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## **USAID/ETHIOPIA SNNPR PROJECT EXTENSION COMPLETION REPORT**

**October – December 2005**

**Submitted to USAID/Ethiopia  
Asset and Livelihood Assistance Office  
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**Livelihoods Baseline Study in SNNPR  
to Support Improvements in the  
DPPC's Emergency Needs Assessment Methodology**

**Report on Final Phase of the Project  
October - December 2005**

**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

The project as a whole had 3 objectives:

1. *Mapping Livelihood Clusters: to map the SNNPR into "livelihood zones."*
2. *Baseline Assessments and Skills Development: to prepare baseline assessments in up to 50 livelihood zones in SNNPR while transferring skills to a cadre of Ethiopians to properly use the information generated.*
3. *Emergency Needs Assessment: to strengthen the methodology for undertaking emergency needs assessments using livelihood baseline studies as a reference point.*

**Objective 1** was begun in October 2004 with a workshop, funded by FEWS NET, which resulted in a draft map of livelihood zones in SNNPR. This map was gradually refined during fieldwork in the 40 livelihood zones that were visited during Phases 1 – 3 of this project, between February and September 2005.

**Objective 2** was begun in February 2005, with a training workshop in household economy baseline assessment followed by five weeks of fieldwork, analysis, and report writing for 8 livelihood zones in Phase 1. In Phase 2, April – June 2005, a second baseline assessment training workshop for new participants was conducted, followed by eight weeks of fieldwork, analysis and report writing for 20 livelihood zones. In Phase 3, August – September 2005, a training workshop for new participants was held and fieldwork for the final 13 livelihood zones was completed. The analysis and report writing for all 40 livelihood zones in SNNPR was completed by the project deadline of 30 September 2005.

Preparation for **Objective 3** was begun in April 2005 when a training workshop was held for DPPC/B/D participants in using baselines together with monitoring information systems to generate ongoing analyses of the food security situation. Further training was scheduled for this project extension from October – December 2005. The project extension request was submitted for two reasons:

1. The DPPB in Awassa requested that no fieldwork be conducted in July and August 2005 to allow their regional staff to attend to DPPB work. This delay meant that the project, which was entirely dependent on the full commitment and participation of core DPPC/B staff, did not meet all of its deliverables by the project deadline of 30 September 2005.
2. Baseline assessments in the 'belg-dependent' livelihood zones of SNNPR in February – March 2005 revealed that, although dependent on the belg rains for planting, harvesting in many of these livelihood zones does not occur until much later than the timing of the national belg needs assessment in late June / early July. Consequently, there was a concern that a belg needs assessment using the methodology proposed by this project would be difficult at that early stage, since crop production projections would not be available. The project steering committee concluded that it would be better to use the methodology for the 2005/06 *meher* season needs assessment in November / December instead, when baselines for all livelihood zones in SNNPR

and relevant crop production information for both belg- and *meher*-dependent areas would be available.

## OBJECTIVES

The three main objectives for the project extension were the same as for the original project. The purpose of the extension was to allow time to complete the objectives for the reasons outlined above.

Other more specific objectives included in separate SOWs during the extension included:

- To pilot test the improved livelihood-based methodology for undertaking emergency needs assessments using livelihood baseline studies as a reference point and to plan for the 2005/06 *meher* season needs assessment.
- To provide technical support during the 2005/06 *meher* season needs assessment and to lead presentations of the results and implications of the study to different stakeholders at regional and federal levels.
- To train two woreda officials from each woreda in the basics of the approach and in how to compile monitoring information for the problem specification.

## ACTIVITIES

### Pilot test of the methodology

The pilot test took place between 25 October and 17 November with multi-agency participation. There were 13 participants in the pilot assessment: 5 government participants and 8 other participants (please see Table 3 for an overview of participants by organization, and Annex 1 for participant-level information including name and organization). The pilot was carried out in three woredas in Sidama Administrative Zone (Awassa, Shebedino and Dale) and one woreda in Gedeo Administrative Zone (Kochere). Six livelihood zones were included in the pilot: Awassa Enset and Chat LZ, Sidama Maize Belt LZ, Sidama Coffee LZ, Gedeo Coffee LZ, Sidama-Gedeo Enset and Barley LZ, and Bilate Basin Agro-Pastoral LZ. The participants combined livelihood baseline data with monitoring information from the selected pilot woredas to produce an analysis of projected needs. These findings, together with the key technical issues to emerge from the pilot, were presented at both the regional and federal levels. Finally, a plan was made for the 2005/06 *meher* season needs assessment.

Table 1: Pilot Test Schedule

Dates	Activity
25 – 27 October	Planning and technical discussions with project core group
28 – 29 October	Briefing and training for network partners
30 October – 1 November	Fieldwork in SNNPR
2 – 3 November	Analysis and response planning
4 – 5 November	Integrated spreadsheet training
7 – 8 November	Review of exercise and reporting to DPPB/C and FEWS NET
9 November	Finalize 2005/06 <i>meher</i> season needs assessment plans
10 – 14 November	Preparation for <i>meher</i> assessment and training
15 – 17 November	Briefing and training <i>meher</i> assessment participants

### The 2005/06 meher season Needs Assessment

There were 43 participants in the *meher* assessment: 37 government participants and 6 non-governmental participants (please see Table 3 for an overview of participants by organization, and Annex 1 for participant-level information including name and organization). The participants were split into 4 teams and were led by 2 Federal DPPC and 2 USAID team leaders. The teams visited 40 selected woredas and 5 special woredas and covered all food insecure parts of SNNPR. Detailed discussions were held at zonal level for the woredas that were not visited. A separate analysis was conducted for each livelihood zone in each woreda using an integrated spreadsheet to facilitate the organisation of information and the speed of calculations. One presentation of the results was made for regional stakeholders in Awassa and four presentations were made in Addis Ababa for different audiences, including: the USAID Director and DPPC Commissioner, the Early Warning Working Group, USAID sectoral staff, and federal-level stakeholders, as outlined in the schedule below.

Table 2: *Meher* Season Needs Assessment Schedule

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Activity</b>
December 6 – 10	Analysis of <i>meher</i> season information: compilation of problem specifications and outcome analysis
December 12	Briefing of DPPB Awassa Return to Addis Ababa
December 13	Preparation for results presentation in Addis Ababa
December 14	Results presentation for USAID Director and DPPC Commissioner
December 15	Results presentation for EWWG and discussion of technical issues Brown bag at USAID to discuss implications for other sectors
December 16	Final results presentation for Stakeholders

The main wrap-up points from the presentation were that the new method:

- Introduces greater transparency into the analysis
- Complements the existing monitoring system, allowing better use of available data
- Identifies key parameters for monitoring and assessing livelihoods
- Promotes a better understanding of the effects of multiple hazards
- Should enable better targeting between and within woredas.

### Training of woreda officials

The final project activity was the training of 169 woreda-level officials in 10 separate two-day workshops in the period 14 – 24 December 2005. The objectives of the training were for woreda staff to:

- have a basic understanding of the approach
- understand the key parameters for the livelihood zones in their particular woreda
- be able to provide useful and complete information for the problem specification, including:
  - understand and be able to fill in the monthly monitoring format
  - be able to calculate a problem specification using this information
- understand how the information they provide is going to be used
- review their secondary data on crop production and market prices

The trainees attended from different government institutions who are currently directly or indirectly involved in the overall early warning and food security activity of the region. The institutional composition includes all the Disaster Prevention Preparedness Bureaus (DPPB) at the woreda level, the

Food Security Coordination Bureaus (FSCB), experts from the Bureau of Agriculture and other offices currently engaged in the woreda level food security programs. These workshops were led by Getachew Abate and Hailu Gebremichael of the Federal DPPC, with logistical support from Kahsay Woldeaslase, a national consultant.

### Technical input

Three international consultants (Mark Lawrence, Julius Holt and Alexandra King) provided technical assistance during the project extension period. Mark Lawrence led the pilot test and the *meher* assessment analysis phase. Alexandra King assisted with the latter. All three consultants presented the results of the project and of the *meher* assessment. Mark Lawrence and Alexandra King prepared the schedule and materials for the woreda-level training workshops.

## **DELIVERABLES**

The following deliverables were submitted to USAID and the DPPA:

- Final revised livelihood zone profiles, which describe all 40 livelihood zones of the region.
- Reports for all SNNPR woredas that outline the population in each livelihood zone, the characteristics of each livelihood zone, and non-food sector information gathered at woreda level.
- Final maps of SNNPR and of each woreda that clearly illustrate both livelihood zone and administrative boundaries.
- A SNNPR regional overview that summarises and compares livelihood zone characteristics and outlines key monitoring indicators.
- Integrated spreadsheets for analysing and projecting needs on a regional basis.
- A *meher* seasonal needs assessment report that communicates the detailed findings of the assessment team and explains how the methodology was used to determine needs, and a presentation that summarises the key findings of the assessment.
- All woreda, zonal, regional, and federal level training materials used.
- A final presentation of project activities and findings for the steering committee and other stakeholders.

## PARTICIPANTS

Below is an overview of the participant breakdown for the baseline use, the pilot assessment, and the *meher* season needs assessment. Annex 1 contains participant-level information, including the names of all participants and their respective organizations.

Table 3: Summary of Participants

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Using the baselines</b>	<b>Pilot assessment</b>	<b><i>Meher</i> assessment</b>
DPPC-federal	3	2	4
DPPB-regional	3	2	6
DPPB-zonal	3		16
FSCB-regional			4
MoA-federal		1	1
BoFED-region			1
Cooperation & Agri. Input			1
BOA-region			3
Natural Resource & R. land Admin. Sector			1
<b>Sub-total, Government</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>37</b>
UN		3	3
USAID		2	2
NGO	1	3	1
<b>Sub-total, Non-government</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>43</b>