# Project Brief

**Somali Resilience Programme (SOMREP): Consolidating Resilience Gains in Somalia 3 Year Program**

(2020 – 2023)

## I. PROGRAMME SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme Title</th>
<th>Somali Resilience Programme (SomReP): Consolidating Resilience Gains in Somalia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Districts</td>
<td>Afgoye – Lower Shabelle</td>
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</table>
| Consortium Members | **Consortium Lead:** World Vision (WV)  
**Implementers:** CARE Somalia direct implementation |
| Project Goal and Outcomes | **Project Goal:** Increase the resilience of chronically vulnerable Somali people, households, communities and systems to climatic shocks and other related risks in targeted pastoral, agro-pastoral, coastal, and peri-urban livelihood zones by 2023. |

*Figure 1: CARE Constructed Multi Water system in Afgoye*
**Result 1:** Improved capacity of households to implement effective disaster risk management and positive coping strategies to mitigate the immediate effect of exposure to shock.

**Result 2:** Improved capacity of individuals, households and communities to adhere to positive development trajectories; despite exposures to shocks and utilize strategies designed to allow adaptation to rapid and slow on-set hazards.

**Result 3:** Improved capacity to engage in strategies for sustainable livelihoods and economic growth to enhance food security and resilience.

**Result 4:** Transparent and accountable governance structures at community, district and national levels to ensure an enabling policy and regulatory environment for sustainable livelihoods and economic growth.

**Result 5:** Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning systems in place, including a data management platform; which form the evidence base for informed decision support analysis and strategic programming with learning and research generated and shared among relevant stakeholders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration of requested funding</th>
<th>36 months (from 2020 - 2022)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requested funding</td>
<td>800,000 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Beneficiary Numbers</td>
<td>24,130 individuals (18 villages in Afgoi)</td>
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</table>
| Target Livelihood Sectors     | • Pastoral  
                                 | • Agro-Pastoral  
                                 | • Peri-Urban  
                                 | • IDP |
| Rationale                    | Build upon SOMREP EU’s previous years of funding in Afgoi |
II. INTRODUCTION

The Somalia humanitarian crisis is one among the most complex and prolonged emergencies in the world. Somalia has experienced decades of armed conflict, protracted insecurity, human rights violations, and lack of formal governance which have had detrimental effect on livelihoods and exacerbated the impacts of recurring natural disasters such as drought and floods. Shocks contribute to extreme poverty and vulnerability, constraining economic opportunities and livelihoods, damaging assets and limiting access to farms, fishing and pastoralist routes. The persistent cycle of shocks increases Somalis’ vulnerability to future shocks as there is limited public and private insurance.  

Drought, floods, unpredictable weather patterns have negative impact on the livestock feed and water supply, also on quality and quantity of production. Presently, there is poor access in rural areas to financial services, especially smallholder livestock producers. Investment in resilience is needed to prevent livelihood loss for vulnerable rural households. Environment degradation has increased the risk and vulnerability of livestock-dependent households, with the poor losing 60% of their total stock in the 2016/2017 drought in some of the most severely affected areas.  

According to World Bank’s Somalia Economic Update report of August 2019, Somalia faces significant long-term challenges in accelerating economic growth and reorienting government spending towards public investment to boost human capital. The report estimates that the population has been growing faster than real GDP resulting in incidents of high poverty – more than 69 percent live on less than $1.90 per day. Poverty is pervasive across the country, although both monetary and non-monetary poverty are higher among rural residents and nomads whose remoteness and mobility make them hard to reach. The report further indicates that multiple deprivations in living standards, education, health, water, and sanitation affect most Somali households. Nearly 70% of households suffer deprivation in two or more dimensions of poverty. Somalia’s health indicators are amongst the worst in the world while access to education and other services remain low. Internally Displaced Persons face unique challenges beyond extremely high poverty, including tenure, insecurity and dislocation from social networks and former livelihoods. The share of rural Somalis without formal education is 1.6 times higher than that of urban residents and 2.5 and 2.6 times higher for nomads and IDPs respectively.

1 Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy, FAO and WFP, 2019 to 2029  
2 Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy, FAO and World Bank, 2019 to 2029  
Up to 2.1 million people are expected to face food consumption gaps, high acute malnutrition, or depletion of assets indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3)\(^4\). UNHCR – CCCM data estimates that more than 1.5 million people have become internally displaced in Somalia since November 2016 as a result of drought, conflict and flooding. This number is in addition to an existing estimated caseload of 1.1 million people in protracted displacement, bringing the total number of IDPs to 2.6 million.

Climate change is increasing the severity and frequency of climate shocks such as drought and storms or floods with their devastating impacts on water resources, ecosystems and people. The 2016/2017 drought only has created damages amounting to USD 1.02 billion, and losses estimated at USD 2.23 billion as per the Drought Impact Needs Assessments (DINA).

The Government acknowledges that while climate shocks cannot be prevented, their impact can however be minimized proactively by addressing the root and structural causes of vulnerability. In this context the Government has developed a Recovery and Resilience Framework (RRF). This framework defines a multi-sectoral approach to prioritizing development and investment priorities, allowing national institutions to build on existing efforts to strengthen resilience to recurrent disasters, increase disaster management and crisis response capacity, and enhance Somalia’s ability to respond to climate change.

Approximately 70% of Somalis are dependent on climate sensitive agriculture and pastoralism of which 25% of Gross Agricultural Product (GAP) is of plant origin whilst 75% comes from the livestock sector. About 49% of the population live in rural areas, with 26% (3.2 million) pure pastoralists and 23% (2.8 million) agro-pastoralists, depending on settled crop and livestock. Somalia suffered USD 1.6 billion in losses and damages in the livestock sector, around 50% of the total drought damage and losses during the drought period. The aggregate drought-related loss just from lower milk production and reduced body weight, for exported or slaughtered animals, has been estimated at a staggering 1.2 billion. Extremely poor livestock body conditions were observed across Somalia during FSNAU and FEWS NET’s post-Jilaal assessment in April, but field observations in May and June confirmed significant improvements. It is, however, expected that poor households, who were already heavily indebted due to the prolonged impact of the 2016/17 drought on livestock assets, have maximized their debt and credit options due to the impact of the 2019 drought. In order to access additional debt or credit, households would have to sell more livestock to pay off existing debt. Given very limited income from livestock sales and few other food and income sources, households are expected to experience large food gaps despite favourable terms of trade.

The women of Somalia bear an unequal brunt of the hardships occasioned by poverty, conflict and clan-based culture which promotes strict male hierarchy and authority. This is further exacerbated by religious and cultural limitations on the role and status of women in Somali society. As a result, deeply rooted gender inequality prevails. The SomReP Annual Resilience Measurement report (2018) noted that women who formed up to 70% of the savings group members created small businesses which helped them become independent. The SomReP Positive Deviance study found that education of a senior female (head or spouse of head) was consistently associated with somewhat improved food security and recovery indicators. The PD report further indicated that the savings group activity was felt to be a successful capacity development activity especially for women who felt that though they have little formal education, they participated in capacity building workshops. Therefore any investment into this area will be an investment into increased resilience. Despite these barriers - women play important roles in the livestock value chain as aggregators, sellers and processors of livestock products. According to the FAO, women account for about 45 percent of people involved in crop and natural resource harvesting. Somali men and women have always shared crop-related responsibilities, especially in subsistence farming, where women provide more than 60 percent of labour (Action Aid, 2017).

Unemployment is another issue particularly among the youth, despite economic growth averaging around 3.4% per year, this rate is insufficient to absorb the young population entering the workforce with an estimated unemployment rate among those under 30 at 67%5. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), 54% of the active population (ages 15 to 64) in Somalia is unemployed. Unemployment rates are considerably higher among women and Somalis under 30 years of age, who represent 70 percent of the population6. Unemployment rates among youth aged 14 to 29 is 67% - among the highest rates in the world. Women fare worse (74%) compared to men (61%). Sustaining youth in rural areas and engaging in their traditional pastoral livelihoods, can mitigate the threat the “youth bulge” presents to future stability of the Somali state.

Project Context:

Lower Shabelle Region (Afgoye District) Riverine livelihood zone - irrigation

Afgoye is thirty kilometers from the capital city of Mogadishu and is a very strategic town that joins many regions to the city. The Afgoye population depends on agriculture and livestock for their livelihood. The district has hosted 15,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) communities affected by the armed conflict that is currently affecting neighboring locations around Afgoye region7. The complexity of displacement and drought and its impact on IDPs and host communities in Afgoye has increased the vulnerability of these people leading to a humanitarian crisis. Women, the

5 AFDB, African Economic Outlook 2018, 2018
6 Somalia Livestock Sector Development Strategy, FAO and WFP, 2019 to 2029
elderly and children are the most affected sub-populations. A decrease in nutritional intake, across these demographics, has exacerbated this weakness – resulting in higher rates of malnutrition especially among children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women. The current drought has affected 80% of households, particularly farmers who derive their livelihoods from growing short season high valued crops like tomatoes, carrots and other vegetables and selling them to Afgoi residents and larger communities such as in Mogadishu, as well as to livestock keepers. This has greatly reduced the farmer’s income as well as the availability of vegetables in the market, further compounding food insecurity in an already fragile environment. Market access has been highly disrupted over the years by conflict affecting cities, roads and the countryside. According to an assessment conducted by CARE on May 10th, 2019, farmers lost approximately USD 500 – USD 1000 each since the river started drying up in November 2018. Apart from the farmers and the depressed food availability, farm laborers have also been adversely affected due to a lack of work. Hence, they are not able to generate income as they solely depend on the sale of farm labour for survival. So far, many farmlands are facing dried up crops due to lack of water. In Afgoye, CARE will target 4,022 households (24,132 individuals) in 18 villages of the agro-pastoral, peri-urban and pastoral livelihood sectors.

SomReP Programme:
Resilience is an important lens through which to view humanitarian and development work in situations of recurrent shocks and crisis. It highlights the importance of improving people’s absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities to changing shocks and crisis as well as underscoring the importance of working across sectors through a diverse stakeholder group in a coordinated way.

The Somalia Resilience Program (SomReP) is the culmination of multiple donor efforts over 5-years to build the absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacity of communities in Somalia. The Somalia Resilience Program (SomReP) is a consortium made up of seven international Non-governmental Organizations (INGOs): AAH, ADRA, CARE, COOPI, DRC, Oxfam and World Vision, which was formed following the famine of 2011 to find better ways to leverage collective sectoral expertise and long-standing relationships with communities to tackle the challenges which recurrent shocks pose for families in Somalia. Unlike most consortia, which form in response to a call for proposals, the SomReP members came together nearly a year before donor funding was expected in order to develop a common vision for resilience, a different approach to response in the context of chronic humanitarian aid needs. The consortium identified each organization’s key competencies; defined its multi-sector, multi-actor, area-based approach; and developed an

8 FSNAU Somalia Livelihood Profiles p. 11
advocacy strategy to influence the resilience agenda. The consortium draws upon its members’ emergent best practices and integrates these with the latest global insights from the resilience community of practice to implement a holistic model which bridges the humanitarian and development continuum with the goal of increasing the resilience of chronically vulnerable Somali people, households, communities and systems to climatic shocks and other related risk in pastoral, agro-pastoral and peri-urban livelihood zones by 2023.

SomReP targets chronically vulnerable communities, supporting them to strengthen their disaster management, diversify livelihoods, improve productive capacity and formalize social support mechanisms to better cope with shocks and stressors. SomReP’s inclusive economic growth approach will employ “Push/Pull” strategies to developing inclusive market systems which can support trade in raw agricultural products while simultaneously promoting the development of enterprises linked to income generated from processes beyond production. The Success of the “Push” approach to agriculturally-led economic development relies heavily on equipping the population with skills and knowledge to allow them entry to a market system, from which without these attributes, they would have otherwise been excluded. Concurrent with the “Push” strategy, SomReP will work with government, the private sector and other enabling enterprises to create a policy and business environment designed to both encourage and incentivize agriculturally-led economic development. This enabling environment facilitates the development of factors which “Pull” other market actors into relationships with those benefiting from activities which catalyze a “Push” towards that same market.
Model 1: Inclusive Market Systems Development Approach

The program aims to consolidate gains from the current implementation phase to improve food security by preparing communities to enter into formal markets. With support to core SomReP functions like the Crisis Modifier, operational research and learning, Somali Innovation Lab, and government capacity building, this programme sits at the centre of the consortium’s Phase II Strategy.
III. SDC PROPOSED PROGRAMME

The interventions proposed for scaling up and piloting in this Phase the SDC grant can be looked through the following two lenses: Disaster Preparedness/Management and Planning for Future Resilience to Shocks, and Sustainable Systems as Foundations for Sustainable Livelihoods. Through Disaster Preparedness we institute early warning and early action to ensure communities are able to recognise signs of impending shocks and make responsive actions to reduce the intensity of shocks on their livelihoods. Our focus planning for the resilience encourages government and communities to institute collective agency action for shock response linked to community driven resilience communities and government agencies have stronger capacity to plan response actions and adapt them in the face of shocks. Lastly our focus on sustainable livelihoods links recovery interventions to inclusive market led interventions that not only focus on productivity but invest in income diversification beyond crops and animal value chains and further develops innovative service provision enterprises along diversified and value chains identified through deep value chain analysis while linking production to fair market economies that promote inclusion of women, minority populations and people with disability. Therefore SomReP is proposing funding of CHF 6 million to implement the interventions detailed below to contribute to the four key result areas of the SomReP Phase II Strategy.

Theory of Change (TOC)

Overall Summary of Action

The central hypothesis of the change is informed by a desire to invest in a package prioritized interventions under the phase 5 grant to improve the absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities of target communities. It postulates that:

a. If investments are made to improve capacity of vulnerable communities and households - with specific focus on women, youth and marginalized groups - to plan for and mitigate against climatic shocks of increasing frequency and severity and other disasters, and

b. If investments are made to directly support vulnerable communities and households - with specific focus on women, youth and marginalized groups - to adhere to positive development trajectories in times of shocks and stresses; and to engage in strategies for sustainable livelihoods and economic growth, and

c. If investments are made to strengthen government capacity to develop policy, monitor and coordinate resilience efforts; manage early warning and early action
interventions; and generate learning and evidence on trading practices incremental impact of interventions on communities through this support.

Then,

There will also be a better understanding of what works and what does not work in building climate resilience (evidence), more effective, transparent and accountable governance structures at community, federal member state and Federal levels. Communities will have improved capacity to engage in strategies for sustainable livelihoods, economic growth and to adhere to positive development trajectories; despite exposures to shocks while utilizing strategies designed to allow adaptation to rapid and slow on-set hazards. As a result in the medium term, there will be sustainable improvements in food security and livelihoods and resilience capacities of communities in South West State, Puntland and Somaliland. In the long term this sequence of outcomes will contribute to increasing the resilience of chronically vulnerable Somali people, households, communities and systems to climatic shocks and other related risks in targeted pastoral, agro-pastoral and peri-urban livelihood zones by 2023.

**Detailed description of Theory of Change:**

- IF HHs and communities have skills and are empowered to undertaken vulnerability analysis (GCVCA); linked with supporting government institutions (MoPIED, HADMA, and NADFOR) and develop climate and gender-sensitive contextually appropriate strategies for risk mitigation (CAAPs and Contingency Plans); (ii) if HHs and communities have active early warning, early action systems with context monitoring, pre-planned actions, well-managed, inclusive and transparent community-level contingency resources and access to external Crisis Modifier Pool Fund and/or scalable safety net mechanism such as livestock insurance (iii) and if women, youth, marginalized groups have access short-term jobs, through cash-for-work linked to savings groups and pool risk, share resources and strengthen bridging and bonding social capital

- IF communities access, sustainable, year-long water for human and agricultural production (multi-year water systems); (ii) if destitute but capable producers are capacitated (grants) to re-establish or diversify their livelihood; (iii) if producers employ climate-smart agricultural practices (GAP) and technologies (P/FFS) and have access to inputs to improve production; (iv) if producers and entrepreneurs have business skills, and are informed of market opportunities (end market assessments, trade fairs, and market days) and challenges (Fair Trade Assessment and Women’s Access to Finance Study), (v) if producer associations and entrepreneurs can pool resources, share risk, access financial advice (PSP Village Agent) larger amounts of affordable credit (micro-finance institution) and collectively engage with commercial agriculture (business dialogues and producer umbrella); and (vi) if livestock producers access sustainable and well-capacitated animal
health outreach services (CAHW and agrovets with certification); (vii) if IDPs have new technical skills, business capital (start-up grants) are engaged in informal safety nets with graduation pathways to formal finance (savings group), and live in hygienic and sustainable settlements (permaculture) (viii) if government (Commission of Environment & and Ministry of Livestock) is capacitated (NRM) and empowered to support communities to develop natural resource management plans and engage in conflict resolution

- IF government line ministries are empowered to develop frameworks to enable the establishment of a social safety and commercial insurance for livestock owner and natural resource management (IBLI/NRM Focal Point); (ii) if MoPIED SWS can support community planning (CAAP) and reflection processes (PMERL) and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs SWS leads in the collection, analysis and response of early warning/action; (iii) if producers and entrepreneurs are informed of market barriers (Fair Trade Assessment, and Women Access to Finance Study) and engage collectively with commercial actors (iv) if businesswomen, dynamic youth, minority leaders and traditional leaders have leadership, public speaking and business skills and established (v) if government focal points facilitate Participatory Monitoring Evaluation Reflection & Learning (PMERL) at village level and link CAAPs to district, state and federal level planning instruments (vii) if Government focal points are supported to build capacity in monitoring & evaluation for resilience (vii) if technical approaches on context analysis are developed and government and consortium partners trained to understand community-level dynamics which lead to poor targeting and promote marginalization and operationalize action plans to overcome barriers for inclusion, (viii) If SomReP and communities implement knowledge and learning on resilience informed by strong evidence (e.g. Quality of life Assessment, Annual Resilience Measurement, and Seasonal Assessments) and disseminate its resilience building approach in local, international aid and development conferences as part of a learning exchange and utilize the Response Innovation Lab (RIL) to identify existing technical solutions outside of Somalia to introduce to overcome challenges to resilience-building.

Then, HH and communities will be empowered to make risk informed decisions to preserve resources (saving, credit, animal, food, pasture, fodder and water) and meet their own needs. There will be an increase in productivity of crop and animal products, as well as an increase in families with diversified income sources. Additionally there will be inclusive and sustainable market and inclusive economic growth, understanding of resilience evidence will be mainstreamed and informed decision making processes adopted at all levels of governance.

As a result, there will be improved absorptive capacity of HH and communities to respond to shocks and stress across seasons. The capacity of individuals, households and communities to adhere to positive development trajectories; and to engage in strategies for sustainable livelihoods and economic growth will increase; and there will be more transparent and accountable
governance structures at community, district and national levels to ensure an enabling policy and regulatory environment for sustainable livelihoods and economic growth informed by a strong evidence base. These changes across different capacities will contribute to enhanced food security and resilience in the target villages.

**Assumptions:**

Assumptions for outputs level actions:
- Improving knowledge and capacity leads to changes in practice and action.
- Learning will be a driver of the SomReP programme and SomReP IPs will apply the learning gained to improve their projects and maximize impact.

Assumptions for Outcome level actions:
- Improving climate and disaster risk management leads to better developmental outcomes.
- Improving access to climate and weather information, including early warning systems, strengthens resilience.
- Improving basic service delivery in different sectors strengthens household resilience.
- Improving access to markets (physical/regulatory systems/pricing information, etc.) for smallholders and other producers strengthens resilience to climate extremes and disasters.
- Lessons from projects about which approaches work, and in what contexts, can influence policymaking and development planning in national and local governments, regional and international initiatives.

**Programme Achievement**

**Villages that CARE works in Afgoi with their GPS**

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<th>No</th>
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<th>Longitude / X</th>
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<td>Donka</td>
<td>02°15’06.8”N</td>
<td>45° 06’31.2”E</td>
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</table>
Activities associated with Output 1.1: Communities develop and implement DRR/resilience plans in collaboration with the government through a participatory process involving the most vulnerable households

Dissemination of Agricultural Advisory Information – Project achieved the set semi-annual target. Agriculture advisory information was disseminated through Radio (Warsan FM, Radio Afgoye ) and state run South West government TV.

The activity was implemented as per the intervention protocol. This contributed significantly to the uptake of the advisory information across the project operational areas. The design and roll out of the advisory bulletin entailed thorough secondary analysis of climatic information and field level data collection using rapid rural appraisal techniques, consolidation, and customization of climate information for the various target groups and developing tailor made advisory bulletin. Project organized the media to promulgate the advisory CSET, in coordination with SomReP and local authorities, met with relevant line Ministers (Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Humanitarian). The uptake of the message was considerable high in both Baidoa and Afgoye districts. All respondents reported that they heard the advisory in the during the day, evening and at night. This information (agricultural advisory) was perceived as being useful by all the respondents with the most mentioned being information on weather advise. During the advisory monitoring period, it was noted that respondents who listened to the advisory found it useful especially in the early warning systems on rainfall and drought expectations, good crop and livestock management and crop selection which crop would be suitable in different seasons with regard to the rainfall availability.

Activities associated with Output1.3:Private Shock Responsive Safety Nets established and Strengthened
Business skills development for savings groups—The project continued to support all the 19 VSLA groups through regular coaching and tailormade support. Evidence from project ad hoc monitoring show that despite the economic setbacks, the VSLA groups are still functional. However, some groups have reduced their monthly savings amount mainly due low economic activity.

The planned business skills training was vital in revitalizing business operations, foster business growth and increase disposable income, this in turn enable members boost savings and save regularly. In the past 6 months the project trained 104 VSLA members, women constitute 85% of the participants. The members were drawn from 4 VSLA groups. The training targeted VSLA members who are currently running Income Generating Activities (IGA) as well as those who were keen to start IGAs. The four-day training focused on entrepreneurial skills development particularly basic financial literacy skills, business management skills, marketing, costing and record keeping.

The participants found the training useful, productive and they intend to use the skills taught. All topics were covered, the facilitator ensured that participants are engaged throughout the training. A follow up assessment to establish how the participants are using the knowledge learnt is scheduled for next quarter.

Savings groups trained in life skills & gender empowerment—VSLA platform by design it’s a platform that’s fosters life skills development and women empowerment. To bolster these critical aspects, the project organized a structured life skills development training for VSLA members, this was designed to enhance voice, vision, decision-making, self-confidence, and organization and promote peer support. As a result, the participants will increase aspirations, confidence, and awareness.

Project successfully conducted life skills training to 114 participants (93 females and 21 males). The participants will in turn supposed to provide life skills coaching to other participants who were not able to participate in the workshop. As part of the training preparation, the project reviewed training technical content and delivery approach, considered the feedback from the initial life skills training. The training effectiveness of the training was assessed through pre and post evaluation, training observation checklist and participant evaluation form. The test comprised of a set of aspects of life skills development. Results of the assessment, show that general the participants grasped the concepts. Participants expressed satisfaction in the manner in which the training was delivered however the majority felt that the duration of the training was too short, and some illiterate struggled to grasp the concepts. The project will conduct follow up coaching and mentoring sessions to help the other participants grasp better the content and improve the support to other members.

Activities associated with Output 3.1: Capacity for Pastoralists and Farmers enhanced to improve production and competitiveness
Identification and implementation of suitable cash for work projects from the CAAPs - The project supported CFW initiatives in seven targeted villages, namely; Adanwallow, Jambalul, Irdoole Awgooye, Jaran, Kuraale, and Balguri villages. In total 280 people participated in CFW, 59% were female workers. Ninety-five person of the workers were none skilled labour. Unskilled labour earned $70 and skilled workers earned $100 over the 20days project duration. Some of the key project include;

- Removal of clay/lake-bed soil estimated to be 1915 $m^3$, this will allow the approximately 1915 $m^3$ of water to be stored
- Rehabilitation of approximately 1800 meters road in Jaran village
- Rehabilitation of approximately 1800 meters road in Kurale village
- Rehabilitation of 2800 metres of secondary canals were fully rehabilitated in Balguri village, approximately 1915 $m^3$ of soil was removed. The works includes clearing bushes around the canal and embankment

CFW brought tangible benefits to the affected communities; water supply Awgooye has improved significantly, communities witnessed improved commercial activities as a result of rehabilitation of roads in the three villages.

Activities associated - Output 3.1: Capacity for Pastoralists and Farmers enhanced to improve production and competitiveness

Contract farming and/or outgrowing schemes for high value crops, livestock, and other products facilitated for associations - CARE has commissioned HPRD to develop modalities for contract farming. As part of contracting farming design process HPRD conducted a study to determining success and or failure of contract farming in Afgoi. This assessment forms the basis of the contract farming in Afgoi region.

Activities associated with Output 5.2: New knowledge is generated, disseminated and Innovative solutions are identified and scaled up to support resilience programming

A5.2.1 Periodic stakeholders learning meetings conducted to share experience on SomReP progress conducted

CARE participated in TWG and QRM meetings. CARE had opportunity to share project implementation update with other development partners
Lessons Learnt during current reporting period

**Lesson 1:** The uptake of trainings among VSLA participants require additional and on site follow up support as some of the participants could not catch up or fail to grasp some of the concepts especially the illiterate ones.

**Lesson 2:** Village development committees creates strong platforms for reflecting on program issues and taking timely corrective action. Considering the context dynamics and varying capacities to respond to shocks, its crucial for VDC to meet frequently. Remote monitoring is also key for the project to understand how the situation is evolving.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Learnt</th>
<th>How will this lesson be addressed during the next period</th>
<th>Timeframes of Change implementation</th>
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<td>The uptake of trainings among VSLA participants is critical especially the illiterate ones.</td>
<td>Project will intensify additional and on site follow up support through coaching and mentoring focusing primarily on business skills and life skills development</td>
<td>On going efforts, to be embedded in routine implementation visits. At least 3 coaching sessions will be ideal per group</td>
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</table>
| Village development committees creates strong platforms for reflecting on program issues and taking timely corrective action. Considering the context dynamics and varying capacities to respond to shocks, its crucial for VDC to meet frequently. | • Encourage VDC frequent self-reflection sessions  
• Remote monitoring is also key for the project to understand how the situation is evolving | Should be prioritised for the next 6 months |
Project Monitoring

The project conducted routine monitoring of all activities implemented every quarter.

**VSLA Trainings** - The monitoring entailed observation of the training to assess trainer’s competency, sessions covered, participant knowledge acquisition through administering pre and post tests. Participants were asked to provide feedback at the end of the training.

**Uptake of Agricultural Advisory Information** - To understand advisory use and adoption, we utilized a simple questionnaire to track usefulness and importance of agricultural advisory information disseminated, utilizing convenience sampling of the beneficiaries of the agricultural advisory information to aid in reporting back on key learnings. From the rapid learning appraisal, we summarized high level outcomes of the advisory including use and adoption as follows.

**Cash For Work** – To improve efficiency the project consistently monitored and reviewed, the CFW processes per each location; key information collected include; evaluating beneficiaries targeting accuracy, beneficiaries registered, amount distributed, daily wage per beneficiary, proportion of unskilled and skilled workforces. FCRM was instituted to gather beneficiary feedback and complaints.

Cross Cutting Themes

Cross cutting issues were mainstreamed into the program.

- **Gender** – Ensured equal access to CFW opportunities and the majority of VSLA members who benefited from the training were marginalised women
- **Disability** – Worked with the village development committees to ensure that households with a disabled child/adult benefit from CFW
- **Elderly** – Worked with the village development committees to ensure that households with elderly people benefit from CFW
- **Protection** – Working modalities took into consideration protection issues, this includes the safety of the workers especially women etc
- **Environment** – CFW activities designed to re address environmental degradation
- **Safe-guarding** – Project ensured equal distribution of CFW resources across project areas. VDC also ensured that all clans with the community benefit from the CFW.

Photos
Figure 2 VSLA Training in Afgoi

Figure 3 CVash for work activity at Jaran village