



**United States Agency for International Development  
Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance  
Office of Food for Peace**

## **Save the Children Federation, Inc (USA)**

**Productive Safety Net Program-Pastoral Areas Pilot (PSNP-PAP)**

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
CAP	Community Action Plan
CTC	Community Therapeutic Center
FFP	Food for Peace
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
JEOP	Joint Emergency Operational Plan
KFSTF	Kebele Food Security Task Force
MT	Metric Ton
LU	Livelihoods Unit
OFDA	Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
PCAE	Pastoralist Concern Association Ethiopia
PLI	Pastoralist Livelihoods Initiative
PREP	Pipeline and Resource Estimate Proposal
PSNP-PAP	Productive Safety Net Program - Pastoral Areas Pilot
PTF	Pastoral Task Force
PW	Public Work
SNAP	Safety Net Approach for Pastoralists
UN-OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAT	Value Added Tax
WFSTF	Woreda Food Security Task Force

## **Introduction: Annual Food Aid Program**

In May 2008, the USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Office of Food for Peace funded Save the Children/US (Save the Children) and its partners Pastoralist Concern Association of Ethiopia (PCAE) and Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to implement an 18 months Productive Safety Net Program - Pastoral Areas Pilot (PSNP-PAP) in 5 pastoral *woredas* in southern Ethiopia, as part of a broader Government of Ethiopia PSNP pilot in pastoral areas. Following the submission of a new Pipeline and Resource Estimate Program (PREP) in July 2009, the duration of the Program has been extended to March 2011. Regional agreements have been signed with the respective Regional Governments.

Save the Children implements the program in Dollo Ado and Dollo Bay *Woredas* in Somali Region and in Arero *Woreda* in Oromiya Region whilst PCAE is responsible for program implementation in Filtu *Woreda* and ADRA in Bare *Woreda*. The program targets 100,781 beneficiaries, including 25% direct transfers and 75% regular beneficiaries who are involved in public works. In addition to the PSNP-PAP beneficiaries, Save the Children also plans to meet the needs of an additional 20% transitory food insecure households or ‘contingency beneficiaries’ bringing the total case-load to 120,937.

The overall goal of the program is to *strengthen pastoral livelihoods and reduce their vulnerability to shocks*. The programs strategic objectives are as follows:

- *Predictable food transfers protect productive assets of vulnerable households*
- *Livelihoods of vulnerable households protected and improved*

Overall, the program has been successful in meeting the planned targets in the implementation period. However, inevitably working in one of the most remote and harsh environments in sub-Saharan Africa that progress has been slower than planned. The normal challenges of working in the region were exacerbated during the period of reporting by drought and insecurity, which resulted in the necessary re-scheduling of public works. In order to respond to the drought and associated increased food prices, Save the Children secured USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) support to implement a range of livelihood-based drought interventions including emergency animal health, slaughter destocking, community-managed cereal banks and water tankering. In addition, Save the Children received UN-OCHA support to establish a Community Therapeutic Center (CTC) program in the two *woredas*, whilst USAID funded a Joint Emergency Operational Plan program in each of the PSNP-PAP *woredas*. More recently, USAID has also funded a second phase (four years) the Pastoral Livelihoods Initiative (PLI II), which will ensure pastoralists and ex-pastoralists demonstrate increased resilience to shocks and secure more sustainable livelihoods . Implemented in Dollo Ado and Dollo Bay, it is planned that PLI II will complement PSNP-PAP interventions and support increased levels of graduation.

Food transfers were designed to coincide with the dry seasons (January, February, March and April and again in July and August) and hence periods of higher than average food prices, lower than normal livestock prices and poor terms of trade. In addition, through the “Risk Financing mechanism” food transfers were continued into September and October 2009. During the period of reporting, Save the Children delivered a total of 21,648 MT including 13,714 MT through the PSNP-PAP and 7,934 MT through the JEOP.

Historically, targeting in pastoral areas was considered problematic. Save the Children and PCAE therefore drew on their long-standing experience in pastoral areas to develop and pioneer community value-based and triangulation approaches, which include customary, religious and community leaders. An external review of these approaches confirms high levels of community acceptance and accuracy with substantially lower exclusion and inclusion errors and fewer complaints. Despite the progress made however full family targeting remained problematic, which runs counter to cultural thinking. However in the most recent re-targeting exercise of 2008/09, some progress was made with a reduction in the number of beneficiary households while exercising full family targeting. For instance, in Filtu, the re-targeting process ended with 21% decrease of households (from 8636 to 6833). Despite this progress, focus group discussions confirm that food aid is commonly shared with other households including non PSNP-PAP beneficiaries. Originally this was a subject of concern, but it is now understood that food sharing is cultural and helps build and maintain social capital without which a Somali household would be unable to survive. Social capital is probably as, if not more important than community asset accumulation, and Save the Children is therefore no longer engaged in trying to limit food sharing.

Life in pastoral areas is changing the result of rapidly increasing populations, breakdown of long-standing grazing systems (resulting in over-grazing) and increased incidence of drought. As a result of this cocktail, average herd size has been substantially reduced in the last decade and an increasing number of households have been forced to abandon their mobile lifestyle based on extensive livestock keeping for a more sedentary way of life as ‘ex-pastoralists’. It is increasingly recognized that ‘ex-pastoralists’ are chronically food insecure as there are few viable alternative livelihoods to extensive livestock keeping in arid and semi-arid areas outside riverine areas, where it is possible to engage in small-scale irrigation if support can be found to acquire pumps and prepare the land. For these reasons Save the Children is focusing its energies increasingly on ex-pastoralists.

Save the Children will use PLI II resource to plan for drought with a view to improve levels of preparedness and reduce the number of livestock losses, resulting in fewer drop-outs to market towns. PLI II will achieve this through its ‘3 pillars’ approach – *healthy rangelands* (or improved rangeland management and productivity), *healthy livestock* (producing more milk and selling for higher prices) and *healthy children and institutions* (improved access to basic services and governance).

### **SO1: Predictable food transfers to protect productive assets of vulnerable households**

The PSNP-PAP pilot seeks to protect livelihood assets of vulnerable households by providing predictable food transfers. Predictable food transfers help minimize households’ need to sell livestock and other household assets to meet their immediate food requirements. As a GoE implementing partner, Save the Children is responsible for building the capacity of local government (*kebele* and *woreda*) and customary institutions to implement effectively PSNP and ensure that the chronically food insecure ex-pastoralists are appropriately targeted.

During the period of reporting, Save the Children therefore worked with *kebele*, *woreda* and also regional technical experts and customary leaders to appropriately target and deliver food commodities, minimize inclusion/exclusion errors, ensure predictable disbursements, reduce

food diversion to a minimum, implement a coherent program of labor-based public works and ensure the program is supported by coherent and complementary livelihoods-based drought responses.

### **IR1.1 Loss of productive assets among most vulnerable households reduced**

#### *Strategy 1.1.1 Ensure adequate cash/food resources for most vulnerable households*

At the outset of the project, Save the Children worked with customary leaders to map natural resources and infrastructure and to develop prioritized Community Action Plans, in which public works are identified and prioritized. The planning process involves *kebele* leaders and are, when complete, submitted for approval to the *Woreda* Food Security Task Force (WFSTF). These plans have assisted the program to be not only accepted by the community but also to effectively prioritize public works leading to more sustainable development interventions.

#### **Activity 1: Define appropriate targeting mechanisms for reaching chronically food insecure households in pastoral areas**

As noted, Save the Children has supported the five WFSTFs to carry out retargeting in recognition of the fact that chronically food insecure households are by and large ex-pastoralists and therefore are no longer living in remote kebeles, but are clustered in the riverine areas of Dollo Ado and Dollo Bay and in market towns in Filtu, Bare and Arero. Save the Children first piloted a *community value-based targeting* which is used in the more *kebeles* where customary clan systems are still active, whilst PCAE developed a *community-based triangulation* approach for market towns where customary clan leaders hold less sway. As also noted, an informal review of the community value-based targeting approach confirms high levels of beneficiary and non-beneficiary acceptance (Lynch, 2009).

#### **Activity 2: Determine appropriate transfer package, frequency of payment and mode of payment for the different livelihood groups**

Under the USAID/FFP supported PSNP-PAP, Save the Children is able to make food only transfers. Whilst in 2007 beneficiaries expressed some interest in cash transfers, the high food prices of 2008 and 2009 have resulted in increased demand across the country for food transfers as the value of cash has been significantly eroded. During the life of the activity, Save the Children has also carried out numerous skill trainings for project staff on the minimum standards of commodity management procedures, which includes the importance that all beneficiaries are aware of the food transfer entitlements (these are posted in all distribution centers and briefing are made at every distribution). Focus group discussions with beneficiary groups have also confirmed that monthly payments are preferred.

During the period of reporting a 500 MT warehouse was constructed in Arero in order to address the limited food storage capacity in the *Woreda*. It is anticipated the warehouse will be completed in the coming quarter. A similar capacity warehouse is being constructed by ADRA in Bare.

**Table 1: PSNP food distribution in the period October 2008 to September 2009**

<b>Woreda</b>	<b>Wheat (MT)</b>	<b>Pulses (MT)</b>	<b>Oil (MT)</b>	<b>Total (MT)</b>
Dollo Ado	4,023.36	402.34	120.70	4,546.40
Dollo Bay	2,535.75	253.58	76.07	2,865.40
Filtu	2,590.80	259.08	77.72	2,927.60
Arero	585.68	58.57	17.56	661.81
Bare	2,400.00	240.00	72.00	2,712.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,135.59</b>	<b>1,213.57</b>	<b>364.05</b>	<b>13,713.21</b>

**Activity 3: Mobilize the different livelihood groups to ensure full community participation and orient traditional leaders to identify households eligible for Pilot PSNP in Pastoral Areas participation and develop community plans.**

Save the Children recognizes the central role of customary institutions in particular in developing equitable and transparent commodity transfers and in prioritizing public works. Save the Children however does not have the capacity to meet with all customary leaders on a routine basis and is therefore integrating customary leaders in the Kebele Food Security Task Force with the support of the *woreda* administrations.

During the period of reporting, 19 Community Action Plans (CAPs) were developed in Arero *Woreda*. In each case, the CAP exercise identified priority public works using a simple scoring method. In contrast, ADRA worked with the Bare *Woreda* administration to agree an approved list of public works, which were then used as a basis for planning in the ‘planning centers’ to develop final CAPs, with the support of Save the Children Dollo staff. To-date, ADRA field staff have developed and submitted 13 CAPs to the Bare WFSTF. All have been approved. In Filtu *Woreda*, PCAE have agreed with the WFSTF to establish 10 ‘planning centre’ teams, each of which includes customary leaders and has developed a CAP.

***Strategy 1.1.2 Increase government capacity to plan and implement the Pilot PSNP in Pastoral Areas***

**Activity 1: Orientation and training for SC/US and partner staff on the principles of the Pilot PSNP in Pastoral Areas**

The WFSTF conduct monthly meetings in the respective program woredas to approve plans and monitor the progress of planned activities. This meeting provided opportunities for program internalization and capacity building for government partners.

During the period of reporting Save the Children and its partners have conducted training for 59 WFSTF members and relevant government officials. In addition, Save the Children organized workshops for 519 *Kebele* and *Woreda* staff and customary leaders. The orientation workshops focused on the PSNP-PAP goal, strategic objectives and approaches. As a result of these initiatives the WFSTF’s are increasingly engaged in the management of the program, whilst kebele and customary leaders are increasingly aware of how the program should be implemented and the importance of participatory processes and local ownership.

In a related development, Save the Children and the Dollo Ado and Dollo Bay WFSTFs organized a public works training week for 20 participants to review and rethink approaches to public works implementation, with a view to address issues of quality and sustainability.

In addition, some 150 KFSTF members in Dollo Ado and Dollo Bay also received training on commodity management as a result of which increased efforts are being made to increase the predictability of food transfers and to find new and more effective ways to reduce the level of diversion.

**Table 2: Progress in capacity building initiatives**

Indicators of Planned Outputs	Unit	LOA Targets	Achieved in the period of reporting	Remarks
Organize monthly meetings with WFSTF in each of the five woredas	No. of monthly meetings	12	12	
Refresher training on PSNP-PAP implementation	Trainees	32	35	
Reorient WFSTF on the PSNP PAP Guidelines	Participants	105	59	
Orient the K/CFSTF on the PSNP PAP Guidelines	Participants	682	519	
Orient customary leaders and communities on the PSNP PAP Guidelines	Participants	427	563	
Refresher training for woreda staff in public work project planning and management	Trainees	96	20	
Organize training on M+E and report writing	Trainees	40	53	

***SO 2: Livelihoods of vulnerable households protected and improved***

**IR 2.1 Asset base among households improved**

As noted, as a result of population increase, rangeland degradation and increasing incidence of drought an increasing number of pastoral families are abandoning mobile livestock production. Far from improving their livelihood options by settling however the vast majority of ex-pastoralists in sub-Saharan Africa join the increasing number of African households trapped in absolute poverty as most arid lands are not conducive to farming or other food production systems. However, southern Ethiopia has the almost unique advantage of being transected by a number of river systems which stream down from the Ethiopian highlands and include the Dawa, Genale, Weyb and Wabe-Shabelle. Rivers offer opportunities for small-scale production. In addition, Somali ex-pastoralists have a proven capacity for business - livestock, commodities and rangeland products. Recognizing these environmental and cultural opportunities, Save the Children is focusing its work in the riverine with ex-pastoralists to support the emergence of viable and sustainable small-scale irrigation and trade.

***Strategy 2.1.1 Develop income diversification strategies in key sites based on market opportunities in particular for ex-pastoral communities***

**Activity 1: Support livelihoods diversification activities in particular with ex-pastoralists**

During the period of reporting Save the Children organized additional 28 women groups, with a view to strengthening social capital and household income, bringing the total number of Safety Net Approach for Pastoralists (SNAP) and PSNP-PAP women's groups to 40. Members of each of the new groups first completed a small business management training and only then were they given start up loans with which to start up grain, commodity and livestock trading businesses. In addition, during the period of reporting Save the Children supported 8 women's groups to construct infrastructure for grinding mills, grain store and poultry, 7 groups with irrigation pumps and 5 groups with cereal grinding mills.

**Table 3: Livelihood diversification activities**

Indicators of Planned Outputs	Unit	LOA Targets	Achieved 2009	Remarks
Establish women grinding mill and other income generation groups	Groups	37	28	
Procurement and provision of equipment	Groups	25	12	
Construction of infrastructure for women groups	Sites	25	8	
Support women groups to address strategic needs	Groups	22	29	

## **IR 2.2: Access to essential livelihood components preserved**

### ***Strategy 2.2.1 Rehabilitate and improve water resource use for human and animals, without reducing rangeland productivity***

#### **Activity 1: Undertake public works projects to rehabilitate existing water points, including improved access for livestock watering**

Save the Children supported the program *woredas* to carry out an assessment in identifying and prioritization of potential water sources to be improved. As a result of the assessment, wells, ponds and *birkas* (cement lined cisterns to collect rainwater runoff) were identified for improvement in each of the operational sites. During the period of reporting, 17 traditional wells were rehabilitated, 5 livestock drinking troughs constructed and 11 *birkas* constructed and rehabilitated. In addition, 7 hand dug wells were constructed and 13 ponds constructed and rehabilitated. Finally, a 3 km trench for a water pipe was dug at Matagafarsa town in Arero.

**Table 4: Water project activities**

Indicators of Planned Outputs	Unit	LOA Targets	Achieved 2009	Remarks
Research and develop an appropriate plan of work which complies with IEE	Plan	1	1	
Training on operation and maintenance of water points	Training session	1	2	42 individuals trained in Dollo
Rehabilitate existing traditional wells	Sites	22	17	
Construction of livestock drinking troughs	Sites	12	5	
Birka construction and maintenance	Sites	14	11	
Construction of hand dug wells	Sites	11	7	
Pond excavation/rehabilitation	Sites	11	13	



**Figure 1: Hand dug well excavation and cattle trough construction in Dollo Ado**

**Activity 2: Assist communities to maintain water points**

During the period of reporting, Save the Children worked with 17 communities in Dollo Ado and Dollo Bay to address water point maintenance. As a result of this initiative, 66 community members (including 12 women) were given technical training in site maintenance and repair. The purpose of the training was to strengthen the customary water management system.

**Strategy 2.2.2 Restore rangeland productivity and the management of riverine grazing**

**Activity 1: Improve natural resource management**

During the period of reporting, 60 customary leaders gathered in a series of meetings to discuss approaches to the increasing incidence of drought and global climate change. As a result of the meetings an increasing number of pastoral households are piloting communal enclosure for improved access to dry season fodder and the cutting and storing of post harvest irrigated maize. As part of this initiative some ex-pastoral communities are also engaged in small-scale irrigation for fodder production and during the period of reporting 15 ha of land were taken out of conventional food production for fodder production. In this way it is planned to increase feed supply for livestock and ensure continued milk production with a view to keep children healthy.



**Figure 2: Fodder reserve, Biyoley PA, Dollo Ado**

In addition, during the period of reporting xx ha of *Prosopis* affected rangeland was cleared by xx charcoal making groups which are now supported by Save the Children. The charcoal is sold for Eth Birr for a xx kg sack which augments household income.

**Table 5: Rangeland management activities**

Indicators of Planned Outputs	Unit	LOA Targets	Achieved 2009	Remarks
Research and develop an appropriate plan of work	Plan	1	1	
Establish fodder plots on cleared areas	Ha	40	15	
Prosopis clearing for charcoal making	Ha	30	2,911	Communities have realized that <i>Prosopis</i> is a major threat to the rangelands
Harmonization of traditional institution approaches	Survey	1	0	
Support to customary grazing management institutions	Meetings	31	5	
Participatory natural resource mapping through GIS	Mapping	1	1	
Reactivate traditional customary institutions in rangeland and water management	Training session	1	3	
Rehabilitation of degraded pasture land through temporary enclosure	Ha	2,100	500	<i>Parthenium hysterophorous</i> cleared from 500 ha of land

**Strategy 2.2.3 Rehabilitate and improve community based services and economic infrastructure for each of the livelihood groups**

**Activity 1: Improve access to community based services**

Based on community priorities identified through the CAP process, the various WFSTFs, Save the Children and partners are supporting communities in pastoral areas to improve access to basic services including new community food stores, schools, health centers and sanitation. To this end, 15 social service infrastructures (schools, health and water points) were fenced; 57 shades constructed for schools; 1,372 kms of access roads constructed; 47 public toilets and 24 community stores constructed.

**Table 6: Activities to improve community-based services**

Indicators of Planned Outputs	Unit	LOA Targets	Achieved 2009	Remarks
Fencing of social infrastructure i.e. schools, health centers, water points etc	Sites	19	15	
Shade construction for schools	Sites	10	57	
Access roads construction/maintenance	Kms	620	1,372	
Strengthen health and environmental facilities	Garbage Pits	10	15	
Construction of public toilets	Toilets	44	47	
Construction of community mini-stores	Stores	10	24	



**Figure 3: Public toilet in Boryale (left) and community stores in Sadey (center) and at Gabragurach (right)**

### **Success Stories**

**In the drought of 2004** Hasan Bare and his family lost their animals. The loss of their livestock meant more than losing all his wealth, it meant a change of livelihood and their way of life. Sitting with his four young sons in a kitchen made of woven branches outside his mud *tukul* in Dollo town, Hasan explains how the five years of pilot safety net programs have helped him manage the transition.

“Until four years ago, I was a pastoralist living with my animals in the bush. Due to repeated droughts, their numbers kept decreasing, until one day they were too few to feed us. We had to survive. I thought if we moved to town I could find work and we could have access to water, health and education services.

“When we came here from the bush my children were very weak. Life in the town was so different from what we’d known and we didn’t know how to live here.” Hasan worked as a day laborer doing whatever work he could find: digging up stones for construction, doing fencing and loading and unloading trucks. Work was unpredictable and the money didn’t go far.

Things began to change for the better when two members of the family were included in a pilot safety net program implemented by Save the Children.

“The first safety net program helped us, but we are really benefiting now. Because I don’t have to purchase food for six months of the year I can save some of the money I earn as a day laborer and use it to buy other things. This year, with what I’ve saved, I bought a cow so my children can have milk. Sometimes there are even enough rations to share. This is Somali culture: when our neighbors have a problem, sometimes we give them some of our food.”

Now that he feels some certainty about the present, Hasan has begun to turn his attention to the future: “With the help of the PSNP I can work hard and improve our life,” he says. “If I had lots of animals I might consider being a pastoralist again.” Failing that, Hasan says he’d like to save up to buy a donkey cart. “With that, I could make our life in town more effective. I could earn more and be sure of work every day.”



**Hasan Bare at work (left) as a daily laborer moving PSNP rations from warehouse to truck, and (right) at home with his children. Interview conducted February 2009. Story and photos Kelley Lynch/Save the Children US**

**18 years ago Sankara Jemale, 55, and her family** returned to Dollo after 14 years as refugees in Somalia. They had nothing then, and today, despite being beneficiaries of the PSNP-PAP program, little has changed.

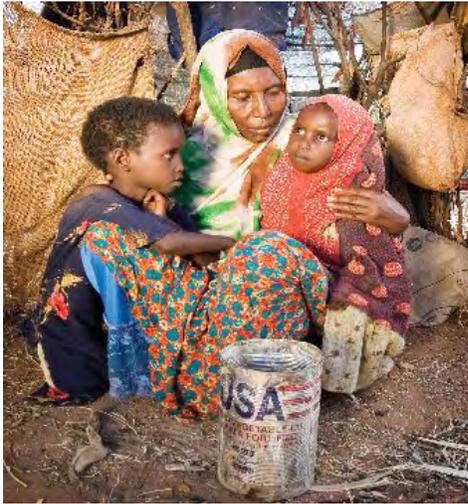
Sitting inside the family's rag-draped kitchen and flanked by her two young granddaughters, Sankara points out the family's only assets: two sheep. Both were gifts from her older brother.

"Under PSNP we used to receive rations for three people. Since the retargeting we receive rations for five, but we still haven't been able to save." Sankara's husband and 22-year-old son receive the food in return for their participation in the community works program that is managed by the PSNP. Between them they also look after her husband's small business carving wooden handles for farming tools. "My husband's income barely covers our needs for milk and a few other things, so even with the food we get, it isn't allowing any improvement. He is old. I am sick and can't work. Our son has no other work. And now that our daughter died, our two grand daughters have come to live with us."

Though other beneficiaries sometimes share their rations with neighbors and relatives in need, Sankara says her family does not. They eat all of what they receive. She shares the opinion of other beneficiaries when she says she is glad the family receives food and not cash. "Money is nonsense," she says. "It just disappears. If there is money, the men will take it. The women can't keep it and use it for the family. But if we get food we can use it to sustain ourselves."

The PSNP targets entire families (exceptions may exist where partial family targeting is practiced), and in this way seeks to meet a large portion of a family's food needs in the 'dry season' when food prices are high. In this way it is planned that beneficiaries don't have to sell their assets to buy food and can therefore divert other income they may earn into improving their livelihoods and lives. For Sankara's family this has not yet been the case. "The food only allows us to keep going from one day to the next," Sankara says. "Do we have a plan? No. We are just

surviving. But at least when we have food, life is better and that means we can work harder.” And hard work has always been one recipe for change.



**Sankara Jemale and her two grand daughters in the family’s kitchen.  
Interview conducted February 2009. Story and photos by Kelley Lynch/Save the Children USA**

## **Program Management**

The PSNP PAP is implemented directly through SC/US established Sub office (Dollo Ado, Dollo Bay and Arero) and sub grantees (ADRA-Bare and PCAE-Filtu). SC-US and its partners meet on program Coordination meetings to share experiences and resolve implementation problems. Addis based staff, including the LU Director, make supervision visit to projects and provide technical and managerial support.

Save the Children US also participates at various meetings with partners, USAID and NGOs, on schedule. Furthermore, SC/US is an active member of the PTF which closely provides technical and policy support to the ongoing PSNP PAP.

## **Key Emerging Lessons**

### ***Orientation and training for SC/US and partner staff on basics of PSNP-PAP:***

Although government staff turnover at the *woreda* is a real problem, by working closely with the Kebele FSTF it is possible to build local knowledge and capacity which has a positive and lasting impact in the implementation of the program. Also it is evident that once empowered KFTSFs are able to influence positively new incoming WFSTFs to ensure that proven best practices are consolidated and built on.

### ***Targeting***

It is now widely recognized that the value-based targeting approach is relevant in rural pastoral areas and that if properly done this approach reduces substantially the number of inclusion and exclusion errors. Save the Children is now working with regional governments to roll-out this approach in all PSNP and emergency interventions.

### ***Appropriate transfer package, frequency and mode of payment***

During times of drought, food prices are artificially inflated by traders as pastoralists have no

alternative but to sell livestock which are no longer producing milk to secure grain and in this way increase the calories available to household members. The 2008 global food crisis further inflated prices which were 330% higher than in the corresponding months of the previous year. At times of high prices, it is perhaps not surprising that grain is the preferred payment mechanism as cash payments have not been increased proportionately. In order that cash can be meaningfully piloted in pastoral areas, substantially increased daily rates will need to be approved by GoE. As this is unlikely, food is likely to be the preferred means of transfer.

### ***Community Action Planning - approach to public works planning***

The CAP approach which was first developed by SOS Sahel and Save the Children under PLI as part of a natural resource management mapping and rehabilitation initiative, has been adapted by Save the Children within the SNAP and PSNP-PAP programs. The approach, which requires the full participation of customary leaders as well as other community leaders and service providers, is helping to safe-guard and rebuild the positive influence of customary leaders in identifying and prioritizing public works programs and the improved management of natural resources. Focus group discussions also confirm that the role of customary leaders has resulted in reduced conflict. The *Woreda* and *Kebele* FSTFs members have increasing confidence in the approach with the result that CAPs are being more quickly endorsed.

### ***Improved access to community based services***

The PSNP-PAP offers opportunities for decision-makers to address the issue of historical marginalization in particular the minimal investment in public services and rural infrastructure. PSNP-PAP has supported the establishment of ABE centers, health and veterinary posts and rural roads. What is important however is to ensure that public works are built to appropriate designs and standards for lowland conditions. In the coming quarter it is planned to contract an architect to address these issues and to share the findings with GoE.

### ***Graduation***

During the period of reporting a rapid initial assessment of previous Save the Children supported SNAP beneficiaries has revealed that a number of ex-pastoralists who were supported to engage in small-scale irrigation and to establish grinding mills are no longer receiving food transfers and have therefore voluntarily graduated. In the coming quarter it is planned to carry out a more detailed assessment to establish the exact numbers.