



DREAM Pre-Event
29 July 2021, 1000-1300 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 29 July on Financial Management Capacity at Woreda Level will built on the previous events, especially the pre-event of 16 June. 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.

Pre-conference

The new Pre-Conference is planned on 29 July 2021. The event will be last three hours and will be ‘hybrid’: with participants attending on line or in a meetings in Jigjiga (Jigjiga International Hotel). It will consist of a key note, four presentations of 15-20 minutes each (by regional/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.

Short presentations will be made by staffs from regional BoFED and Woreda office as follows.

Time	Presentation Title with short outline	Presenter	From
1000-1015	Opening, introduction to the program	Introduction to the program of the day and expectations Moderator Frank van Steenberg	
		Key note/ opening remarks:	

		Supporting coordination and cooperation on the ground (Dr Elisabeth van den Akker)	
1015 – 1030	The challenges in the development process at woreda level: challenges in planning, allocation, implementation and control	Assefa Kumssa (former State Minister of Mines)	
1030 - 1050	Financial planning capacity at woreda level: assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various budget types and sources • Planning process • Capacity to plan • Bottle necks in planning process (procedures, administrative system, Human capacity, Logistics, Communication, Etc) 	Ms. Zahra Sheik Ahmed (Woreda Finance Office Head) or someone represented by her Quick response/ Q&A	South Jigjiga Woreda Office of Finance and Economic Development
1050- 1110	Overall capacity to process development finance: are we able to manage and to steer? an assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • woreda structure • relationships with region, zone, kebele • overall capacity assessment in managing and handling development finance • bottle necks (procedures, administrative system, human capacity, logistics, communication, etc...) 	Mr. Ali Yusuf or Mr. Hussien Ali Quick response/ Q&A	BoFED, Somali Region
1110- 1130	How to strengthen the financial capacity at local level during planning, allocation, implementation and control to support development planning and action at local level? What are the bottleneck to be addressed (procedures, administrative system, logistics, human capacity, budget processes)	Moderated discussion	- Virtual - Jigjiga -
1130- 1150	Presentation of two groups	Group moderators	- virtual - Jigjiga -
1150 – 1210	Panel responses	Responses from: Ministry of Peace Ministry of Agriculture Major programs (PSNP, LLRP) NGO coalition Donors (USAID, GIZ)	-
1210- 1230	Discussion and wrap up		-