



DREAM II - Pre-Conference

Coordination for pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities
in lowland areas, **Afar Pastoralist Development Association's**
experience

3 November 2020

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Topics

Over 26 years implementation, using the patterns the Afar already have, APDA has modelled the way to support the Afar pastoralists into social and economic development through their culture and lifestyle as holistically as possible as follows:

At the community base as a development team:

- a) Afar literacy, basic education and support to higher education
- b) Mobile primary health emphasising maternal and child health
- c) Female empowerment to equal involvement and freedom from harmful practices

Facilitated through:

- a) Access to water: rainwater harvesting cisterns; volcanic steam harvesting; ponds/ dams; boreholes and shallow wells
- b) Veterinary service through treatment, vaccination, fodder when needed; re-stocking after disaster
- c) Rangeland rehabilitation: watershed management; reseedling; supporting removal of *prosopis juliafora*
- d) Income generation through cooperatives and microfinance strongly supporting women and linking the community to the market

Since implementation is holistic and community-driven, there is no priority of activity. The organization has worked in all but 4 woredas in the Region currently working in 24 woredas.

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Community approaches

- ▶ APDA uses a community - partnering and driven approach as follows:
- ▶ In each community of implementation a **community development committee** is formed composed of the clan and religious leadership, women's and youth leadership of 7 persons (3 females and 4 males)
- ▶ **Community needs - based assessment** is conducted, the community deciding on priorities, sites and beneficiary criteria/ selection
- ▶ All activities are carried out through the **community disaster risk reduction** prism establishing community ownership to the problem and the solution and driving their contribution
- ▶ **Community members are trained** in the basic means of service delivery.
- ▶ Deliberate means is taken **to include females** in all committees as well as giving them the role as agents of behavior - change as women extension workers
- ▶ APDA has learnt from the community **adopting the traditional means** of water preservation and access, environment protection, early warning, conflict resolution and much more.

The organization reach is the communities remote from government or other NGO services supporting **upwards of 500,000 pastoralists annually**

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Partners & Financing Instruments

APDA's main partners include

Foundations: Banyan Tree Foundation, USA; Barbara May Maternity Foundation, Australia; Pestalozzi Children's Foundation, Switzerland; Ethiopiaid UK, Canada, Australia

INGOs: Welthungerhilfe, Germany; Bread for the World, Germany; SONNE International, Austria; CORDAID Netherlands; Mennonite Central Committee, Ethiopia

Agencies: UNFPA Ethiopia; UNICEF Ethiopia; GIZ, Ethiopia; KFW through Ministry of Agriculture

APDA has developed a Social Enterprise named '*Gabat*' registered in 2019 that funds can be generated for development

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Collaboration Opportunities

- ▶ APDA has trademark - ability to support wide programs such as that of GIZ building community resilience against shocks, gaining project sustainability in the hand of the community: that the community own the problem and go on to work for the solution protecting project infrastructure into the future, whether rehabilitated grazing lands, masonry - constructed structures, maintaining land free of *prosopis juliaefora* once it has been removed.
- ▶ Like having community mobile health workers, women extension workers and community teachers, APDA wants to establish community environment and livelihood scouts as the actors for sustainability.

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Picture that tells it all



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Weir construction in Erebti



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