana zone with a total of 4846 human population. A Focus group discussion was held with the water users committee of the kebele in which water shortage is among the top ranked problems listed in the community Action Plan (CAP) which is also evidenced that the amount of time the community especially women and young girls must travel for about 8-12 hrs and >20km /day to fetch water. One of the objectives of PCDDP is to improve water supply and sanitation conditions and reduce the significant water shortage problem both for human and animals, communities in the kebeles have selected through a demand based approach for the rehabilitation of motorized borehole in the 2005/6 under risk management component. This borehole 1st dug by EWCE (UNICEF funded) & kept without service for >5 years .The project implemented with total project cost of 149,458 Birr from PCDDP includes rehabilitation and expansion through construction of 6.5 km pipelines, 50m³ reservoir, two water points and two cattle troughs. As counter part, communities have contributed their labour and supply of local materials in the course of construction of the distribution system. As eligibility criteria, the water users and scheme caretakers committee made up of 7members have been elected by general assembly at the kebele level with its own chair person, chaser and its members of which "abba herrega" and Scheme operator are the key members with over all responsibility to monitor the function of the water points and the entire pipeline from its sources to end.

The Committee has developed by-laws and established fund sources from fees collected from users as follows: Cattle 15 cents/head, calf 10cents/head, camel 15 cents/head, shoat 10cents/head and 10 cents/20lit cap of jericana /hh. The book record of the community depicted that an average fees of 802.35 Birr from cattle, 23.85 Birr from camel, Birr 44.00 from calves, 2221.9 Birr from shoats and 280.40 birr from hhs have been collected during the dry seasons of 2008 year. With the funds collected, job opportunity has been created for two local community members with a monthly salary of Birr 140 and 100 per month for operator and guard; respectively .The remaining balance is used for fuel, operation and maintenance of the system. The general assembly have already revised the members of Water Users Committee (WUC) and the newly established WUC is under discussion to declare new fee regulation in accordance with fuel price rise. The project has benefited 1609 hhs and communities and > 8598 heads of livestock coming including neighbouring kebeles.

At present, the target communities have a deposit of around 10,000 Birr at Bank and by maximising the profit, the communities have a plan to extend water systems to the un reached villages

Gelcha First Cycle Primary School

Gelcha is one of the 18 PCDP kebeles found in Fentale woreda which is located at about 200 km distance from Addis Ababa in a high way to Harar. The kebele hosts 598 pastoralist households and total population of 4179.

Children were moving about 6-9 km tedious distance in getting access to school before the project intervention. The long distance impeded more children from going to school, especially the girls. Based on the objectives and CDD principles of PCDP, the community identified, prioritized and planned projects of their interest including Gelcha first cycle primary school in 2004/05. This project has been approved by the WDC for implementation.

After preparing the project CAP and ensuring its approval, the school has been constructed with a total cost of Birr 410,220 out which Birr 348,687 is PCDP share and Birr 61,533 is the community contribution in labor form. Equipping and furnishing, the project started functioning in 2005/06 and

the recent data indicates that a total student of 323 (190 male, 133female) were attending the school during 2000 E.C (2008).

The school, being one of the 10 schools constructed by PCDP in the woreda, had brought a range of social benefits to the community. The beneficiary dwellers pointed out that they gained additional knowledge and skill in debating and negotiating with different development partners/including government/ with regard to getting access to development resources. Since PCDP has brought attitudinal change, the community constructed one additional block from their own contribution to solve the classroom deficit.

There are other significant benefits that the community witness for the project to bring them. More children are going to school than before the project intervention. Particularly, more girls have been encouraged to go to school since the school is at very vicinity and more children at early age are going to school on their initiatives than before intervention time. Elders got access to adult education during weekend and night time.

This all success implies that PCDP is enabling the community to get school social services in ensuring the long-term objectives of improving the livelihoods of the local community.

Gelcha 1st Cycle Primary School

Rayitu Woreda, Gurura kebele

Success story of women group received breeding goats

Mrs Momina Husen one of the beneficiary woman of the IGA expressing her perception: “we lost our animals due to recurrent drought and our children grew up without any milk. We failed to buy cloths for our children. We have been leading such miserable life for so long period of time. Lately PCDP came to our village with different advantages. Our group comprises 20 women and we received 5 goats each. There are other 20 waiters to receive the five first born lambs. After transferring the first born lambs to my waiter now I have 17 goats. I brought them here to show you. My children are drinking milk and attending their education. No problem of buying cloths and exercise books for my children. Now I have three children (two boys & a girl) learning.

The school is also constructed by our project, PCDDP. Had I been not provided with goats, I couldn't have sent my children to school. This fact holds true for all destitute families. Beyond their milk I earn HH income from their sell. I bought one cow by selling my goats and my children are currently drinking cow milk as well. As goats resist drought than cattle, we got an advantage of drinking milk even during drought times.

Rayitu Woreda (Bale zone)

Water distribution system from bore hole source

Mrs Ayisha Ahmed one of the beneficiaries of Gurura kebele water distribution system expressed her feelings regarding the situation before and after the project as follows:

“We used to walk 10 hrs to fetch water for home consumption. Sometimes we find the water source dried up and comeback home bare handed. During the Dergue regime our subsequent request for water couldn't get response and we left hopeless. Finally PCDDP came to us requesting our problems according to their priorities. Similarly we put the problem of water in the first place. Not later than a month the work was executed and we participated by digging pipeline of 9 kms. Finally we got water an opportunity that our past relatives lost. One amazing thing I want to tell you is that one of our village resident got birth on the road while coming back from searching for water. By now that child became a girl of 10 years old. We can call her if you want to see”.

The above statement in view of the men is somewhat different. Mr Bashir one of the residents of Gurura kebele expressed his perceptions: Allah created water freely for all creatures. Unfortunately we and the wild animals in our area haven't had that chance for decades or so. Thanks to Allah our project PCDDP came to us with many arrays of alternatives. As water has been our permanent problem we put it as first priority and through our participation we got water for our families and animals. Now our communities are settled, the school constructed by PCDDP is serving properly and no student dropout due to water, our children reached above grade 5 for the first time. While we were coming back from distant water well in the night we lost 7 of our animals by lion. Many of our communities have been victims of yellow fever during our stay around the water wells. Now more than 5 kebeles are benefited from this water. We know very well that families who have water sent their children to

school and their children reached universities & colleges; but it is after PCDDP that our children reached grade 5 & 6. We are Muslims. Thanks to our project we constructed mosque which we never had before. Really we got relief. The multi-approach of PCDDP is amazing: we got water, school is constructed and the pipe line is installed, our destitute women got breeding goats. I know various community projects implemented by PCDDP in neighbouring kebeles. If this project continues our livelihood will be improved.

Sawena Woreda, Leku Grindng Mill with shop & milk collection unit.

Leku pastoral association is one of the 29 PCDDP intervened kebele found in Sawena woreda that is located at 26km distance from the woreda main town Micha. The kebele has about 179 HHs and 1422 total population and it had about 4358 livestock population.

Prior to the project intervention the host communities women's in particular were forced to go about 26 km long on foot search of milling & shopping services. During this occasion, as the focal groups said, the women were faced various challenges that scale up the women's workload beside to the painful domestic chores of pastoral ladies. No attempt was done to solve this problem before PCDDP intervention and the challenge was there in a cyclic process during their fore parents.

As PCDDP strictly follows the community demands driven the community facilitators (MOT & MST) found among the community & made general assembly that gave them chance to identify their needs and prioritize it according to their felt need. There is no menu of options presented to the community rather than supporting them idea to come to reality. Accordingly, the community particularly the women of Leku kebele made warmest participation, identified and prioritized and set a plan to construct grinding mill with shop & milk collection unit in 2004/05. In this kebele grinding mill and Vet Post ranked first & 2nd respectively in priority set up & made request to get approval by woreda development committee during same year.

The total project cost of grinding mill with shop & milk collection unit in this kebele is about 311,885 birr of which 46,782.75 birr is community contribution (15%) and 265,102.25 birr is PCDDP share. To ensure sustainability, get services and generate income from the proposed project about 52 destitute women were organized in a group & owned it. Currently these women group is running the business,

rendering services to their members, the none members of the group in their kebele & also for the neighboring four kebeles namely, B/H/Kole, Boditti, Sororo, Kelkelcha.

Furthermore, the beneficiary women group is currently getting profit & making money from this business and they have got attitudinal change in running business, became economically empowered and get respect by thier husband. As the study made indicates the respective women group has got a net profit of 10,000.00 birr and gets improved in their livelihood.

Sawena Woreda, Micha second cycle primary school

Micha kebele is also one the 29 kebeles of Sawena woreda which is located at the center of the woreda main town. This kebele has about 308 HHs and total population 2192 and also has 6346 livestock population.

Before the intervention was made and built the school in this kebele no body is able to further his/her education beyond 5th grade in the entire woreda. Due to the expansion made from grade 5-8th this opportunity created to get additional class rooms & enables the woreda to open senior secondary high school. Currently, from the other 28 kebeles of the woreda all students completed 8th came to Micha high school to completed their high school level education.

Then during the need assessment was done the host community of the kebele broadly discussed to identify & prioritize the problems. According to their priority set up the community ranked first the issue of schooling & then made request to WDC & the proposal was get approved. Soon after the approval the community prepared themselves to take part in the implementation of the school. The Micha School was built with a total cost 1,190,812.00 birr and of which 178,621.80 birr was the communities counter part & 1,012,190.20 birr was from the PCDP share.

Because of the school was built at the woreda center the worda had an opportunity to open the high school a number of students were attending the school and able to complete the high school and have got job opportunity. From Micha kebele 6 female individuals were engaged in health extension training and 8 fellows were employed on different job opportunities in the woreda.

Tututi Grinding Mill With Shop

Tututi is one of the 18 PCDP kebeles found in Fentale woreda which is located at about 200 km distance from Addis Ababa in a high way to Harar. The kebele hosts 349 pastoralist households and total population of 2438.

Before the project intervention, the communities, particularly the women, were moving about 10-25 km tedious distance in search of grinding mill and shopping services by incurring high financial and time costs. Based on the objectives and CDD principles of PCDP, the community, with an intensive participation of women, identified, prioritized and planned projects of their interest inclusive of the grinding mill with shop in 2003/2004. This project has been approved by the WDC for implementation.

In ensuring their demand of getting the services, after preparing their CAP and ensuring its approval, the community constructed the grinding mill house and the shop with a total cost of birr 182,803 out of which birr 27,420 is the community contribution and birr 155,383 is PCDP share. Equipping the constructed infrastructures and organizing a beneficiary group of 80 destitute women to own the project, the formed women group started running the project with initial start up money of birr 7,500 which is from their own contribution and grant from other stakeholders.

The presence of this project had brought a range of advantages/uses to the community. The beneficiary women group pointed out that they gained additional knowledge and attitudinal change that the women can participate in the development interventions pertaining to the community in general and to the women in particular. The beneficiary women group also witness that the tedious distance they were suffering from, and the financial and time cost they were paying in getting access to the services before the project intervention has been alleviated as the service is now in their village.

Moreover, the project is now profitable as the current cost-benefit analysis indicates that the total financial benefit is birr 17,980.80 beside the fixed asset (the grinding mill house and the mill) at hand now.

As indicated by this preliminary assessment, the Tututi Grinding Mill with Shop project is improving the livelihoods of the beneficiary women group since it alleviated their previous problems and earning them additional incomes. That is one of the core targets of PCDP.