

PD-ABZ-398

1) COVER SHEET

Organization: Oxfam GB

Date: 31st October 2003

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Programme Title: Humanitarian Program for Water, Public Health,
Seeds Distribution and Livestock in Boloso Sorie,
Afar and Shinille, Ethiopia

OFDA Grant No: DFD-G-00-03-00038-00

Country / Region: Ethiopia

Type of Disaster / Hazard: Drought

Time Period Covered by the Report: June 27-September 30, 2003

Based on approval given by the CTO, this report fulfills the Program Update Report, Quarterly Report and Annual Report requirements for this project.

2) PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Objectives 1-3

Increase access to water, enhance awareness, knowledge and practice on hygiene and health issues among 63,000 drought-affected people in Afar (obj. 1), Boloso Sorie (obj. 3) and Shinille (obj. 2) in Ethiopia.

Objective 4

To ensure recovery and prevent food shortages in the medium-term through the provision of appropriate varieties of seeds for the Meher planting season in Deder, East Herarge and Boloso Sorie, SNNPR

3) QUARTERLY DATA COLLECTION

Objectives	Number of beneficiaries targeted	Number of beneficiaries reached	Cumulative number of beneficiaries targeted	Cumulative number of beneficiaries reached
Objectives 1-3	63,000	30,000	63,000	30,000
Objective 4	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000
Total	84,000	50,000	84,000	50,000

4) ASSESSMENT AND SURVEILLANCE DATA USED TO MEASURE RESULTS

Objectives 1-3

Initial baseline data has been collected and organised, but since this report covers only the first 3 months of the project, it is not possible to provide an evaluation of the impact. Village profile for each one of the project sites have been developed, which provide basic information on issues such as infrastructure available in the area, economic activities, health and hygiene habits and attitudes, social structure, etc. The results will be compared against a new profile to be made towards the end of the project.

Baseline data has been collected from the Health posts in the project sites, wherever possible, on incidence of diarrhoea and other water born diseases, especially among children under 5. These data will allow us to measure improvements in the health condition of beneficiaries and their capacity to make an early detection of major diseases by the end of the project.

Scientific analysis of water from the traditional water sources and the new water sources will also be undertaken. This data will allow us to measure the improvement on the quality of the water consumed by the beneficiaries. This improvement should translate into better health among the beneficiary population.

Baseline data has also been collected from the zonal and woreda veterinary services, wherever possible. This data will allow us to measure the impact of the animal intervention by comparing the current health status of animals in the beneficiary areas with the data obtained at the end of the project.

Weekly monitoring by field staff is also undertaken of project activities to ensure that activities are progressing in line with project objectives. Monthly monitoring is undertaken by technical advisors and senior managers based in Addis Ababa.

Objective 4

Analysis of seed and crop performance is undertaken using the following criteria by Oxfam food security staff, in conjunction with the district and zonal agricultural department staff through weekly field visits and discussions with community leaders:

- 1) Seed germination status
- 2) Early growth performance
- 3) Rainfall and climatic conditions
- 4) Expected harvest levels

5) QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA ABOUT PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENT

Objectives 1-3: Increase access to water, enhance awareness, knowledge and practice on hygiene and health issues among 63,000 drought-affected people in Afar (obj. 1), Boloso Sorie (obj. 3) and Shinille (obj. 2) in Ethiopia.

Activity	Status of work
Afar	
9 hand-dug wells rehabilitated, water points constructed and committees formed	20% complete
Trainings for Community Health Workers, volunteers and water committees	Held initial training; refresher and upgrading sessions are on-going for 3 CHWs and 32 volunteers
50 latrines constructed	10% complete
Distribution of 8,100 soaps, 8100 ORS sachets and 1,350 bednets	20% complete
Boloso Sorie	
5 hand pumps replaced	0% complete
9 hand dug wells rehabilitated	50% complete
4 storage reservoirs	60% complete
2 Distribution System and Reservoir	30% complete
4 New Hand Dug Wells	50% complete
Rainwater storage tanks	
Water and Sanitary facilities at 4 IMC TFCs	100% complete
Water tankering	Completed in villages; continuing at 9 Oxfam Supplementary feeding centres
Trainings for Community Health Workers, volunteers and water committees	Held initial training; refresher and upgrading sessions are on-going for 7 CHWs and 40 volunteers
Water committees formed	65% complete
Community health mobilization by volunteers	On-going
7,500 soaps, 7,500 ORS sachets and 1,250 bednets distributed	20% complete
Shinille	
2 boreholes rehabilitated and distribution points constructed	30% complete
Water tankering	Extended beyond two months due to continuing need
50 latrines constructed	20% complete
7,500 soaps, 7,500 ORS sachets and 1,250 bednets distributed	20% complete
Trainings for Community Health Workers, volunteers and water committees	Held initial training; refresher and upgrading sessions are on-going for 2 CHWs and 10 volunteers
Water committees formed	30% complete
Community health mobilization by volunteers	On-going

Due to heavy rains and rising water tables, the progress on the construction of water points and associated hygiene promotion activities of this objective has been delayed. With regard to the pit latrine program, potential locations for communal pit latrines have been identified and agreed upon with the woreda and

kebele administrations and works have already started. We are still looking for volunteers for the household pit latrine. Finally, with regard to the water tankering, decision has been taken to extend the operation until October due to continuing need as the water in traditional water points is highly contaminated due to rains and floods.

Objective 4: To ensure recovery and prevent food shortages in the medium-term through the provision of appropriate varieties of seeds for the Meher planting season in Deder, East Herarge and Boloso Sorie, SNNPR

While the initial plan was to distribute seeds in Deder, East Herarge and Boloso Sorie, SNNPR only, in view of high need Meta district in East Herarge was also included in the seeds distribution. The following quantities of seeds have been distributed to benefit almost 54,000 drought-affected persons:

Type of seeds	Unit	Amount
Harticot beans	mts	42
Teff	mts	55
Sweet potato	pcs	14,271,584
Chick-peas	mts	84
Vegetable seeds	mts	75.8
Wheat	mts	183

Oxfam GB has implemented the project in partnership with the woreda DPP Committee. Appropriate seed varieties were identified in consultation with the woreda and zone DPP committee. These seeds were purchased and transported to the project sites and distributed to small and marginal farming households through a community-based targeting process. Training in cultivation practices was provided during the distribution of seeds in an effort to increase cereal production/productivity on these smallholder farmers. The woreda Agricultural extension promotion section actively participated in providing technical advice on each crop type sown.

Field monitoring to-date reveals that there was good rainfall and optimal moisture during planting and the germination percentage achieved was normal. The plants did not face moisture stress and any other problems during, establishment, crown root initiation, tillering, jointing and flowering. Currently, the crops stand in the field is generally in good condition, though in some small pockets, lack of nutrients was observed. According to the farmers, the wheat crop stand is doing especially well and has performed better than the variety they used to plant in earlier seasons. Overall, the crop performance to-date is extremely promising and the community expects good harvest if the weather condition continues to be normal.

6) CONSTRAINTS AND ADJUSTMENTS

CONSTRAINTS

- The most significant constraint faced was the above average rainfall from the months of June to August. This reduced accessibility to water points, increased the water table, and made the digging and lining of water points more difficult.
- Another important constraint has been finding skilled labour force among the beneficiary population to carry out not only the technical water works but also the social and hygiene work.
- Delays have also been caused by the bureaucratic procedures and attitudes of regional and zonal government departments.
- In some areas, it has proved difficult to obtain the full cooperation of the community to provide labor and to organize themselves. Community mobilization has been increased to overcome this problem.
- Getting seeds of required type from seed enterprises required a lot of effort as some of the seeds were not readily available in the area of operation. Thus, in some cases, sourcing of seeds from

different parts of the country had to be undertaken. This, however, did not interfere with the timing of planting activities since the purchasing process was still completed within a very short period. Getting certification for the purchased seeds also proved difficult, especially for seeds like teff, haricot bean & chickpeas.

ADJUSTMENTS

In view of the emergency, frequently changing ground situation, certain intra-objective changes have been made which did not require prior OFDA approval:

Objective 1-Afar: The original proposal included a budget line for purchase of veterinary inputs to enhance the health status of livestock. However, at the advice of OFDA staff and in light of the strict OFDA rules and regulations with regard to veterinary products, this idea has been shelved. Instead, this line item is now being used for other preventative activities that will improve livestock health, such as removal of dead animal carcasses, community awareness-raising etc.

Objective 3-Bolosso Sorie: Oxfam has also decided to undertake the rehabilitation of a water source near Areka town, which will help in reducing the need for water tankering to some of the adjoining localities as well as to some of the IMC TFCs. The costs will be borne through savings on other line items within the same objective.

Objective 1/2-Afar/Shinille: One of the rehabilitation of boreholes planned in Shinille has been moved to Afar, upon more in-depth evaluation of comparative needs (already notified to OFDA separately)

Objectives 1-3: The original budget included provision for certain quantities of ORS, bednets and soaps within each of the three objectives (locations). Within each objective, there has been some adjustment of the exact quantities of these three items.

Objective 4: Potato tubers have been replaced with sweet potato seeds, as the communities expressed a preference for the latter. Vegetable seeds have also been included in the intervention at the request of the communities through savings on other varieties of seeds (already notified separately to OFDA).

7) OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF THE PROJECT

Overall, the programme is progressing according to plan, though with some delays, as explained earlier. These delays have necessitated a 3 months no-cost extension, which we have notified to OFDA separately.

Already, within the first three months, the project has had significant impact on the lives of the communities, particularly, the activities related to water tankering and provision of water to TFCs and SFCs. It is too early to gauge the impact of other water, sanitation activities, though regular monitoring does provide strong grounds for optimism about the impact of the project. A thorough evaluation will be undertaken towards the end of the project. Monitoring visits by Oxfam's Addis-based staff as well as in-country OFDA staff have revealed that the project is making good progress.

8) SUMMARY OF COST EFFECTIVENESS

The project is being implemented within the original overall budget limits and there is no chance of any cost over-runs. In fact, Oxfam has been able to achieve savings on some of the line items, which will allow us to undertake additional activities for the benefit of the communities in the project areas.



ethiopia emergency response

the flow of water

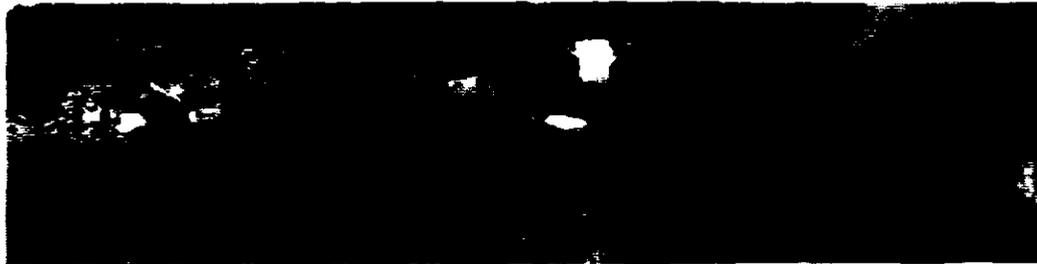
photos & story by Jane Beesley Oxfam GB

background

Failure of rains led to a prolonged drought in Ethiopia leaving millions of people, from late 2002, unable to meet their food needs. The need for food will continue throughout 2003. The drought created immediate emergency water needs. According to Oxfam's Water and Sanitation team, 72% of the water sources developed in Boloso Sore¹ have dried out due to the low water table; most of the natural streams and small rivers, the major water sources for the area, dried up and the remaining sources gave little water. As a result, people were forced to walk long distances to fetch water, often from unsafe sources, for home consumption and livestock.

Water tankering has been an essential part of Oxfam's Emergency Response in Boloso Sore, working through a local partner² and funded through Oxfam GB³ and OFDA⁴ bringing safe, clean water to thousands.

The usual course...



"After washing the clothes I'll collect water." Zembeth Kassa.

Even during good times water is collected from unclean sites. Often water is collected from the river early in the morning when it is believed to be at its cleanest. Here cattle drink, people collect drinking water, wash clothes and themselves all at the same place.

When the rains come people often collect water from puddles and other unsafe sources.

¹ Boloso Sorie, Wolayta, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR)

² LCWSSHPA Local Community Water & Sanitation Systems & Health Promotion Association.

³ OxfamGB Catfund (ETH596/804)

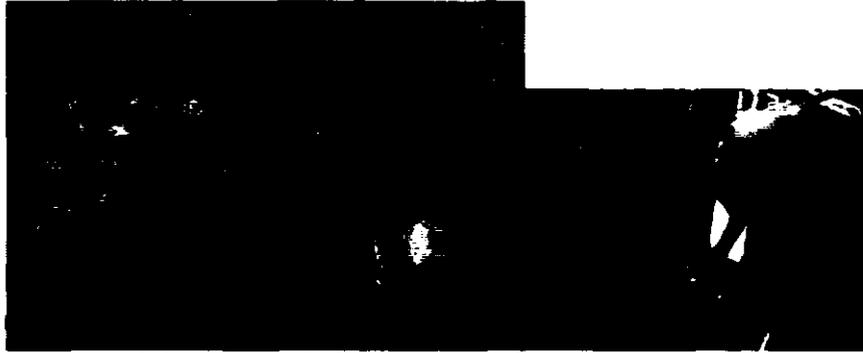
⁴ USAID Office for Disaster Appeals (ETH805)

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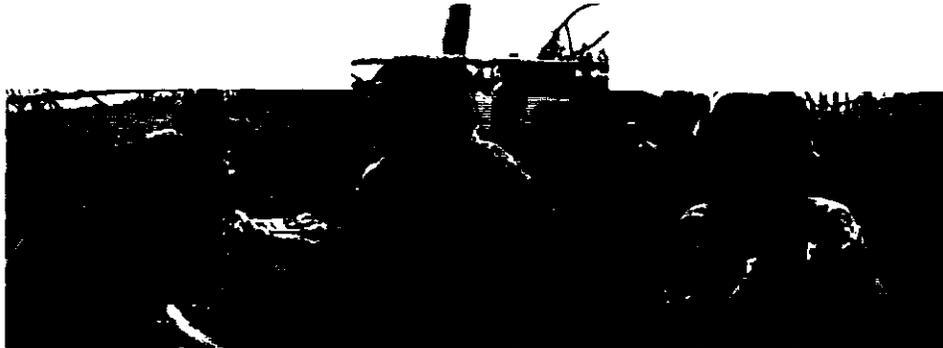
But recently the flow of water has been following a very different course...



06:00am Tadissa. The collection of water begins at the largest water source in the area. Before the day ends around 70,000 litres of water will have been collected and trucked in jerry cans to five distribution sites and a further 5,000 litres to therapeutic feeding centres.



10:00am Admancho Arfita Distribution site. Ten kms from the usual water source – a river - 20,000 litres of water are delivered daily. Households collect 35 litres of water using clay pots, which women carry on their backs. Misgane Chole (family of eight) *"I'll go home and cook food, make coffee. Wash my children and myself. I now have enough water to wash clothes. Before I'd wash the clothes once a week. Before getting water from here I had two options for drinking water. If I was tired I would fetch the water three hours away, but this was not clean. If I had more energy I would go fetch the cleaner water that was a five hour journey."*



Lidaye Shanka (family of ten) *"We were walking three hours to get water. We can only carry one pot so the water was not enough. As well as being far away the water was very dirty with lots of worms. We had to use clothes over the top of the pots to try and stop the worms from getting in."*



Birkenesh Belete (family of nine) *"We can't go twice to the river to fill and carry our pots as we leave at 4:00am and don't get back until this time (11:00am) and then we have a lot of work to do. We had stomach problems, our backs ached. We had problems in the pelvic area. Our legs ached from walking. We got headaches from getting up early and not getting enough sleep. The children had worms, diarrhea and different kinds of ailments...skin diseases and other fungal infections. We went to the doctors and they told us to boil the water and wash and keep the children clean."*

...alternatively



Taltame Figa

11:00am Dangara Slata

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24,000 litres has been collected from a metered water point where Oxfam is covering the cost - an intervention that 5,500 people per week in Boloso Sore have benefited from. Previously 250 litres was sold per day at five Ethiopian cents per ten gallons.

"Before I use to take water from Woito River (unsafe source). It now takes me about one and a half hours one-way. When I was younger I use to be able to go three or four times, but now I am old and feel very tired. My house is within easy walking distance from this water source, it is within vision, but I could not afford to pay the five cents for the water but now it is free I can come and collect it."

Taltame Figa



Oxfam has tankered over eight million litres of water to 18,500 people and pumped water to 5,500 people per week.

what next

Oxfam *proposes* to carry out more structural water and sanitation work at sites where quick, simple and low cost interventions will provide immediate results and increase the availability of clean, safe water.

These include

- Replacing hand pumps on existing shallow drilled wells.
- Providing storage tanks so that the night flow from the low water producing springs is not wasted.
- Constructing piped distribution systems & storage facilities from high water producing sources, which are currently free flowing and consequently wasted.
- Deepening & lining existing hand dug wells to increase water production.
- Providing simple rainwater collection systems from corrugated iron roofed buildings.
- Constructing new hand dug wells.
- Boreholes.
- PLUS Water hygiene promotion and water management activities.

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A borehole in Bolo Sore costs around £55,000

Expensive?

Boreholes offer the **ONLY** feasible solution
for sustainable water supply during times of drought in these areas.

£5,000 would provide a hand-dug well
£30 would help a family to build their own latrine
£2,500 would provide a communal latrine⁵

2 boreholes will benefit 5,000 people
5 hand-dug wells will benefit 4,000 people
100 latrines would benefit 750 people

July 2003

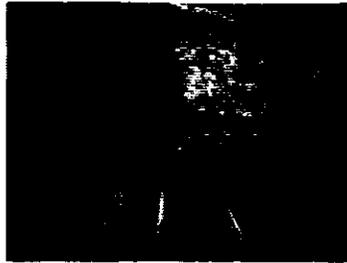
⁵ Communal latrines are built to a very high standard and provide 1 latrine per 20 people (SPHERE Standards). These are normally built at places like schools.

Oxfam Ethiopia Emergency Response
Media & Advocacy
ETHS10: Postcards from afar



Oxfam
ethiopia emergency response
postcards from afar

photos & story by Jane Beesley Oxfam



1 marginalized



2 dying



3 upside with the cows



4 going, gone, gone



5 relief



6 together

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Oxfam GB's humanitarian interventions in Afar are funded through



"This story was made possible through support provided by the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).

U.S. Agency for International Development, under the terms of Award No DFD - G - 00-03-00038-00

The Opinions expressed herein are those of the Author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development."

The U.S. Agency for International Development administers the U.S. foreign assistance program providing economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 80 countries worldwide."

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Postcard1

marginalized



Fatima

Ethiopian Pastoralists...

- Make up 13% of the population, occupy around 65% of the land, own almost 45% of the livestock, but don't have fair representation in the political and socio-economic arenas.
- Have poor socio-economic development compared to other regions of Ethiopia.
- Poor access to social services, eg health, education and water, means very high levels of illiteracy, very few qualified and experienced technical people, as well as health problems and risks related to poor water supply.
- There is little pastoral development policy or recognition of indigenous knowledge and resource management of the pastoral community in modern pastoral development.

Postcard2

dying



One of many - dead cow, near Meteka town, Gewane Woreda

The marshlands look like graveyards ..

No one knows exactly how many cattle died last year though estimates put it as high as 50%. Oxfam incinerated 15,000 in Afar. Today...

- Cattle are emaciated and dying.
- Shortage of food and water has forced large numbers onto the marsh areas, like those near Meteka town, where only the vultures and warthogs do well.
- Grazing on marshland means that cattle pick up liver flukes, which will add to the death toll.
- A cattle slaughtering programme has ceased...the cattle are now either too thin to provide meat or are precious breeding cattle.
- FARM Afra - Oxfam partner *"People are desperate to sell their cattle before they die, including their breeding cattle."* Dr Taffese Mesfin *"To protect the breeding cattle we are*

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Postcard3

"...upside with the cows."



Ali Abubeker, Gewane

One of the main reasons for the poor livestock situation is that the pastoralists have nowhere else to go eg in Afar the situation in Gewane woreda is particularly critical because of the

- Lack of rain
- Poor or no water sources
- Rapid and aggressive expansion of Prosopis - an alien shrub. Eaten by goats, and sometimes camels, the seeds are quickly spread to other areas.
- Conflict with other clans, who are in the same situation and are trying to protect their dwindling resources and livelihoods.

"We can't go to the left side because of the prosopis, we can't go to the right because of the Issas. Bring us a ladder because the only place we can go is upside with the cows."

Ali Abubeker

Postcard4

going, going, gone...



Dead and dying cat

To keep these animals alive would cost

£18

If these animals die it would cost twice as much to restock

£36

Rehabilitation of livestock includes veterinary services and supplementary food.

Treatment for external/internal parasites

Cattle £1.50

Sheep/Goats £1

Camels £3.50

Restocking

Sheep/Goat male £8.50, female £11

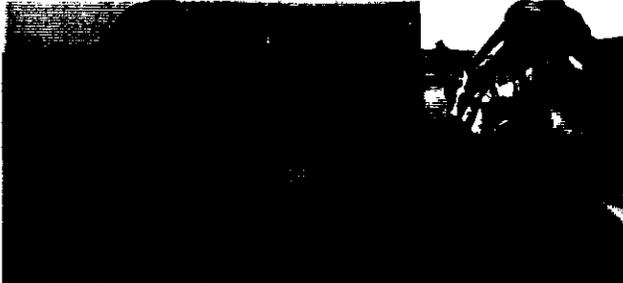
Cattle male £25, female £36

It would take around 8 -10 years for the herds

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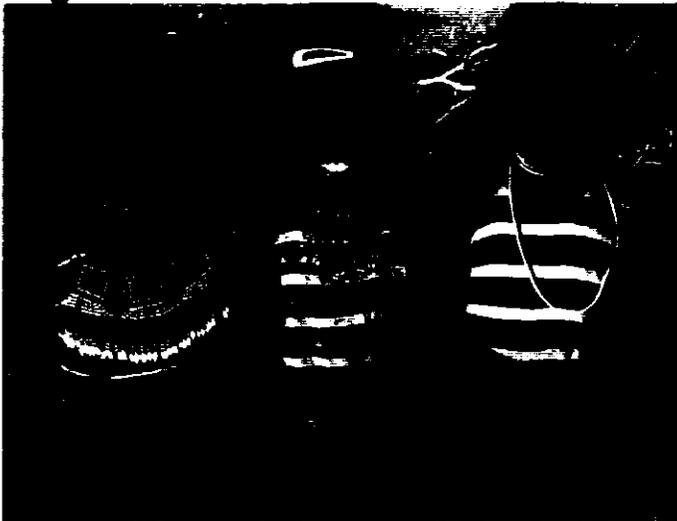
Postcards

relief



Oxfam trough, Andido

together



Oxfam's response
Working with local partner FARM Afra

- Environmental health – disposal of over 15,000 animal carcasses.
- Rehabilitation of livestock - inoculated and/or treated for parasites over 215,000 animals

In addition,

- Rehabilitated 8 boreholes
- Constructed 16 cattle short troughs
- Conducted health/hygiene education, including environmental health.

Oxfam's work in Afar has been funded through

DFID

Rehabilitation of boreholes, disposal of carcasses, veterinary intervention & health education, including environmental health. **70,000 beneficiaries**

ECHO

Borehole rehabilitation & health/hygiene education. Around **20,000 beneficiaries**.

OFDA are currently funding borehole rehabilitation & health education. Supplementary feeding & rehabilitation of livestock. Human health & hygiene interventions. **25,000 beneficiaries**.

"The future of these children depends on the longer-term development work we need to continue in Afar."

- Dawit Beyene, Oxfam Humanitarian Programme Co-ordinator.

Oxfam GB - Ethiopia is currently launching a 15-year pastoral programme focussing on community empowerment in the major pastoral regions of Ethiopia - Somali, Afar and Borena.

August 2003

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