



Success Story Of PCPD III

With a total population of 4,472 people, which split into 45% and 55% between males and females respectively, Kabobe Kebele remains one of the most populated areas of Mustahil Woreda of Shabele zone in the Somali regional State of Ethiopia. With no any other source nearby, residents in the kebele used to travel more than four kilometers everyday just to fetch water from the Shabele River, a source so

unclean and known to cause water-borne illnesses among the locals. For women, this meant leaving children behind without motherly care and sacrificing essential household activities at home. Many often carry 20-litre Jericans on their backs, rendering them infertile over prolonged and severe pressures of this type and making them vulnerable to chronic back pain.

Likewise, men have to find water from the same source at the expense of economic activities at the heart of household income generation. Over the years, this has also served as a significant factor in the school dropout rates among school-age children in Kabobe kebele. In addition, regular consumption of contaminated river water has driven seasonal outbreaks of diarrheal diseases, particularly among children. Needless to say are the Shabele river crocodiles that are a serious danger to humans and livestock herds alike. As the kebele lies in the flat plains prone to seasonal flooding from the Shabelle river, depending on the river has other dangers: floods destroy lives and livelihoods, devastate agricultural setting nearby and disrupt trade activities, wreaking havoc socially and economically for individuals and communities in the rainy season.

For the first time in the history of this locality, most of these challenges have come to an end in Kaboobe kebele when the project intervened with the construction of water supply scheme in its 2009 EFY Woreda programming. Today, walking long distances for water remains a thing of the past and women and children no longer need to endure it. People and livestock are far from the harms of crocodiles, water-borne diseases are on the decline, no need for walking distances for water and floods are unlikely to surprise anyone nearby the river just to have water. As local elders from the kebele would like to call it, this is practical demonstration of what a real change in the lives and livelihoods means in this area.

SUCCESS STORIES OF TWO WOMEN WHO ARE PASACCO MEMBERS IN HARSHIN WOREDA (SOMALI REGION)

Living in Baligubadle Kebele of Harshin Woreda, Wayzaro Hibo is never tired of boasting she is a member of Tabantabo PaSACCO which was established in September of the 2008 EFY with the support of the project. As she likes to remind people often, the term 'Tabantabo' in the Somali language stands for a solution to a difficulty." It is not an accident that we have chosen this name as a group" she says, "we had tough livelihood challenges and we practically needed a solution".

In the next few months following establishment, Hibo has got her first loan of Birr 2,000 from Tabantabo, pledging repayment within three months. Following the quick development and submission of a business plan, she invested the money in starting a teashop. With lots of customers attracted, the next 6 months saw her making lots of money leading to three things at the same time: growth of her business profile, repayment of the initial loan to her PaSACCO and expanding the business to include customer goods shop. This is

where things have turned much for the better and her business took off, she believes. Learning from her experience of business expansion, her business swiftly moved further to engage in sheep and goat marketing. Today, Wayzaro Hibo is a leading businesswoman in her Kebele and her successes shone on others as a living example and learning that PaSACCOs are an entry-point to change of lives and livelihoods for the better. “In the days before joining the Tabantabo PaSACCO, sending my kids to school was really not a priority that sticks with my mind all the time because my first priority was food security for the family” she remembers, “Now, all that changed and I do send



W/ro Hibo's and her tea and consumer good shop, Harshin woreda during the federal team visit

Wayzaro Amina Ibrahim Arale is the other woman in the same kebele with Hibo whose success story earned not only the attention of PCDP staff but also others in her locality and

them to school” she stresses. As Wayzaro Hibo tells the team that visited her few months back, she was determined to succeed and did so. According to Wayzaro Hibo, success starts with a firm heart, a business plan, start-up money, regular technical advice and excellent management of the business by yourself. “You put all this together and you succeed” she argues. No longer worried about poverty and food insecurity, Wayzaro Hibo looks on to the future with pride and calls others to follow her footsteps. A close male relative remains the most amazed of all, wondering how women can succeed in an environment, which made men fail in doing business properly.

beyond. She is a mother and the head of her family, raising children. Most of all, she is the only person engaged in traditional poultry farming, a type of business pastoralists in her area have no much understanding. Although she started with small, her business gathered pace and continues to grow. She already has a total of 16 chickens from which 15 are egg-laying females. From them, she collects 12 eggs a day and sells at five birr each, generating an income of 60 Birr for her family daily. “This is like a net income for me and for my family and it does a lot in our area” she claims. This all started after Wayzaro Amina obtained a loan of Birr 2,000 from Tabantabo PaSACCO of which she is a member. Woreda extension team is now helping her in improving her poultry farm from the

traditional status to a modern one. Amina believes that prospects are good for her and

her family for the future.



Egg products collected by W/ro Amina, Harshin Woreda; Eth- Somali Region.