Annual Report

2018/2019

Prepared by: ACPA Program Department
Designed by: ACPA Media Department
Contents

List of Acronyms ................................................................................................................. 6

About ACPA ......................................................................................................................... 8

Our Values ............................................................................................................................... 8

RESET-II: Resilience building and creation of economic opportunities in the Liben Cluster, Ethiopia........................................................................................................................................... 9

Rationale ................................................................................................................................ 9

Main Objective ....................................................................................................................... 9

Planned Results .................................................................................................................... 9

Methodology ......................................................................................................................... 10

Overview of the Action ......................................................................................................... 10

Output 1 ................................................................................................................................ 10

Output 2 ................................................................................................................................ 11

Results and Activities ......................................................................................................... 11

R-1 Increased access to and quality of basic health and nutrition services, potable water supply and improving sanitation and hygiene .............................................................................. 11

Intermediary Outcome-1 ...................................................................................................... 11

Intermediary Outcome-2 ...................................................................................................... 11

Intermediary Outcome-3 ...................................................................................................... 11

R-2 Increased food security and nutrition through improved crop and livestock production, productivity and diversity ...................................................................................................................... 12

Output 1.1 Increased access to quality of basic health and nutrition services ...................... 12

Output 1.2 Improved access to potable water supply .............................................................. 12

Output 1.3 Improved sanitation and hygiene practices .......................................................... 12

Output 2.1 Improved livestock production and productivity ................................................... 12

Output 2.2 Improved value chain development of main pastoral and agro-pastoral products and labour markets .................................................................................................................... 12

Activities ................................................................................................................................ 13

A1 - Enhancing health-seeking behavior of target communities through BCC via grassroots institutions ............................................................................................................................... 13

A2 - Support the government outreach vaccination program for children under one ............ 13

A3 - Construction of earth pans for domestic use .................................................................. 13

A4 - Technical training to technicians, water users and WASHCO ....................................... 14

A5 - Promote participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST); Community-led total sanitation and hygiene (CLTSH) and CHAST (Child hygiene and sanitation) approach ........................................................................... 14
A6 - Prophylactic vaccination for economically and socially important livestock diseases and trans-boundary diseases

A7 - Supported and linked 6 context-specific value chain actors in milk, honey, onion, crop and livestock marketing

Facilitating linkages between market actors
Loan facilitation for 6 cooperatives in Mubarak woreda
Provide business mentoring and facilitate business coordination for actors in target markets

A8 - Established and strengthened Village Community Banks (VICOBAs) and Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs)

A9 – Built the capacity of VICOBAs and VSLAs to linked them to SMFI (Hello Cash)

A – 10 Provided financial and material support to VSLA, VICOBAS and RU-SACCO

A11 - Coordination

A12 - Visibility

Promote Education Opportunities for Pupils Lacking Expectations (PEOPLE)

Rationale
Main Objectives
Summary and purpose of the report
Co-ordination
Situational update of the project area
Achievements
Construction of the hostel
Challenges
Lesson learned

PARTNERS FOR RESILIENCE (PFR)

Building Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Drought-Prone Areas of Liben and Dawa Zones, Somali Region

Rationale
Goal
Main Objective
Achievements
Activities in 2018
Challenges
Resilience Innovation for Livelihood Expansion (RILE) ................................................................. 26

Program overview .......................................................................................................................... 26

Project activities ............................................................................................................................ 26

Assessment report .......................................................................................................................... 28

Objectives of the Assessment .......................................................................................................... 29

Methodology of the assessment ....................................................................................................... 29

Summary of findings ......................................................................................................................... 29

Expected Outputs ............................................................................................................................ 31

Opportunities .................................................................................................................................. 31

Activities in 2018 ............................................................................................................................... 34

Component 1: Enhanced feed production and management Practices ............................................. 34

1.1 Participatory natural resource mapping ...................................................................................... 34
Objectives ......................................................................................................................................... 34
Expected Outcomes .......................................................................................................................... 35

1.2. Provide technical and agricultural tools for interested farmers on fodder production in targeted communities .......................................................................................................................... 36
Objectives ......................................................................................................................................... 37
Outcomes .......................................................................................................................................... 37

1.3 Establishment of two community-owned fodder production and preservation sites .................. 37
Objectives ......................................................................................................................................... 38
Actual Outcomes ............................................................................................................................... 38

Component 2: Improved milk hygiene and quality .......................................................................... 39

2.1. Construction of milk sheds and milk collection centres in North and South Jijiga Woredas of Fafan Zone. ................................................................................................................................. 39
Objectives ......................................................................................................................................... 39

2.2. Training on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for urban milk retailers .................................. 40
Objectives ......................................................................................................................................... 41

2.3 Milk hygiene, quality and sanitation training for producers ...................................................... 42
Objectives ......................................................................................................................................... 42

Component 3: Increased market access and linkages ....................................................................... 43

3.1. Training of Trainers (TOT) ......................................................................................................... 43
Training objectives ............................................................................................................................ 43
Training Outcomes ............................................................................................................................ 44
Mapping and analysis of the value chain ......................................................................................... 44
Value Chain Product Selection Result ............................................................................................ 45
Implementation and monitoring ........................................................................................................ 45
Pre-test and post-test results ............................................................................................................ 45

3.2. Conduct training on cooperative business management and entrepreneurship skills for milk marketing cooperatives members ................................................................. 46
Training objectives ............................................................................................................................ 46
3.3. Establishment of four rural saving and credit cooperatives (RuSACCOs) and provide training and saving tools/equipment

Objective

3.4. Conduct a milk value chain multi-stakeholder’s platform (MSP) workshop for milk stakeholders in North and South Jigjiga Woredas

Workshop objectives

Content of the workshop

Training methodology

Constraints and challenges of the project

Lesson learned
List of Acronyms

ACPA  Aged and Children Pastoralists Association
ANC  Antenatal Care
BCC  Behavioral Change Communication
BDS  Business Development Services
B2B  Business to Business
BEMONC  Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neo-Natal Care
CAHW  Community Animal Health Workers
CBDRR  Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction
CHAST  Child Hygiene and Sanitation Approach
CLTSH  Community-led Total Sanitation and Hygiene
CMDRR  Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction
CMVCD  Camel Milk Value Chain Development project
CRGES  Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy
CSOs  Civil Society Organizations
CVCA  Climate Vulnerability Capacity Assessment
DA  Development Agent
DFID  The Department for International Development
DIP  Detail Implementation Plan
DRM  Disaster Risk Management
ECDD  Ethiopian Centre for Disability Development
EMDIDI  Ethiopian Meat and Dairy Industry Development Institute
ETB  Ethiopian Birr
EWRA  Early Warning and Response Analysis
FGD  Focus Group Discussions
FMoOH  Federal Ministry of Health
HSDP  Health Sector Development Plan
IIF  Innovative Investment Fund
IPC  Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IR  Intermediate Result
IRM  Integrated Risk Management
KII  Key Informant Interviews
LCRDB  Livestock Crop and Rural Development Bureau
LVC  Livestock Value Chain
MMG  Milk Marketing Group
MoA  Ministry of Agriculture
MSD  Market Systems Development
NGO  Non-Governmental Organization
NMA  National Meteorological Agency
NRM  Natural Resource Management
PHAST  Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation
PSNP  Productive Safety Net Program
PSP  Participatory Scenario Planning (climate change and NRM related activities)
PSP  Private Service Providers (Financial services related activities)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Ru)SACCO</td>
<td>Rural Savings and Credit Cooperatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIF</td>
<td>Reproductive Innovative Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RILE</td>
<td>Resilience Innovation Livelihood Expansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMNH</td>
<td>Reproductive Maternal Neo-Natal Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCI</td>
<td>Save the Children International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SoRPARI</td>
<td>Somali Region Pastoral and Agro-pastoral Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMFI</td>
<td>Somali Micro-Finance Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPIF</td>
<td>Strategic Planning and Investment Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRS</td>
<td>Somali Regional State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOPS</td>
<td>Transitioning Out of Pastoralism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOT</td>
<td>Training of Trainers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VSLA</td>
<td>Village Saving and Loans Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC</td>
<td>Outcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP</td>
<td>Output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASHCO</td>
<td>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHWS</td>
<td>Human Health Workers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
About ACPA

Aged and Children Pastoralists Association (ACPA) is a local non-governmental and non-religious organization registered in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. ACPA specializes in providing solutions to the special needs, unsafe cultural perspectives and geographic challenges unique to pastoralist communities in the Somali Region. Accordingly, the organization emphasizes reaching out to marginalized and vulnerable groups, including women, children and older persons. ACPA’s headquarters is located in Addis Ababa, which administratively supports several field offices located in Fafan, Siti, Shebelle and Liben zones of the Somali Region.

ACPA has a culturally sensitive and sustainable approach to address poverty and development issues in pastoralist communities in the Somali Region and works in various interdependent thematic areas including education, health, livelihoods, emergency relief and resilience. During recent years, ACPA has gained considerable expertise in quality project coordination, accurate reporting and accountability as well as capacity building. ACPA has established a high level of trust and commitment with partners, stakeholders and most importantly, its beneficiaries.

Our Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accountability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACPA holds itself accountable to all stakeholders including donors, government bodies, and beneficiaries in the ethical and transparent management of projects and project funds.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Empowerment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The ultimate guiding principle of ACPA’s community interventions is the comprehensive empowerment of its beneficiaries and target communities. This value is particularly important in the case of vulnerable groups such as women, children and older persons.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Equality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACPA emphasizes the importance of recognizing the perpetual obstacles women face in accessing equal opportunities and quality of life standards. ACPA utilizes a gender lens when designing interventions and hiring professionals to its team.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inclusion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We believe in an inclusive participation process in the conception, implementation and evaluation of all ACPA projects. The comprehensive participation of ACPA staff, donors and beneficiaries in the overall progression of projects is a main focus of the organization.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainable Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACPA strives consistently to deliver innovative solutions, which create sustainable and lasting impacts on the lives of our beneficiaries without creating negative impacts on the environment or community.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integrated Themes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACPA focuses on several interconnected thematic areas in the Somali Regional State of Ethiopia, namely market based livelihood programs, child education, health, emergency relief and climate change resilience.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESET-II: Resilience building and creation of economic opportunities in the Liben Cluster, Ethiopia

Rationale

RESET II is a program funded by the European Union covering the period 2016-2020, which focusses on four result areas:

- Improved access to basic services
- Enhanced livelihood and income diversification of opportunities
- Disaster risk management capacity
- Research and knowledge management

The geographical coverage of the RESET II program is 41 woredas (districts) in 5 Regional States of Ethiopia, namely Afar, Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR and Somali, and the estimated number of direct beneficiaries is around 1.2 million people from the most vulnerable communities in the country.

The Aged and Children Pastoralists Association (ACPA) has developed this project with co-implementing partners for the Liben Cluster, and particularly for Mubarak. Drawing on ACPA’s experience and knowledge of the project areas, the project has been designed using recent assessment and field visits, meetings with government representatives and community consultations in the project area.

Main Objective

This project aims to strengthen economic opportunities and resilience of the most vulnerable communities to human-induced and natural disaster crises, through measures that will increase livelihoods and employment and better access to basic services.

Planned Results

The project aims to achieve the following results:

1. Increased access and quality to basic health and nutrition services, potable water supply and improved sanitation and hygiene,
2. Increased food security and nutrition through improved crop and livestock production, productivity and diversity.

The latter will be achieved through the promotion of dry land farming practices, fodder development, small scale irrigation schemes, marketing value chains and outreach animal health services. This also includes the
promotion of household as well as individual dietary diversity. The project is underpinned by improved disaster risk management capacity at Woreda and community level.

Methodology
The basis of the approach is Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR). ACPA increases the capacities of local people and works in a collaborative way with them to reduce the risks of hazards they are exposed to. It includes training in CMDRR, risk mapping, action and contingency planning, community organization, implementation of activities, monitoring progress and evaluating their impact. Communities face specific potential hazards, have specific livelihood strategies, are situated in specific eco-systems and are part of a larger governance system.

Overview of the Action
In Mubarak Woreda ACPA has achieved output level results based on the project activities described in the submitted action plan, despite the conflict in neighboring areas, which slowed down the operation during the project implementation period.

Output 1
217 children under the age of one were immunized. Improved joint engagement on behavioral change communication activities (BCC) and basic emergency obstetric and neo-natal care (BEMONC) services was achieved. 300 community members participated in the project and were linked to health institutions in Mubarak Woreda. In order to increase access to potable water supply, 1 new earth pan was constructed in 02 kebele of Mubarak woreda. In order to improve sanitation and hygiene conditions, 240 community and water management committees including water technicians were trained on efficient utilization and management of water schemes. The Woreda water office arranged the training center and mobilized the water technicians who already existed in the woreda to participate in the training.
Output 2
14,070 livestock were vaccinated. 6 context-specific value chain actors were identified in the poultry, onion, milk, honey, live animal and crop marketing sectors. Through a market systems development (MSD) approach in facilitating sustainable profit-driven interactions between the value chain actors throughout the market system, 71 people from targeted vulnerable communities of Mubarak woreda were able to access to markets for targeted value chains products. Furthermore, ACPA facilitated loans for 6 cooperatives in the woreda amounting to ETB750, 000, from the Somali Micro-Finance Institute (SMFI). 9 Village Saving and Loans Associations (VSLAs) are now engaged in saving and loan practices and ACPA provided them with the necessary kits and cash books to get started and linked them to the SMFI for their further sustainability.

Results and Activities
R-1 Increased access to and quality of basic health and nutrition services, potable water supply and improving sanitation and hygiene.
First-year activities in Mubarak Woreda contributed to the efforts towards building community resilience through the provision of basic services including safe water for drinking, to both community members and their livestock.

Intermediary Outcome-1
The health and nutrition component of the project mainly focused on the prevention of diseases through a combination of vaccination and nutrition status outreach activities, especially, for children under five years of age, children under one-year-old and lactating women respectively. In addition, awareness raising campaigns on behavioral change communication for the community and health workers were also conducted. These outreach activities and campaigns are expected to have a positive contribution towards creating resilient communities in the third year of the project through the increased consciousness of under nutrition and strengthened relevant skills amongst nutrition and health staff at all levels including building the capacity of health and nutrition workers.

Intermediary Outcome-2
The water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) component of the project has increased the positive impact on women and girls through ensuring their access to and availability of water in their villages. This has reduced the long distances women and girls have previously walked to reach water sources and therefore frees up more of their time to engage in other household chores and productive activities. As planned in the DIP, the underground concrete water tankers will be constructed in the following year.

Intermediary Outcome-3
To improve sanitation and hygiene of the local community and the environment further, a large number of community members have participated in sanitation events and were trained in CLTSH.
R-2 Increased food security and nutrition through improved crop and livestock production, productivity and diversity.

ACPA implemented the promotion and establishment of 6 value chain actors in the livestock, honey, milk, onion and crop production and marketing, which in turn created employment opportunities for youth and enhanced the livelihoods of households. ACPA also planned a strategic vaccination and outreach veterinary service, employing CAHWs by vaccinating 14070 animals, which contributed to the improvement of the production and productivity of the livestock sector. The woreda livestock office has facilitated and mobilized the CAHWS to undertake vaccination tasks in the selected area and, also in collaboration with ACPA, the office has assigned officers to monitor the operation during the vaccination process. The project constructed one earth pan in the woreda.

**Output 1.1 Increased access to quality of basic health and nutrition services**

Under this output to increase access to and quality of basic health and nutrition services for the most vulnerable communities in Mubarak woreda, ACPA conducted regular immunization campaigns especially focusing on children under one year of age and 340 households participated in BCC events, which promoted behavioral change. After the immunizations took place in the community the health status of the children became good and the infants got saved from the reoccurring diseases.

**Output 1.2 Improved access to potable water supply**

In order to improve increased access to potable water supply ACPA in collaboration with the government assessed the site selection and WASH status of the 02 kebele. ACPA successfully constructed one pond and trained 10,875 water user committees and water technicians, aiming to reach about 11,071 people.

**Output 1.3 Improved sanitation and hygiene practices**

To increase environmental health of Mubarak woreda ACPA conducted training courses in Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) and CLTSH. 240 community members have participated the CLTSH to date, reaching 70 HHs.

**Output 2.1 Improved livestock production and productivity**

ACPA aimed to enhance livelihoods, income and diversification of opportunities in order to restore basic assets of vulnerable households and intended to improve livestock production and productivity. To reach this aim, ACPA has implemented outreach animal health services, such as conducting a prophylactic vaccination campaign to reach 14,070 heads of animals. ACPA facilitated the logistics and per diems for government staff participating in the campaign. The team vaccinated 5,400 shoats against goat pox, 4,600 shoat against contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP) and 4,070 cattle against external parasites including ticks and mites. Around 1,500 HHs benefitted from the campaign. The woreda livestock office provided the vaccine treatments, while ACPA provided the logistics and field level technical support during the operation.

**Output 2.2 Improved value chain development of main pastoral and agro-pastoral products and labour markets**

In addition to providing support to livestock market cooperatives, ACPA further strengthened market linkages for agricultural products in nearby urban centers, particularly for milk, honey, onion, live animals and crops.
71 people from targeted vulnerable communities of Mubarak woreda gained access to markets for targeted value chains products and the price of each product was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/n</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Unit measured</th>
<th>Price ETHB</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Onion</td>
<td>Kg</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12 HHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Honey</td>
<td>Litre</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>10 HHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>Litre</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12 HHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Animals</td>
<td>1 shoat</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>11HHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Maize Crop</td>
<td>Kg</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12 HHs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>57 HHs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Output 2.3 Improved access to financial services**

ACPA established grassroots financial service groups, such as VSLAs for pastoralist dropouts/unemployed youth and enabled them to develop new skills and start new businesses in alternative livelihood schemes. These will be promoted and linked to market opportunities.

**Activities**

**A1 - Enhancing health-seeking behavior of target communities through BCC via grassroots institutions.**

ACPA tailored BCC materials, which were developed under the regional guidelines program to structure community and household dialogue sessions and adapt information, education and communication (IEC) materials such as posters or get together events carried out with individuals and all public and private institutions. Topics included dietary diversity, maternity, breastfeeding and child health. 360 individuals in all 7 kebeles of Mubarak RESET II areas have accessed and benefitted from the full use of the messages and materials.

**A2 - Support the government outreach vaccination program for children under one**

This activity involved providing logistical support to facilitate the outreach vaccination campaigns conducted by the government covering 217 children under one year of age in 7 kebeles so that the common gaps in reaching all the children in the peripheral hard to reach areas within the Woreda were filled.

**A3 - Construction of earth pans for domestic use**

The project team with support from the woreda water sector assessed the needs in kebeles of the project intervention area. Based on the gaps and needs identified Kebele 02 has been selected for earth pan
construction, which benefits 11,673 people. One earth pan was constructed to provide drinking water for domestic and livestock use, see photo below.

![Constructing earth pan in war-walu kebele of Mubarak woreda](image)

**A4 - Technical training to technicians, water users and WASHCO**

WASHCO training was a crucial component of the intervention in recent years, which has been facilitated by a team comprising the project water expert and technical expert from the Woreda water office. The courses provided water management and technical training to WASHCO, which consisted of 120 people in Hawan, Galgalu and Chilanko kebeles. It served to improve the effective utilization of the constructed water structures and those planned under this project. In order to achieve the sustainability of the developed and/or upgraded water sources targeted communities were able to manage the schemes on their own.

**A5 - Promote participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST); Community-led total sanitation and hygiene (CLTSH) and CHAST (Child hygiene and sanitation) approach.**

ACPA and the woreda health office have mobilized a significant event focused on delivering training on Community-led Total Sanitation and Hygiene (CLTSH) to 240 community members from all kebeles, including women and youth, which benefitted 70 households. During the training, participants learned how to wash their hands and use their latrines properly, shared their own ideas and experiences about hygiene, pledged to spread the process of keeping the environment clean and learned about the CHAST approach. Furthermore, keen participants put their learning straight into practice by building their own latrines. Since the training several hygiene and sanitation groups were established to carry out sanitation activities of the woreda, which were comprised of youth and women from the surrounding kebeles. ACPA will continue to support community groups to change their behavior and practice the community led total sanitation approach until the use of the approach becomes habitual thereby creating a healthier living environment.
A6 - Prophylactic vaccination for economically and socially important livestock diseases and trans-boundary diseases.

Preventative livestock vaccinations were conducted covering 14,070 heads of livestock, in order to decrease the severity of disease and thereby to decrease associated treatment costs, production and productivity losses. Vaccinations were administered to healthy animals over a six-month period, aiming to address at least 90% of the livestock population per vaccination within all 7 kebeles of Mubarak woreda that were selected for this project. Furthermore, ACPA supported the government in delivering mass livestock vaccination campaigns by covering the logistic costs and allowances of the livestock vaccination team. The government livestock office provided the vaccines.

A7 - Supported and linked 6 context-specific value chain actors in milk, honey, onion, crop and livestock marketing

ACPA employed a Market Systems Development (MSD) approach in facilitating sustainable profit-driven interactions between value chain actors throughout the market system. Although several producer cooperatives already existed in the woreda and were supported fairly by the government, many were barely active and provided only minimal support to their members. ACPA has extensive experience mobilizing communities to form sustainable community-based organizations around productive activities. Six value chain producer cooperatives were identified and strengthened in target kebeles (Chilanko, 02, Galgalu and Hawan) to improve their organizational capacity, develop their technical practices, improve their access to market information and invest in technologies to improve production and processing practices of members.

Facilitating linkages between market actors

Facilitated business meetings have been a key tool used to reduce the fragmentation of market actors. In some cases, ACPA took a ‘hands-off’ approach, simply making an initial introduction and allowing businesses to continue the conversation independently of additional support. In other cases, ACPA played a more prominent
facilitation role, holding 6 multi-actor Business-to-Business (B2B) workshops and helping all parties to establish clear working relationships and processes in Business-to-Business events.

These interventions facilitated business introductions and linkages between 11 pastoralists, 6 marketing cooperatives, 11 buyers and 3 financial service providers. Trainings and Business to Business events at woreda level provided an opportunity for market actors to demonstrate their products and kick-start business transactions.

**Loan facilitation for 6 cooperatives in Mubarak woreda**

ACPA facilitated loans for 6 cooperatives in the woreda amounting to ETB 750,000 each from the Somali Micro-Finance Institute (SMFI) in Moyale. ACPA built capacity and provided the logistical support for SMFI to introduce ‘Hello Cash’ to Mubarak woreda. The government supported ACPA to deliver effective services by creating an appropriate enabling environment so that ACPA staff and government officials together identified priority areas and jointly developed an action plan. The government assigned two experts to work closely with ACPA throughout the value chain development process of each market product.

**Provide business mentoring and facilitate business coordination for actors in target markets**

ACPA has provided monthly follow-up mentoring and monitoring for businesses. In the honey market ACPA facilitated business coordination between groups of market actors, which served as a powerful mechanism for sharing innovation and successes, helping these to spread among other actors. Business coordination meetings also allowed market actors to identify common challenges and gave them a forum to make recommendations to the government about possible solutions.

**A8 - Established and strengthened Village Community Banks (VICOBAs) and Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs)**

ACPA established community platforms such as Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and Village Community Banks (VICOBAs) to improve the resilience of communities against repeated episodes of drought and other emergencies. These groups are women’s groups consisting of 25-45 members per group, who are involved in various income-generating activities to ensure and support their household’s economic needs in normal and difficult times. For example, Hinda Mohamed is a member of a VSLA group in the woreda where she lives with her four children. There, she has opened a small fast-food shop and soon invested in it further by using a very small loan she received from the SMFI, which was supported by the Reset project facilitated by ACPA in Mubarak woreda. Now Hinda and her family have a better quality of life and she is about to save money for their future. This is an early indication that this group will become a full cooperative after receiving training microfinance procedures and will be resilient in future dry seasons when the group obtains a full legal cooperative license.
A9 – Built the capacity of VICOBAs and VSLAs to link them to SMFI (Hello Cash).

A Community Development Officer and VSLA coordinator provided a basic training course in financial literacy to all VSLA members and on-going refresher training and mentoring of those enrolled into the existing curriculum, which is used in the Somali region by the Cooperative Promotion Office. Members of VSLAs were also supported to develop simple business ideas through identifying the skills and resources they needed to pursue a new livelihood or business activity. Ideas can be very basic, for example purchasing vegetable seeds, a stock of general retail goods or chicks for a micro-poultry business.

A – 10 Provided financial and material support to VSLA, VICOBAS and RU-SACCO

ACPA delivered kits to 5 VSLAs which consisted of the following items:

- A lockable cash box which is closed with three locks
- Three good quality padlocks, each with two keys
- 25 passbooks
- 25-member number cards
- A rubber stamp for marking shares
- A rubber stamp ink pad and spare bottle of ink
- A ruler
- A rubber stamp for marking shares
- A rubber stamp ink pad and spare bottle of ink
- A ruler
- Two ballpoint pens: one black or blue and the other red
- A good quality calculator
- Two plastic bowls in different colors at least 30 cm in diameter and at least 15 cm deep for the collection of share purchases and loan repayments (one for fines and one for managing contributions to the social fund)
- Three fabric money bags with drawstrings: one in one color for the social fund, one in another color for the loan fund.

### Value chain actors in the milk, honey, onion, crop and livestock marketing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/ N</th>
<th>Cooperative name</th>
<th>Members by gender</th>
<th>Woreda</th>
<th>Business type</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Chair person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Dahabo</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Mubarak</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Durdur</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Livestock &amp; livestock products</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Heegon</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Mubarak</td>
<td>Onion &amp; maize crop production</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Al-iimaan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mubarak</td>
<td>Livestock &amp; livestock products</td>
<td>0948085843</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**A11 - Coordination**

The actions were implemented in coordination with the health, water, pastoral development and the administration bureaus at zonal and woreda level. ACPA has a project office in Mubarak woreda and coordinated the activities with the woreda counterparts, which ensured that there was a high level of complementarity, synergy, resource optimization and information sharing. During the first quarter of the project implementation period, ACPA and all other humanitarian organizations facilitated joint operation meetings in Mubarak and Moyale woredas in order to harmonize their approaches, follow common strategies and coordinate joint duties including, joint activity mapping and setting up joint monitoring and evaluation systems.

**A12 - Visibility**

The ACPA team has always taken great care to make the project and donor logos visible throughout implementation by using activity banners, project sign boards, and workshop events of the project.

Community members receiving the new rangeland management materials supported by ACPA
Rationale

This project entitled Promote Education Opportunities for Pupil Lacking Expectation (PEOPLE) is funded by the International Committee for the Development of People (CISP), Italian Cooperation and covers the period from January 2016 to December 2019. Its main aim is to contribute to the improvement of the education sectors service delivery in the project target areas of Filtu and Hudet Districts of the Liben Zone of the Somali Regional State of Ethiopia. The selected districts are known for their recurrent drought, weak networks of social services and poor access to education.

Main Objectives

The main objectives of the PEOPLE project are:

1. To contribute towards the improvement of the Education Sector service delivery in the project target areas and
2. To expand the capacity and the quality of the education services with particular attention to gender equality and disadvantaged groups in line with government policy.

Summary and purpose of the report

The PEOPLE project focusses on addressing existing gaps in the education sector in those woredas in Dawa and Liben zones, which have lower service delivering capacities. This narrative report covers progress and performance of the project for 2018/2019 including material and manpower mobilization, outcomes, lesson learnt and challenges encountered during implementation.

Co-ordination

This project is jointly implemented by ACPA and CISP. ACPA coordinates implementation activities in Hudet woreda, Dawa zone, while CISP does the same in Filtu, Liben zone. The head offices of the two organizations jointly oversee the field activities. Resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation and addressing all project issues are closely coordinated by senior head office staff. Stakeholder involvement by local government representatives and community members is integral to all aspects of project implementation.
Situational update of the project area

Dawa zone is located at the south-western part of Somali region in Ethiopia. Last year the zone experienced periods of critical insecurity and conflict that resulted in the evacuation of communities and closed government offices. In turn, these events caused significant gaps in the implementation of both governmental and non-governmental projects in the zone including the PEOPLE project by ACPA, which is one of the active projects in Hudet district. There have been financial delays from the beginning of the second year of the project which have also slowed down project progress. However, the PEOPLE project has now completed its third year of implementation with tangible achievements including the construction of the girl’s hostel as planned.

Achievements

As an achievement ACPA struggled to implement according to its plans, here the table below outlines the planned activities carried out by ACPA under the PEOPLE project in its third year, 2018/2019. Under the quarterly schedule blocks in grey shaded are completed activities, whereas blocks in red are still remaining.

Table of planned PEOPLE project activities in 2018/2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Planned Project Activities of 2018/2019</th>
<th>Quarterly schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Access in delivering services of primary schools and hostel construction.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rehabilitate Dirre Dimma primary schools</td>
<td>Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>School furniture provision for the Lochole and Dirre Dima schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Construction of one girls' hostel and equip with furniture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Office equipment support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Technical training for 20 teachers on selected topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Awareness raising on access to education through household (HH) Income Generating Activities (IGA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Conduct education fora among school children and communities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>IGA for poor families to support to send their children to schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Training for women’s self-help groups on small business management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support the IGA for poor families through provision of initial capital to women’s self-help groups to support their children’s education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Construction of the hostel

The construction of the hostel began in mid-July 2018 and ended in September 2019. The hostel compound will accommodate 72 girls and comprises 12 rooms measuring of 4 metres wide by 4 metres long in a clean and open environment with natural air conditioning. See photos of the completed hostel overleaf.

Below photo shows the Hostel school for girls in Hudet woreda, containing 12 rooms with a kitchen and separate toilet outside.

Challenges

There were several challenges and constraints, which hindered operations causing considerable delays in the implementation of the project including:

- Reoccurring conflict between the neighboring Somali and Oromo communities, which is still active and has not been resolved in a guaranteed way.
- Regional governmental collapse and emergence of a new regional government administration which has not been completely established yet.
- Evacuation of local community stakeholders from conflict areas.

Lesson learned

ACPA staff learned that the responsibility of the local government administration and community members and their cooperation are pivotal in achieving project objectives. Thus, referring to the tragedy that occurred in the project intervention area of Dawa zone the government administration have also learned that such locally happening problems limited the on-going implementation of the project activities. While the community have realized that a lot of helping activities could have been operationally implemented if their participation is permanent with their stakeholders of relief workers like ACPA.
PARTNERS FOR RESILIENCE (PFR)

Building Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Drought-Prone Areas of Liben and Dawa Zones, Somali Region.

Rationale

Funded by CordAid, the project Building Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Drought-Prone Areas of Liben and Dawa Zones, Somali Region covers a two-year period between 2018 and 2020 and actively promotes Integrated Risk Management (IRM), which incorporates Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation and Ecosystem Management and Restoration. In response to the recurrent drought situation and as part of development strategy, the Federal Government and regional states of Ethiopia have started to develop sectoral plans and strategies to mitigate risk and to adapt to both short-term climate variability, as well as longer term climate change. Much progress has been made in recent years in building community resilience, from a few dozen pilot activities to numerous initiatives throughout many areas and communities in Ethiopia. Partners for Resilience (PFR) has contributed to this development during the period from 2011 – 2015. Local government institutions played a key role in implementing IRM interventions, which has improved both local government and community ownership of the project.

The recently approved Disaster Risk Management (DRM) policy and Strategic Planning and Investment Framework (SPIF) recognized the importance of a multi-sector and community-based strategy and approach. This recognition is a legitimization of the strategic partnership focus on capacity development of Civil Society.
Organizations (CSOs) on IRM. The Government promotes mainstreaming DRM in country development strategies. For instance, the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP), in addition to addressing vulnerable households’/communities’ food insecurity, combines DRM in the form of social protection.

Ethiopia has formulated the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGES), which puts forward a climate smart economy as its priority development strategy at all levels and sectors. To this effect, issues related to climate change and natural resources degradation have become a significant political agenda and budgets have been allocated for environmental rehabilitation programs. Although policies are in place on climate change adaptation, green economic development, and disaster risk management they are mainly driven by sectors. There are efforts at national level to develop and implement policies that are sensitive to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, but their practical application and implementation at local level is minimum. Local governments and development partners experience low allocation of funds for Integrated Risk Management. In general, there are more resources allocated for emergency operations and there is less focus on funding DRR measures. Among a broad range of stakeholders including the general public, private sector and local governments there remains little awareness, knowledge and insight into the implications of the different policies that have been put in place.

Ethiopia has a large variety of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and CSOs working on subjects relevant to IRM. CSOs have been able to establish and build the capacity of grassroots organizations e.g. CMDRR/CBDRR committees and water management committees, contributing greatly to community awareness of DRR. There are different civil society networks in place e.g. the Forum for the Environment, the Ethiopian Pastoralist Forum, and the Sustainable land use Forum etc. In addition, different regional networks exist with a focus on IRM such as NEPAD, IGAD and the African Union Pastoral Framework.

Although new legislation promotes community ownership and CSOs are acknowledged partners in developing IRM policies and practices, the capacity of local CSOs and local institutions is not to the required level, moreover, the DRM-SPIF document has indicated that there are a number of gaps in national DRM endeavors.

**Goal**

The overall goal of the project is to increase the resilience of vulnerable people in the Liben and Dawa Zones of Somali Regional State of Ethiopia to crises in the face of climate change and environmental degradation, which, in turn enables sustainable inclusive economic growth.

**Main Objective**

The general objective of the project is to support the Somali Regional State to integrate the DRM strategy and guidelines by 2020.

**Achievements**

The Memorandum of Understanding of the project was signed between the government and ACPA which outlined legal responsibilities and government and non-government working procedures.
Activities in 2018/2019

- ACPA conducted familiarization workshops and launch with community and government representatives.
- One inception dialogue on DRM policy and the project was held in each of the targeted woredas with the community and local government counterparts.
- One set of resilience coordination guidelines has been developed, which will be useful for the resilience coordination platforms for humanitarian actors, government and community members in the intervention zones.
- One land use management training has been given to communities and government counterparts in all of the targeted woredas.
- Training courses in climate change adaptation measures have been provided for communities and government participants in Moyale and Mubarak woredas and those for the remaining woredas will be accomplished within this month. The delay was caused by clashes between neighboring pastoralists of Somali and Oromo, which seriously affected the economic and social context as well as negatively impacting humanitarian access.
- An awareness raising session on the need and opportunities for action to address the impact of climate change and unsustainable natural resource management was held in Moyale.
- A user-friendly collection of information graphics on resilience was developed, translated into the local language and is ready now for printing and duplication.

Challenges

- Conflicts and clashes between the Somalis and Oromo.
- Flood blockage during rainy season. In whole Dawa zone.
- Road inaccessibility and logistical inefficiency.
- Communication problems sometimes in some areas with the field staff.

Regarding the above challenges ACPA in coordination with humanitarian stakeholder and the local government in the flood effected area have given sensitizations and awareness as a mitigation measures to the communities affected by the flood hazards, this step can keep the community to be alert for the other related hazards with these challenges that can be faced since this floods,
Resilience Innovation for Livelihood Expansion (RILE)

Program overview

ACPA has completed an 11 months’ project called Resilience Innovation Livelihood Expansion (RILE) between January 2018 and November 2019, the key objective of which was to rebuild livelihoods and reduce market fluctuations in drought-affected areas of North and South Jigjiga districts of Fafan Zone in Somali Regional State. Specifically, the project focused on milk production and marketing in the two districts, in order to transform this sector into profit-making businesses and improve the economic and social wellbeing of targeted vulnerable households.

This has been achieved through organizing producers and other value chain actors in collaboration with the Regional Livestock and Pastoral Development Bureau and Regional Cooperative Promotion Agency. Furthermore, the project ensured steady improvements in sustainable milk hygiene practices by facilitating infrastructure development, including the construction of milk collection centers and sheds, distributing hygienic aluminum milk containers and milk cooling materials for Milk Marketing Groups (MMGs) and traders, which are vital in promoting improved access to markets. In addition, alternative livelihood opportunities were promoted, milk value-chains were strengthened and market linkages were enhanced, all of which are necessary for creating an enabling environment for sustainable economic security and help to protect household assets of the poor.

Project activities

Project activities undertaken include:

- Conducted an assessment in targeted woredas,
- Facilitated participatory natural resource mapping for six sites consisting of two woredas (north and south Jigjiga),
- Conducted training on cooperative business management and entrepreneur skills development for milk producers and traders,
- Provided technical and agricultural tools for 60 farmers engaged in fodder crop production in targeted communities,
- Established two community-owned fodder producers,
- Constructed one milk collection centre and one milk sheds,
- Delivered training courses on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for both producers and urban milk retailers,
- Organized a milk fair platform for stakeholders in milk production,
- Conducted training courses in financial services for two established cooperatives.
Assessment report

ACPA conducted a preliminary assessment in collaboration with regional and woreda stakeholders in the targeted woredas, in order to introduce the project to the partners, as well as to identify suitable sites for potential milk and forage production. Community consultations were carried out using Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussions (FGD).
Objectives of the Assessment

The main objectives of the assessment were as follows:

- Collect general background information from the project intervention woredas,
- Identify the existing valuable resources of milk value chain activities in the two woredas,
- Identify milk value chain actors and supporters or service providers in each woreda,
- Meet with existing NGOs in the area to find out whether they are conducting similar activities in the assessed woreda, in order to avoid duplication and competition,
- Assess the status of the main infrastructure including water sources, milk facilities and market availability in each woreda.

Methodology of the assessment

The RILE Team of ACPA visited regional government partners and announced the commencement of the project by inviting them to participate in an assessment of the project operational areas. The regional partners assigned a team from the livestock bureau and cooperative promotion agency. Together ACPA RILE project staff and regional partner bureau team members visited the targeted woredas to inform stakeholders about the project and how it will be implemented. Subsequently the woreda administration in collaboration with woreda line bureaus, especially the woreda livestock and pastoral development office and woreda cooperative promotion agency assigned four experts who participated in the assessment of each woreda.

The joint team began the assessment in Shabelay woreda and selected kebeles including the centre of Shabelay. The team employed participatory research techniques including FGDs and KIIs to gather data. FGDs were held with elders, clan and religious leaders, female groups and knowledgeable individuals in each locality. Key informants were classified according to the nature of the project or sector at woreda levels, particularly representatives from woreda livestock and pastoral and development offices, woreda cooperative promotion agency staff and woreda administration offices and DAs in both woredas. The assessment team visited fourteen kebeles from both woredas, as well as the town of Wajale, which is located on the border to ensure that milk products crossed the border and reached the milk market in Harorays woreda.

Summary of findings

Shabelay, Hanjabi, Biya, Ade and Hadanta kebeles are located in the south west of Shabelay woreda. The livelihood patterns of these kebeles are mainly agro-pastoral households. Livestock mobility is seasonal, especially when there is a severe shortage of pasture and water and they move to the other neighboring woredas, such as Gursum, Babile, Gol-janno and Tulli in search of pasture and water, while the lactating animals are kept in permanent villages and given supplementary feeds. Trade routes exist, particularly milk value chain linkages and the main terminal market is Jigjiga town, where producers to middle women to traders congregate. These kebeles have richer camel milk compared to other kebeles in the east of Shabelay woreda. The production and price of milk fluctuate seasonally. Usually in Fafan Zone during in the wet season the producers supply huge volumes of milk with low prices, whilst during in the dry season the owners supply a limited
amount of milk at higher prices. A common type of milk container in Shabelay woreda is a plastic jerry can of different sizes. However, according to FGDs plastic jerry cans have affected the quality of milk but a more suitable alternative milk container has not yet been found and traditional milk cans are no longer used.

The assessed areas have poor infrastructure including road access, public infrastructure and limited investment in both camel and cattle milk production. The perception of the community about milk marketing is very good and there is considerable willingness to form associations and or cooperative organizations. Lafta-Gololaka, Amadle and Dadi Kabeles are located in the south east of Shabelay woreda support agro-pastoral livelihoods. Sometimes communities move during the dry season or when there is a shortage of rainfall in their locality and go to other neighboring kebeles or woredas. Nevertheless, these centres mainly have potential cattle milk production rather than camel milk since they have savanna land with fewer trees and browse.

Regarding milk trade linkages, milk goes from producers to collectors to the main market in Jigjiga. The producers supply enough milk to the market during the wet season, but in the dry periods the amount of milk supplied decreases owing to livestock mobility or a decline milk yield caused by a shortage of pasture and water and the occurrence of extreme weather conditions. Sahatilay and Akaro kebeles are located to the south whereas Dud afi, Kabri Ahmed and Yosle are located to the south west of Harorays woreda. Only Tuwa ad kebele is located to the west of Harorays Woreda. These kebeles support agro-pastoral households, which rarely move throughout the year. The visible milk markets and opportunities available in Harorays woreda are Jigiiga and Wajale towns, which are the main hubs for producers, traders and retailers.

Concerning milk frequency per day, this varies based on the seasonal calendars of the year, the amount of forage consumed by livestock and the lactation periods for milking animals. Harorays milk producers supply more milk in the rainy season compared to the dry season. Milk containers in Harorays woreda are similar to Shabelay woreda because producers and traders also use plastic jerry cans, which are difficult to clean appropriately since they have narrow necks. There are no NGOs currently implementing similar project activities in the assessed kebeles in the two woredas.

Communities have not adapted so far, nor improved forage crops and planting, although they have requested improved seed and technical support including sowing and harvesting techniques from ACPA and the government team during the assessment. The main milk value chain actors existing in the two woredas are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Producers</th>
<th>Brokers</th>
<th>Traders</th>
<th>Consumers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

30
Expected Outputs

- Familiarized the stakeholders with the project overview the milk value chain in the targeted woredas through building positive interactions with partners,

- Facilitated the joint assessment ensuring participation of all project stakeholders and beneficiaries, in order to achieve smooth project implementation,

- The assessment team identified the milk potential sites, market linkages and the constraints that exist in each locality.

Opportunities

- Overall the woredas were found to have great potential for milk production having huge livestock populations,

- Most of the kebeles visited have transportation despite rough roads,

- Informal and traditional dairy value chain actors are active in both woredas,

- Communities are willing to improve fodder production while the most visited sites were appropriate for the cultivation of rain-fed fodder crops.
Milk collection shed with installed solar panel energy system

Training on Entrepreneurship and cooperative business management provided by milk marketing cooperatives established and supported by project

SOLAR INSTALLATION SYSTEM

SACCO training provided by saving and credit cooperatives established and supported by project
Table 1 Summary of plans versus achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Total project target</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Recruitment and selection of project staff</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Conduct an assessment for targeted woredas</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Component 1: Enhanced feed management practices

| 3   | Conduct participatory natural resource mapping                          | 30 people            | 30 people    |
| 4   | Establish two new fodder demonstration sites                            | 2                    | 2            |
| 5   | Provide technical and agricultural tools for interested farmers on fodder growing production in targeted communities | 60 HH                | 60 HH        |

Component 2: Improved milk hygiene and quality

| 6   | Construct a milk collection centre at Shabelay site in south Jigjiga     | 1                    | 1            |
| 7   | Construct a milk collection shed at Tuwa,ad kebeles in North Jigjiga    | 1                    | 1            |
| 8   | Training on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for urban milk retailers | 60 people             | 62 people    |
| 9   | Training on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for milk producers     | 300 people            | 500 people   |
| 10  | Purchase and provide milk quality equipment Taste such as alcohol gun, lactometer and the like | 3 d/t items           | 50 pcs       |

Component 3: Increased market access and trade linkages

| 11  | Provide a ToT on business value chain for project staff and Government line bureaus experts | 10 people            | 11 people    |
| 12  | Improve cultural saving and access to financial services for milk marketing cooperatives through the establishment of rural saving and credit cooperatives( RuSACCOs) and provide training and saving tools and equipment | 4 cooperatives       | 162 people   |
| 13  | Conduct training on cooperative business management and entrepreneurship skills for dairy marketing cooperatives members | 200 people           | 198 people   |
| 14  | Support milk aggregators through purchasing cooling materials and tasting tools in order to promote milk quality and demand | 4 coop               | 4 coop       |
| 15  | Conduct a milk value chain multi-stakeholders platform workshop          | 200 people           | 135 people   |

Table 2 Summary of direct project beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity description</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct participatory natural resource mapping</td>
<td>30 members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish two new fodder demonstration sites</td>
<td>20 members</td>
<td>Daily labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide technical and agricultural tools for interested farmers on fodder growing production in targeted communities</td>
<td>360 members</td>
<td>60 HH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for urban milk retailers</td>
<td>62 members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construct a milk collection shed and centre</td>
<td>430 members</td>
<td>=86 HHs*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for milk producers</td>
<td>302 members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct training on cooperative business management and entrepreneurship skills for dairy marketing cooperatives members</td>
<td>198 members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct a milk value chain multi-stakeholders platform workshop</td>
<td>105 members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide a ToT on business value chain for project staff and Government line bureaus experts</td>
<td>11 members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,522 members</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activities in 2018/2019

Component 1: Enhanced feed production and management Practices

1.1 Participatory natural resource mapping

The pastoralist households of Somali Region are affected by consistent shocks related to climatic hazards including rainfall fluctuations, temperature variations and extreme weather events such as drought and floods in addition to other hazards such as environmental degradation, disease epidemics and chronic malnutrition which severely impact the poor. Additionally, unsustainable farming, inappropriate grazing, charcoal-burning and gathering wood for fuel have also resulted in significant land degradation and environmental desertification of pastoral and agro-pastoral lands in Fafan Zone, which have impacted pastoral and agro-pastoral households.

To reduce the impact of these shocks on pastoral and agro-pastoral communities, ACPA has conducted participatory natural resource mapping dialogues with 30 members of the community in total, five persons from each of six kebeles of Shabelay, Hadanta, Biyo’ade and Lafta-galolka of South Jigjiga (Shabelay) and Turwa,ad and Sahatilay of North Jigjiga (Harorays). The elders and facilitators had discussed the recent year’s trends concerning the local environment and changes in climate that resulted in recurrent droughts, land destruction and decline in pasture and cereal production, which undermined community adaptive capacities increasing their vulnerability and weakened livelihood patterns. The participants also discussed possible risk reduction mechanisms with regard to natural resource management and livelihood wellbeing. The workshop events lasted for two days in each of the two sites The training methodology involved participatory learning, including brainstorming, presented material, group discussions and drawing maps. ACPA project staff and experts from the Livestock and pastoralist Development office of South and North Jigjiga Woredas facilitated the sessions. Finally, the team and participants agreed on solutions for proper natural resource and land use management.

Objectives

- To discuss customized mapping based on local land use policy with local representatives and identify the problems and issues related to feed management practices in the target sites.
- To develop a set of maps that illustrated the natural resources of the woredas and key priority areas for rangeland management and fodder productions.
- To share information about manmade and natural hazards caused by land degradation including (soil erosion, overgrazing, deforestation, intensive cultivation and unwise land use management) with members of the local communities in project sites.
- To establish natural resource management committees to take responsibility for rangeland management and areas where land uses are in conflict with natural resource scarcity.
Expected Outcomes

- Established a natural resource management committee, consisting of a total of 30 members (5 members per site for six sites).

- Agreed a mutual understanding of natural resources conservation, particularly rangeland management in the operating areas.

- Initiated a common consensus between traditional rangeland management systems and modern rangeland management, including better animal husbandry and better farming.

**Table 3: Participatory natural resource mapping participants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Kebele</th>
<th>Woreda</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shabelay</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hadanta</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biyo’ade</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafta-galolka</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sahatilay</td>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akaro</td>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participatory natural resource mapping workshops.
### 1.2. Provide technical and agricultural tools for interested farmers on fodder production in targeted communities

Due to the climate changes and recurrent droughts, communities face shortages of animal feed during the long dry season and are forced to move long distances. The RILE project team procured and distributed agricultural tools and seed (Sudan and Rhodes grazes) to 60 HHs in collaboration with the local administrations in both Jigjiga South and Jigjiga North woredas. The team selected the beneficiaries from the project sites including Shabelay, Hadanta, Biya, ade, and Dadi of South Jigjiga Woreda and Turwa’ad, Sahatilay, and Akaro of North Jigjiga woreda in reference. Beneficiary selection criteria included agro-pastoralist households that were willing to cultivate fodder crops.

After beneficiary selection, the field team distributed and delivered the improved seed like Sudan, Rhodes, and Panicum grazes and tools. Subsequently, ACPA’s technical team provided guidance and recommendations, such as the appropriate time for sowing the seeds, water requirements, as well as the frequent use of the planted crops. Though the ACPA team were not able to visit all beneficiary households, due to project phase out but some of the beneficiaries succeeded in their efforts and cultivated fodder crops that produced good vegetation and covering growth, especially those in the Shabelay sites while some other households faced limited rainfall during the growing season because it was rainfed system rather than irrigation scheme.

**Table 4: Agricultural seeds and tools distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woreda</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Materials given</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>Shabelay</td>
<td>10 HHs</td>
<td>Sickle, Hoe, Shovel, Harar Spade (Hagafa) and 5Kg of Sudan grass seeds</td>
<td>Each farmer received one Sickle, Hoe, shovel with handle and 5Kg and Rhodes of improved seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hadanta</td>
<td>6 HHs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biya’ade</td>
<td>13 HHs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dadi</td>
<td>6 HHs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>Tuwa’ad</td>
<td>10 HHs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sahatilay</td>
<td>7 HHs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Akaro</td>
<td>8 HHs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>60 HHs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Household fodder crop cultivation.
Objectives

- To promote the access of the agro pastoral communities to fodder production during pasture scarcity.
- Increase the availability and access of improved forage for pastoral and agro pastoral communities to minimize the negative effects of the droughts.
- Improve fodder production that can result better household nutrition and reduce livestock feed stress during the dry season.

Outcomes

- Farmers improved their farming system after ACPA distributed various agricultural tools and seeds among 60 fodder growing households in targeted project sites.
- Enhanced community capacity to cultivate fodder crops

1.3 Establishment of two community-owned fodder production and preservation sites

In connection with the above activity, the RILE project has established two community-owned fodder production and preservation demonstration sites, each of one hectare, in collaboration with woreda administration offices. It is anticipated that these rainfed demonstration sites will boost the knowledge of local communities and milk producers and farmers, in particular, in appropriate fodder production techniques such as planting, harvesting, preservation and better management practices. Three varieties of improved seeds (Sudan, Rhodes and Panicum grasses) were sowed on these sites. Ten people were employed as daily laborers for 22 days at each site.
Objectives

- To teach agro pastoral and pastoral households how forage is produced and preserved with the aim of contributing to the overall goal of increased livestock productivity through better feeding.

- To increase the knowledge of the local community about fodder production that can result in improved household nutrition.

- To create an enabling environment, where pastoral households can access skills to grow fodder crops successfully.

Actual Outputs

- Two fodder production demonstration sites established

- Target communities accessed basic knowledge and skills on fodder production and preservation

- Community awareness about livestock feeding for better productivity was promoted
Component 2: Improved milk hygiene and quality

2.1. Construction of milk sheds and milk collection centres in North and South Jijiga Woredas of Fafan Zone.

Over 84% of Somali pastoral households depend on livestock and livestock products. Milk is one of the most important livestock products, and yet it is often at risk of spoilage and contamination owing to environmental challenges. Proper handling, storage and transport of milk are necessary to produce safe and fresh milk, of good quality and are the essentials for forging profitable milk businesses. To this end, the RILE project constructed one milk collection shed and one milk collection centre, which supported the activities of two milk marketing cooperatives that the project had also established. The milk collection center and shed provided protection from external limiting factors and reduced contact with other sources of milk contamination, therefore increasing market linkages among actors in the milk value chain. Both the milk collection shed and centre were handed over to the beneficiaries.

In particular, female beneficiaries of these facilities acknowledged the advantages that they gained in terms of keeping consistent quality of their milk production and improving their business systems. The table below gives dimensions of the milk shed and centre.

### Table 5: Summary of milk collection shade and center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Width</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milk collection</td>
<td>Shabelay site at south Jijiga</td>
<td>10m</td>
<td>6m</td>
<td>With two additional rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>centre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk Collection</td>
<td>Turw’ad site at north Jijiga</td>
<td>10m</td>
<td>6m</td>
<td>Only shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objectives**

- To improve and expand the local infrastructure by creating a trading cluster and network for the nearby milk producers and traders.
- To contribute the overall wellbeing of the milk business environment and quality.
- To cooperative businesses by creating a clear and safe trading space.
2.2. Training on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for urban milk retailers

Milk is a good source, especially breast milk. Of human nutrition and particularly for infants before they are able to digest other types of food, hence, the quality of milk is essential for consumption and trade. Thus, having a good flavor, being free from pathogens and having a long shelf life are key parameters of quality milk that is affordable to consume and sell. ACPA’s RILE project organized and conducted training courses on milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for 62 female urban milk retailers operating in city administration in Jigjiga. Each group or participants received 3 days training. The main purpose of this training was to enhance market linkages between buyers and sellers and improve the quality of the milk product, as well as to prevent milk spoilage and contamination that could result in public health risks and economic losses affecting the livelihoods of smallholder milk retailers. The production of hygienic milk for consumers requires good hygienic practices, such as clean milking utensils, washing milking hands, cleaning udders and use of individual towels during milking and handling, before delivery to consumers or processors.

The methodology of the training was participatory, which included group discussions, brainstorming sessions and practical classes focusing on simple milk testing techniques and handling equipment including alcohol guns and lactometers. The facilitators were two experts, one a professional consultant while the other was one from the Regional Livestock and Pastoral Development Bureau. The main topics that the training covered were as follows:

- Introduction to milk hygiene
- Milk hygiene production and handling
- Milk collection, processing and marketing
- Milk sampling and milk testing
- Milk marketing procedures

Following the training all 62 participants improved the sanitation of their business, as well as increased their economic viability and they shared their learning with others that not yet received the chance to join the training.
Objectives

- To improve the knowledge and skills of the participants about milk hygiene and preservation.
- To promote the importance of milk safety to urban milk retailers.
- To increase the shelf-life of milk as well as increase milk consumption and nutrition.
- To create a clean environment that attracts the attention of milk consumers and enhances the wellbeing of the community.

Table 6: Participants in training courses in milk hygiene, quality and sanitation for urban milk retailers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Woreda</th>
<th>Kebele</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase one training participants</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>Shebelay, Hadanta and Biyo’ade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase two training participants</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>Turwa’ad, Sahatilay and Akara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>62</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.3 Milk hygiene, quality and sanitation training for producers

In order to ensure the highest quality of milk and nutritional status among households and traders, it is important to form close relationships between actors in the milk value chain. Milk hygiene, quality and sanitation practices should be of a high standard. Using unsanitary equipment and storage practices leads to the contamination of milk during milking, cooling, storage and distribution, endangering consumers and decreasing its price. To achieve high quality milk, the RILE team conducted training courses on milk hygiene and quality for milk producers of the two woreda of South Jigjiga and North Jigjiga lasting for two days in each site.

Overall a total of 500 rural milk producers participated in the milk hygiene, quality and sanitation training South Jigjiga and North Jigjiga woredas. The training targeted primary milk market producers and milk cooperatives and had intended to enable participants to handle milk in a hygienic way in order to improve milk quality and increase its shelf-life. Good quality milk and maintaining high milk hygiene standards can also lead to better health and a better household income. The training was co-facilitated by ACPA project staff, a professional trainer and livestock and pastoral development office experts and members of village administrations. The methodology used during the training was participatory involving group discussions, brainstorming sessions and practical classes showing and exercising sample milk testing and handling equipment including alcohol guns and lactometers. The main topics that the training covered are as follows:

- Introduction to milk hygiene
- Milk hygiene production and handling
- Milk collection, processing and marketing
- Milk sampling and milk testing
- Milk marketing procedures

Objectives

- To improve the knowledge of the participants about milk preservation, milk consumption and nutrition.
- To improve milk quality and hygiene.
- To promote the importance of food safety among milk sellers.
- To create an environment in which attention to hygiene is prioritized throughout the value chain.

Table 7 Milk hygiene and quality training participants in Fafan Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Woreda</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shabelay</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hadanta</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biya, ade</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dadi</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuwa, ad</td>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sahatilay</td>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akaro</td>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Component 3: Increased market access and linkages

3.1. Training of Trainers (TOT)

ACPA facilitated training of trainer’s courses on business value chain development to build the capacity of eleven experts (four females and seven male), comprising six project staff and five woreda experts (DAs). The courses were designed to sustain meaningful improvements in capacity building and increase levels of understanding of the experts through forming concrete linkages between local government representatives, producers, cooperatives, traders and input suppliers at woreda and regional levels. Furthermore, the training courses provided opportunities for actors to explore roles and responsibilities. The training focused on the livestock sector and particularly the milk value chain that is being implemented in these two woredas. Among the participants in the training, five of them were invited from project target areas. Eleven modules of dairy value chain training materials were covered including value chain product selection, mapping and analysis of the value chain, value chain implementation and monitoring. The training courses were conducted at field level in order to allow participants to apply their real work experiences and receive coaching, taught material and take part in plenary feedback sessions.

Training objectives

- Train a core group of trainers, who will be able to train further experts in business value chain development such as producers, traders, collectors, retailers and so on,
- Boost the knowledge and skills of project and government staff with regards to business value chain development in general and pro-poor growth in milk value chains in particular, in order to increase their capacity to support the actors along the chain,
- Improve understanding of value chain development from the provision of specific inputs for a particular product to primary production,
- Promote value chain upgrading through constructive competitive actors that leads greater value addition and higher income to actor
- Improve private and public roles and operations through identifying real market opportunities.

**Training Outcomes**

Participants selected their products from their respective woredas through value chain approaches using different tools for analysis including value chain mapping, economic analysis and value chain triggers. Participants were able to identify the best value chain product, analyze value chain actors and produce an investment plan. Trainees were able to contribute and support districts more effectively as they became familiar with value chain activities and related systems. Most of the trainees scored high marks in the post training test compared to the pretest.

**Mapping and analysis of the value chain**

Two groups of participants conducted value chain analysis for their respective districts (Harorays and Shabelay) using value chain triggers as criteria for selection and identified two products of milk and livestock marketing. Participants selected milk as the best product that can be implemented in the two districts. Subsequently trainees mapped a single product showing the relevant marketing linkages among value chain actors and supporting organizations (facilitators), in order to recognize the role of each actor across the chain. In addition, the trained value chain experts, including ACPA staff, became familiar with value chain functions at district level.
Value Chain Product Selection Result
According to the results obtained from the value chain analysis, the Shabelay team of both ACPA and Government staff selected the milk value chain as the best product to be implemented in Shabelay because of its highest score, whereas the Harorays team selected livestock marketing and milk indicating they had equal significance after chain analysis. The latter analysis paved the way to expand the number of value chain products in the woreda from one to two products of livestock and milk.

Implementation and monitoring
After presenting technical and facilitation aspects of promoting solutions in value chain implementation, the team discussed the possibilities to promote better business linkage arrangements, market regulations, and institutional capacity.

Pre-test and post-test results
Table 8: List of Participants of Business Value Chain Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isse Abdi Mahamud</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>South Jigjiga Woreda Livestock office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdirahman Osman Gedi</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>South Jigjiga Woreda Livestock office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohamed sh/Osman</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>ACPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmednur Abdulahi</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>ACPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rahma Yunis Abdi</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>North Jigjiga Woreda Livestock office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khadra Aden muhumed</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>South Jigjiga Woreda Cooperative office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdimalik Ahmed</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>ACPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hodan Hassan Mohamed</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>North Jigjiga Woreda Cooperative office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilhan Hussien</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>ACPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmednur Sh/Mohamed Sayid</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>ACPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdiweli Sh. Mohamed</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>ACPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2. Conduct training on cooperative business management and entrepreneurship skills for milk marketing cooperatives members

ACPA’s RILE project established seven milk marketing groups (MMGs) and provided training on entrepreneurship skills and cooperative business management for 198 female milk-marketing group members from South and North Jigjiga woredas. The training was specifically designed to promote the relevant knowledge, skills and practices required for starting and operating a successful enterprise. The first phase of training was conducted in early June 2018 in Harorays woreda and continued in Shabelay Woredas. Participants in each woreda received three days of training. The training methodology used was mainly participatory and included brainstorming, taught sessions with plenary group discussions and experience-sharing. ACPA technical staff in collaboration with a professional trainer and experts from the regional bureau of cooperative establishment and promotion agency facilitated the course. The main topics covered are as follows:

- Perception of income-generating activity
- Market consideration and information setting
- Financial record keeping and cultural saving
- Entrepreneurship and the business environment
- Identification of business opportunities
- Business planning and financial transactions
- Cooperative formation and management

Training objectives

- To improve milk marketing business opportunities
- To maximize the benefits MMGs generate for their members, which usually involves profits
- To learn the different business opportunities relevant to each skill developed
Impression of participants

Fadumo Abdulahi said "Before this training I was thinking the business establishment is a very daunting task, but now I believe I can manage huge business institutions because I learned a lot with regarding to entrepreneurship skills including how to separate income and expenses of the business, how to develop a business plan and how to assess market research, therefore, I obtained enlightened knowledge about business skills in general."

Yurub Osman said “From my point view if I talk about what we have learned in this training for last 5 days, I have become an opportunity seeker rather than a job seeker. I also learned ten characteristics of a successful business owner or characteristics of an entrepreneur and seven principles of cooperatives, which are very indispensable for me. As a result, if I get start-up capital, I will turn into an independent business owner, since I received deep knowledge about business.”

Table 9. Lists of participants who received training on cooperative business and entrepreneurship skills development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Kebele / site</th>
<th>Cooperative name</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>Tur wa,ad</td>
<td>Hodan</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>Sahatilay</td>
<td>Habon</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>Akara</td>
<td>Barwako</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>Hadanta</td>
<td>Hodan</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>Shabelay</td>
<td>Durdur</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>Biyo,ade</td>
<td>Tayasir</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>Dadi</td>
<td>Aqbal</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>198</td>
<td>198</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

47
3.3. Establishment of four rural saving and credit cooperatives (RuSACCOs) and provide training and saving tools/equipment

Cooperatives have played a significant role in achieving growth and poverty reduction by promoting income generating activities and improving access to financial institutions. The field team of RILE Project in collaboration with the respective woreda administrations has identified and established four Rural Saving and Credit cooperatives (RuSACCOs) at Tuwa,ad and Sahatilay kebeles of North Jigjiga woreda and Shabelay and Hadanta of South Jigjiga woreda, for 130 members across all four groups.

In addition, ACPA procured and distributed 270 milk containers, 4 savings boxes, 4 refrigerators and other office furniture including 12 chairs and 4 tables to the established cooperatives and provided training on financial management, in order to build their capacity to support their members, acquire savings and borrow funds for their own businesses.

Table 10. Details of RuSACCOs financial training participants in Fafan Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Woreda</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shabelay</td>
<td>South Jigjiga</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batey</td>
<td>South jigjiga</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuwa,ad</td>
<td>North Jigjiga</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sahatilay</td>
<td>North jigjiga</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>127</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>130</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objective

- To improve the role of savings of the community by facilitating their internal financing procedures.
- To increase the capacities of the participants towards ensuring the development of cohesive groups, that are sustainable and adhere to key principles of democracy and equity.
- To promote robust financial management, particularly savings and credit through constructive competitive financial institutions that lead to group members being able to access loans and saving.

Table 11. List of RuSACCOs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of identified cooperatives</th>
<th># of coop members</th>
<th>Kebele</th>
<th>Woreda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuwa,ad RuSACCOs</td>
<td>27 Members</td>
<td>Tur ‘wad</td>
<td>N.jigjiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sahatilay RuSACCOs</td>
<td>32 Members</td>
<td>Sahatilay</td>
<td>N.jigjiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shabelay RuSACCOs</td>
<td>30 Members</td>
<td>Shabelay</td>
<td>S.jigjiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hadanta RuSACCOs</td>
<td>30 Members</td>
<td>Hadanta</td>
<td>S.jigjiga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of members</td>
<td>119 Members</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4. Conduct a milk value chain multi-stakeholder’s platform (MSP) workshop for milk stakeholders in North and South Jigjiga Woredas

Being facilitator of supporter at producer’s level, in terms of collective supply of high quantity and quality of milk and promote their bargaining power depends on how the stakeholders take a common understating through win-win situations rather than, win–loss integration. Therefore, organizing joint meeting with regarding to who will be responsible for such proposed Activity and when these activities should be implemented it will create enabling environment towards milk value chain. To reduce lack of integration and coordination among the actors engaged in the milk value chain, ACPA organized a two-day meeting to improve the livestock production value chains for 130 stakeholders including producers and other value chain actors, GIZ’s technical team, the Regional Livestock and Pastoral Development Bureau, Regional Cooperative Promotion Agency, Regional Trade and Transportation Bureau, guests from project operating woredas (officials and elders), Milk Marketing Groups, and large/small scale aggregators, transporters, urban milk retailers, civil society and other service providers.

All actors discussed by key issues related to livestock productivity, particularly milk and its marketing, quality and hygiene standards and policy and regulatory issues and underlined the challenges that the producers encountered, such as shortage of transportation, poor road infrastructure and other environmental factors like climate variability.

Workshop objectives

- Facilitate linkages among milk marketing cooperatives, traders and aggregators.
- Enable stakeholders to discuss issues related to quality, marketing and importance of camel milk.
- Demonstrate MMGs potential for establishing and promoting their businesses and constraints.
- Create opportunities for NGOs, government and milk processors, traders and MMGs to reach a consensus.

Content of the workshop

- Overview of ACPA, roles and responsibilities of the institutions.
- Challenges and opportunities of dairy marketing.
- Discussion among participants in line with milk value chain
- Presentation of the participants from the group discussions.

Training methodology

The workshop opened with a presentation from the ACPA team about roles and responsibilities of all actors involved in the milk value chain. Following that participants from sector stakeholders, particularly regional
line bureaus and NGOs raised their concerns about the topics of the workshop, then the team again presented the challenges and opportunities of dairy marketing. Participants directly involved in milk value chain operations such as woreda officials, woreda elders and milk marketing groups presented perceptions of the issues, challenges and opportunities. Subsequently, participants were divided into five groups and each group discussed the challenges of the dairy marketing as well as how to solve problems encountered and finally each group presented their findings in plenary.

**Constraints and challenges of the project**

- Limited integration between local community and government line bureaus in line with rangeland management and ecosystem in general.

- Ethnic conflicts erupted in the capital city of the region that blocked basic services for weeks including bank services as well as humanitarian activities for most of the month of August.

- Fluctuation milk volumes based on forage availability and unhygienic milk handing practices are endless problem. i.e. because of seasonal variation sand in appropriate milk cans particularly plastic jerry-cans has also other obstacles
• Poor coordination and trust among the milk value chain actors. In most cases producers are on the looser side as they do not have bargaining power and knowledge on the secondary and tertiary markets, lack of business orientation among the producers and traders, absence of market oriented producer organizations and lack of poor milk marketing environment.

• Delay of onset of rainy season and less precipitation caused by climate variability’s affected by production decline in general

Lesson learned

• Input support for smallholder farmers encourages better production.

• Farmers involved in fodder plantation as daily laborers also can benefit from training session.

• Better collaboration among individuals of producers and retailers helps good marketing.

• Indigenous knowledge on hygiene practices among producers and retailers helps to maintain their market reputation.

• After the presentations of the groups, the participants declared that indigenous knowledge plus scientific knowledge together is the best way of maintaining milk marketing trades.