



## **DREAM Event**

### **22 July 2021, 10.00 – 13.00 Ethiopian Time**

#### **Pre-Conference Event: Financial Management Capacity at Woreda Level**

#### **Background**

The aim of the DREAM Conferences and Pre-Conferences is to facilitate the cooperation and coordination in lowland development and to support the development of the lowlands.

Following the Development of Resilience Empowering Alternative Measures in Arid and Semi-arid Lowlands of Ethiopia conference (DREAM- I) held in Afar, September 2019, three Pre-conferences were executed: (i) Coordination Pre-Conference held on 3rd November 2020, (ii) Co-operation Pre-Conference held on 12th November 2020 and (iii) Capacitation held on 26th November 2020 as well as a number of Learning Events: (1) Fodder and Rangeland Nexus on 9 March 2021 and (2) Educational Institutionalization on 28 April 2021 and (3) Strengthening Woreda level Planning and Coordination on 16 June 2021. These Pre-Events offered good opportunities to formulate the current thinking and ways forward on important topics of coordination and cooperation. They also helped develop coalitions along the topic of strengthening drought resilience, providing a meeting platform to bring together different stakeholders such as federal and regional government partners, national and international NGOs, research institutions and international development partners active in the lowlands of Ethiopia. There is a large interest to share experiences and approaches on topics of common interest as well to strengthen more formal cooperation through the development of the Task Force, for which discussion is going on. It is planned that in the run-up to the large DREAM-II Conference (currently planned to be held in Jigjiga 20-24 September 2021), two more pre-events will be organized on topics of common interest too support and set the base for the Task Force.

*“The Pre-Event of 22 July on Financial Management Capacity at Woreda Level will built on the previous events, especially the pre-event of 16 June focusing no planning process. It will zoom in on the capacity at woreda level to manage and handle development finance, looking at capacity to plan and disburse, follow own plans, the relation with kebele and other levels (zone, region), procedures and process of budget allocation and dealing with off-budget activities. The Pre-Event will be prepared with a short fact-finding assignment with discussion with several woreda and regional staff”*

#### **Pre-conference**

The new Pre-Conference is planned on 22 July 2021. The event will be last three hours and will be ‘hybrid’: with participants attending on line or in meetings in Jigjiga and Semara. It will consist of four presentations of 15-20 minutes each (by woreda staff preferably), a break-out sessions and plenary/ panel discussions. The results will be placed on the DREAM website and proceedings will be produced, including the preparatory reconnaissance work.

1000 - 1015	Opening, introduction to the program	Introduction to the program of the day, and expectation Moderator Dr Kaba Urgessa  Key note/ opening remarks: senior person from public administration/ Ministry of Peace
1015 - 1035	Presentation 1	Financial planning capacity at woreda level: assessment  Quick response/ Q&A
1035 - 1055	Presentation 2	Budget allocation and budget reporting: process and implementation  Quick response/ Q&A
1055 - 1110	Presentation 3	Special development programs and off-budget processes: view from woredas  Quick response/ Q&A
1110 - 1120	Presentation 4	Overall capacity to process development finance: are we able to manage and to steer? an assessment  Quick response/ Q&A
1120 - 1150	Moderated discussion - Virtual - Jigjiga - Semera	How to strengthen the financial capacity at local level to process development program and administer finance?  What are the bottlenecks to be removed (administrative system, logistics, human capacity, budget processes)?
1150 - 1210	Presentation of break out groups	
1210 - 1240	Panel responses	Responses from: Regional Government Ministry of Peace Ministry of Agriculture Donors
1240 - 1300	Discussion and wrap up	