Project Brief

Strengthening the resilience of communities in Puntland and Somaliland (RESTORE-EU/SIDA)

Overview

The overall objective of the project is to achieve communities that are resilient to shocks as a result of disaster and enable them to cope up with the situation while protecting the assets. In this project, the objective is being achieved through community empowerment by enabling them to establish institutions that can govern them well, develop contingency plans and can monitor the situation before a disaster strikes through an early warning system that can trigger response to mitigate against the impact of the disaster on community livelihoods, assets and health conditions. This project aims at increasing communities’ resilience through improved income, increased access to food, minimize risk exposure by building capacity institution to monitor and advice the community on mitigation to upcoming shocks. Women and youth are among the target groups especially women who are more vulnerable to disaster and empowering them starts from involving the women in community decision making, taking part in planning, and supporting initiatives like VSLA’s that is preferred mostly by women. Youth will also be supported through vocational training institutes where they will be trained on life saving skills and latter provided with equipment to put into practice the skills gained and provide services to the community while earning income.

Community infrastructure development in line with water supply, protection of rangelands, establishment of farmer field schools and support to farmers through provision of seeds and extension services will be other areas that will contribute to improved livelihoods for communities by having increased production of farm produce, improved livestock management and creation of community ownership for sustainability.

EU RESTORE (EU/SIDA)-Achievement

The project that started Jan 2019 through the support of EU and SIDA, aims at 4 mains results are indicated below.

- Enhanced risk management and disaster preparedness through community action and contingency planning in 44 villages across Somaliland and Puntland
- Enhanced food security and capacity to meet social needs through sustainable cash-based assistance mechanisms and improved access to social capital targeting 13,853 HH in the targeted 44 villages
- Enhanced livelihood diversification for 8,196 number of HH women, men, and youth in 44 targeted villages through the restoration and protection of productive assets, value chains and the uptake and adoption of agricultural technology
- Enhanced management and governance of natural resources, including soil and water systems to support sustainable pastoral livelihoods in 44 target villages
It was achieved through the support of Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and climate change in Puntland and Somaliland, HADMA and NADFOR in collaboration with village development committees in all 15 villages and the IDP’s in Bosaso, Burao and Badhan districts.

The project support the community through development of CAAP, contingency plans, establishment of village savings and loan associations (women ), TVET trainings, protection of rangeland through economic stimulus through injection of cash into the market using the approach of cash for work, establishment of pastoral field schools for livestock farmers, kitchen gardening, provision of water to IDP camps through rehabilitation of water facilities and extension of pipelines and distribution points.

Trainings were also held for the communities like life skills and gender empowerment, VSLA methodology, hygiene, and Nutrition for women. In addition to these trainings, the farmers were also targeted with training son good agricultural practices, provision of drought resistant seeds through the support of FAO and the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and climate change.

The project also builds early warning early action section of disaster units through trainings on disaster management, early warning, data collection, analysis, and report to farmers on seasonal changes, market trends and prices for produce. Lastly on early warning, the project supported establishment of dashboard, server, and transmission of information from the community at both NADFOR and HADMA institution for mitigation against disasters.

For sustainability purpose, the project also trained Ministry staff on NRM monitoring, Agriculture and livestock diversification, community development communities on governance, natural resource management and community-based disaster management approach.
Demo plots for Farmers in Sanaag and used for PFS (Habasha wacle)

Capacity building of government staff on Agriculture and livestock diversification for MoEACC
Flow chart on how communities are involved on Early Warning Early Action for response.

Finally, the project also took part in response to COVID19 pandemic to minimize the impact it had on the community through provision of hand washing facilities, soaps, hand sanitizers and dissemination of messages to all institutions translated into Somali language. Economically, all markets came to stand still and the purchasing power of the community reduced, this was countered through provision of cash in the form of cash for work activities for 8 months in 2020 and 2021. Chart below shows COVID19 message as a mitigation to communities.