

## Regional Pastoral Livelihoods Resilience Project – Ethiopia

# FORAGE SEED PRODUCTION – CASE: SNNP REGION

### DESCRIPTION OF GOOD PRACTICE

A Common Interest Group (CIG) was established in Siremiret kebele at the end of 2009 EFY with 7 pastoralists (4 male, 3 female) to generate income by producing improved forage seed on 0.64 ha of land. Today, the number of beneficiaries has increased to 65 (49 male and 16 female ) with 4 hectares of land.

Besides the asset they have in the group, 9 members of the group (7 male, 2 female) bought 103 animals (48 cattle & 55 goats) to build their own individual assets to support their livelihoods. Among the CIG group, pastoralist Lotela Bado is a lady who has no husband and children. She was disadvantaged and marginalized because pastoralists want a number of children. The CIG group created an opportunity for her to have a better life. She bought 4 cattle and 10 goats. Pastoralist Korluk Gnekono is also a member of this CIG, who bought 16 cattle and 10 goats for his own asset building and saved more than 100,000 ETB in a Micro Finance Institution.



Fodder seed production in Siremiret kebele by CIG

### SCALING/REPLICATION STRATEGY

- ❑ A learning route was conducted from 8-12 April 2019 at Jinka Town with field visits to Siremiret kebele in Dasenech Woreda in SNNP Region.
- ❑ As a source of seed for others around and outside the area, site visit exchange, experience share and demonstration were conducted.
- ❑ Local youth in the area close to the activity shared the experience from beneficiaries and started forage seed multiplication by their own.

### BENEFICIARIES

A self-help group - Common Interest Group (CIG) established in Siremiret kebele at the end of 2009 EFY with 7 pastoralists (4 male, 3 female) to generate income by producing improved forage seed. The number of beneficiaries has increased to 65 (49 male, 16 female ) with 4 ha of land.

### LEVEL OF ADOPTION AND USE

RPLRP played a vital role in establishment of the CIG on forage seed production mainly by providing capacity building training and awareness creation, agricultural inputs (forage seed, farm tools, etc), technical support by respective government experts, market linkage and follow up, and backstopping.

Efforts continued to capacitate & strengthen the group to a cooperative level. The group members pooled their plot of farm-land and started production & marketing of improved forage seeds (panicum grass seed). So far the group produced 3,731.5 kg forage seed on 4 ha of land, and earned ETB 1,128,300.



Model Beneficiary Pastoralist-  
Korkluk Gnekono



Model Beneficiary Pastoralist-  
Lotela Bado

### CRITICAL GAPS AND NEXT STEPS

Challenge of watering the plot with the expanding hectares and linking the seed production with private buyers are the key gaps identified.

Procurement of water pump and organizing them as cooperative are the key solutions to make them more productive.

### 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.