

## Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project – Ethiopia

# FODDER PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT IN KARIWO KEBELE

## DESCRIPTION OF GOOD PRACTICE

Kerech multipurpose cooperative was established in Kariwo kebele for purposes of fodder production and management. It grew from a self-help pastoral group to the level of a multi-purpose primary cooperative, which is registered, certified and has a legal entity. The local name 'Kerech' means “a road or a way”.

The cooperative has saved ETB 286,325 in the Omo Microfinance Institution (MFI). The savings are from the sales of 912 kg forage seed (valued at ETB 273,600), sales of 500 baled grasses (valued at ETB 7,500) and selling cuttings of elephant grass (valued at ETB 2,015).

In addition to the forage and seed production and management, the cooperative also started management of cattle fattening (with 14 cattle) using the surplus grasses stored for times of drought, as diversified income sources for their livelihoods.



Fodder development and management

## SCALING/REPLICATION STRATEGY

Animal feed standard guideline has been prepared in collaboration with Ethiopian Standard Agency and the document circulated to all relevant concerned bodies.

The learning route was conducted from 8th-12th April 2019 at Jinka Town with field visits to Kariwo kebele in Dasenech Woreda in SNNP Region.

## BENEFICIARIES

Self-help pastoral group that has grown up to the level of a multi-purpose primary cooperative, organized by 198 members (76 male and 122 female).

## LEVEL OF ADOPTION AND USE

The SNNP Regional RPLRP conducted a feasibility study of fodder bank production and management and based on this study, land was secured and certified officially through legal process. Thereafter pastoralists and agro-pastoralists were trained on cultivation and utilization of improved forage/fodder plants. Following the training, the fodder bank management committee was established with 16 members (6 are female) from the total 214 members. Pastoralists organized and were legalized as a cooperative by authorized bodies, and members saved money in microfinance.

The cooperative owned 25 ha of land along “Demich” irrigation scheme. All the members of the cooperative participated actively and directly in land preparation, irrigation canal preparation, planting, harvesting, transporting, baling and storing the fodder produced in the fodder banks. 25 ha (15 ha in 2016/17 and 10 ha in 2017/18) land was cultivated mainly with panicum grass and elephant grass and leucaena planted. So far, the cooperative has produced 32,000 bales of grasses and stored for drought period in the hayshed constructed for this purpose.



Management of cattle fattening

## CRITICAL GAPS AND NEXT STEPS

- The beneficiaries are using manual/traditional system for production and baling of grasses which consumed their time and created wastage of grasses.
- Procurement of tractor and baler machines are under procurement process.

## KEY PARTNERS FOR SCALING

**Ministry of Agriculture, regional government pastoral bureaus, local government offices like Agriculture and Natural resource Development Offices, Trade and Industry Offices, and Cooperative Offices, and NGOs operation in their project areas.**