



**Hybrid DREAM Event 29 September 2022**

**Farming Systems for the Dry Valley  
Rehabilitation and Productive Use systems  
Proceedings**

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## Abstract

The lowland development policy of Ethiopia encourages farming as alternative development practice in the lowlands of the country. Though it has been practiced for ages farming in the lowlands faces many challenges ranging from soil fertility to extreme water problems (drought in one season and flood in the other). Besides the existing severe natural resource problems community members and experts living in relatively wet areas have attitudes that hinder the upscaling of farming practices in pastoral communities. They consider agriculture as highlander practices.

Various development actors tried numerous development models and research to improve the livelihoods of pastoralists and agropastoral communities in the lowlands of Ethiopia. Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of irrigation and lowlands in collaboration with development organizations, universities, and research institutes researched farming practices, including identifying suitable crop types, fodder production, and water management. In addition, the government of Ethiopia is declaring the success of cluster wheat farming in the country, including similar farming practices in the Somali region.

This hybrid event on 29<sup>th</sup> of September focussed on the following main topics. The current good farming practices, challenges, and proposed solutions will also be discussed.

- Suitable crop type selection based on the soil type, weather condition, and water/moisture availability
- Fodder production, introducing potential new fodder plants i.e Guar,
- Flood based farming

The objectives of this hybrid event were to join efforts and discuss on how to upscale the tested good farming practices for sustainable development in the lowlands. The event will also help to share experiences among the development organizations and other stakeholders in the country and to learn successful experiences from other countries.

## Welcome and Introduction

Frank van Steenbergem welcomes all to today's DREAM event via a brief introduction to the whole DREAM program on lowland development, coordination, cooperation, and capacity building. Today's event discusses the potential of crop cultivation in the lowlands, through the use of flood water. This is part of the Dry Valley Rehabilitation and Productive Use Approach. The DVRPU approach has been introduced for a number of years, and key to the approach to use the short term floods in the normally dry river beds, brings it on the lands creating a basis for cultivation. As the approach is new, it is important to reflect on best practices and options for Ethiopia. This event brings together experiences from other countries and Ethiopia, including a discussion on crops and fodder crops suitable for this specific environment and that can serve the society as a whole.

Today's meeting is hybrid, with physical gatherings in Jigjiga and Semera. The keynote is from the Bureau of Agriculture in Afar and the Ministry of Irrigation and Lowland Development. Following GIZ will introduce the DVRPU approach and there are several presentations with experiences from other countries and from different perspectives in Ethiopia.

## Opening remarks – Mr. Teshome H/gebreal (Ministry of Agriculture)

Mr. Teshome H/gebreal opened the Hybrid DREAM Event with the following words:

*Dear participants,*

*It is my pleasure to have you in this remarkable event that will contribute for the development of our population living in the lowlands. This event is in line with our newly formulated pastoral Development policy and strategy. Such events will help professionals and decision maker to share their experiences, discuss on the bottlenecks and opportunities in lowland areas whereby the community is suffering with flood during rainy season and drought during dry seasons.*

*In this event, you will share local and global experiences on dry valley rehabilitation for productive uses. The flood in the valley can be harvested and used for different purposes. Among those:-*

- *It is used to grow different varieties of fodder development that can be used both for livestock feed as well as soil water conservation purposes*
- *Crop production*
- *Water harvesting for human being and livestock*
- *Used for small scale irrigation*
- *Maintain the temperature of the area*
- *The water that percolate in the ground improve the water table content*
- *Improve the water discharge rate at the down stream*
- *For tourism purpose*
- *Etc.*

*However, such interventions need community engagement to have their view, their practices and preferences, researchers have to contribute for which types of crops or fodders the areas are suitable to grow. In addition, such event will also help to raise awareness on the policy and strategy of the government towards pastoral area development.*

*In today's event there are many professional from universities, research institutes, sector offices, NGOs and others. So, the discussion will be multidimensional and help us to clearly understand and develop our resources in the lowlands.*

*Wishing you good discussion and declare the event is officially opened.*

Frank van Steenbergem reflects on the opening remarks and thanks Mr. Teshome H/gebreal for his inspiring words. Next the floor is given to Ato Shanko Delelegne of the Ministry of Peace to present on the policy directions on lowland development.

## Policy directions on lowland development, with a focus on cropping – Mr. Shanko Delelegne (Ministry of Peace)

Mr. Shanko presents on the Ethiopian Pastoral Development Policy, which is approved on February 2020 and is now handed over to the Ministry of Irrigation and Lowland Development. The Policy has four parts.

1. Background, Policy Drivers, Foundations and Principles
2. Vision, Objectives and Policy Pillar
3. Pastoral Development, Key Policy Issues and Implementation Strategies

#### 4. Institutional Arrangements – Role & Responsibilities and M&E

##### Background

Mr. Shanko introduces the role of pastoralism in Ethiopian society. About 60% of the land pass is considered to be pastoral areas and 12% of the population. There is an interaction between the Natural Resources/Environment, Herd/Livestock and Family & Wider Institutions. It is critical to understand these interactions. For a long time the pastoral areas were viewed as areas of conflict and drought.

Major policy drivers are the constitutional provision, the geographic location, the need to scale past achievements and learn from the failed interventions, improving the livelihood of pastoralist and the importance of coordination and harmonization of (government) initiatives. A major principle is that all participation and ownership should lie with the pastoralists.

##### Vision and Objectives

The vision of the policy is: Aspire to see Resilient to man-made and natural disasters; Improved and Sustainable Livelihood, Environment, and Institutions; where Democracy and Good governance are ensured; and Peaceful and inclusive development.

The general objective is: Realizing Improved and Sustainable livelihoods through Integrated Development that is centered on the Livestock Potential, local knowledge and other reliable Resources.

Detailed objectives can be found in the policy document.

The policy has identified two main pillars:

1. Mobile Pastoralists through Enhancing Livestock production and productivity  
Mobility is key to the characteristics of the pastoralists.
2. Voluntary commune programs  
Recognizing pastoralists who are interested in moving to a settled livelihood.

##### Key policy issues

Four policy issues have been identified:

1. Enhancing and Improving Pastoral Livelihood
2. Provision of basic Social and Economic Infrastructure and Agro-processing Industries —  
Modernization & Urbanization
3. Building Sustainable Capability & Constitutional Democracy
4. Inclusivity on Cross-cutting-Sensitivity , Accommodativeness & Mainstreaming- Gender,  
Environment, Conflict...

These four issues translate into 13 implementation strategies.

##### Institutional Arrangements

The different levels of government have different roles, including the Federal Executive Organs, Regional States and Local & International Non State actors.

The presentation can be downloaded [here](#).

## Introduction of the Dry Valley Rehabilitation and Productive Use systems and the event – Henok Aragi (GIZ Ethiopia)

Henok Aragi of GIZ introduces the Dry Valley Rehabilitation and Productive Use approach (DVRPU). DVRPU is an integrated approach to rehabilitate degraded dry valleys for sustainable livelihoods.

For a long time floods and droughts were observed in the highlands of Ethiopia, which spilt over to the lowlands, bringing fertile soils and moisture. With the formation of gullies, the water passes quickly and does not leave behind moisture.

As part of the presentation, Henok showed a short clip which shows the rate of infiltration and the relation to the cover of grass. Generally a higher cover leads to a higher infiltration. It shows the infiltration rate of the lowland area, through the change of vegetation.



*Figure 1: Clip showing the effect of grass/crop cover on the infiltration rates.*

The lowlands went through a major change in the last 50 years. Before the lowlands were fertile, Henok specifically mentioned Teru Plain and showed two pictures. Picture one is 50 years ago, showing high green grass, the second (current) picture showing a bare soil, without any vegetation.

With partners GIZ has developed the 10 years journey, which facilitates the sustainable development of the area. Key factors are (1) strong communication between actors, (2) cooperation and (3) coordination of all stakeholders. (Download the 10 years journey poster [here](#)).

The DVRPU approach contains 7 steps, from site selection, planning to implementation.

## Steps in the DVRPU Approach: from site selection, planning to implementation

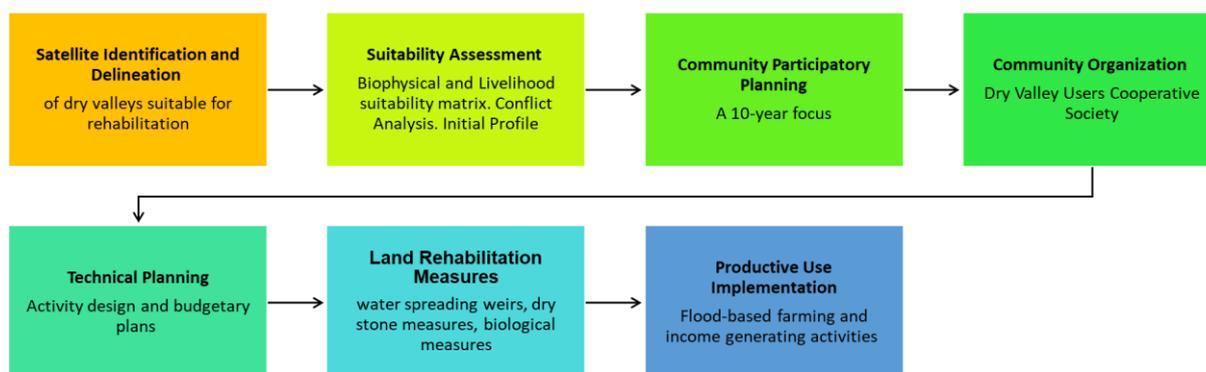


Figure 2: The 7 steps in the DVRPU approach.

Within the DVRPU approach, the Water Spreading Weirs (WSWs) are a key element to trap the water and soil and spread it over a larger area in order to restore the landscape and create fertile soils. An example of Lekura Dry Valley is used to describe a typical dry valley in the lowlands.

The involvement of all actors is essential, and they should be actively involved.

The impact of the WSWs is for the water to be infiltrated, creating opportunities to grow crops and fodder, as opposed to cutting trees for feed. A economic cost: benefit ratio has been determined, based on examples from the ground and a ratio of 1:1.25 was found.

Despite the fertile soils, based on thousands of years of flow of water and soils from the highlands, most of the lowlands are considered to be food insecure areas. However, it is estimated that with 10% of the current funds flowing to the lowlands, the areas can be rehabilitated (1000 dry valleys) and bringing 220.000 hectares into production again. Helping communities to transfer communities from dependance to food security and self-sufficiency.

The presentation can be downloaded [here](#).

After the presentation on the DVRPU approach three international cases are presented.

## Flood based farming experiences from Eritrea

In 2008 a documentary was developed on the Sheeb Spate Irrigation system in Eritrea. Part of the clip covers the choice of crops, the cropping calendar under spate irrigation and how the farmers deal with pests. Also the farmer explains how seeds are conserved, to be used for the planting in the next season.

The clip shows the importance of sorghum, the change in the variety of sorghum used and also the importance of water management for successful harvests. This includes the storage of moisture through deep ploughing and planking.

The full video is available at TheWaterChannel through: [Spate Irrigation in Sheeb, Eritrea](#)



## Flood based farming experiences from Sudan – Frank van Steenberg (MetaMeta)

Frank van Steenberg presents on some experiences from the Gash Spate Irrigation system in Sudan, with a focus on Sorghum, or ‘Sorghum Superpower’.

Sorghum is an important crop, worldwide the 5<sup>th</sup> largest staple crop and most suitable for arid and dry conditions. The yields of sorghum vary greatly depending on the variety and the water management and it is an important crop for fodder. For the crops, the yield of the grain and the yield of the chaff is important, as well as the taste of the crop.

Within Sorghum there are many different varieties, originally originating from Africa and adapted to the local circumstances in the countries where sorghum is grown. There are differences in root depth, panicle sizes, height (up to 3 meters) and drought tolerance. Moisture management is crucial for the success of sorghum crops.

There are several recommendations with regard to sorghum:

- Introduction of untapped varieties
- Inter-cropping with other crops, especially those which are nitrogen fixing
- Share outstanding varieties between areas
- Improve infrastructure for seed production.
- Apply water conservation
- Introduce improved farming tools.
- Improve local grain storage, to protect the grains and ensure they remain available for the next season.

The presentation can be downloaded [here](#).

## Flood based farming experiences from Pakistan – Reinier Veldman (MetaMeta)

As part of a project which MetaMeta is implementing in Pakistan, together with the Flood Based Livelihoods Network (FBLN) new crops and varieties are introduced in spate irrigation systems, through crop trials. Reinier Veldman of MetaMeta provided some insights, based on pictures of the crop trials.

One of the reasons for the trials is to facilitate the exchange of seeds between spate areas within Pakistan. One of the challenges for seeds is the availability of seeds on local markets, as some are specific to spate irrigation areas. Selecting the highest quality seeds during harvest and ensuring proper harvest is key.

Sorghum and guar are common. For guar and international market is envisaged where guar products can be used in food products, as binding agent, but also in industrial uses such as fracking in oil exploration. Other common crops are aragula, mustard and chick peas. A characteristic guar, aragula and mustard share is that they are not very demanding in terms of inputs/water.

The presentation can be downloaded [here](#).

## Q&A and Reflections on international experiences.

After the presentations from international cases, there was time for Q&A.

A first question was about the benchmark of the Eritrean clip. Frank explained that the clip is a short part of a total video of one hour, which is the total production. The whole video will be made available and it is proposed to have a separate event to watch the video and have an online discussion. This will be communicated upon.

[Video: Eritrea: Sheeb Spate Irrigation System](#) on [TheWaterChannel](#)



The second question covered the duration of the floods for sorghum cultivation. The response is that the flood is not one time, it can be three or four times/year. It also depends on the magnitude of the floods. The larger floods can damage the system and are diverted away, smaller floods might not reach the field. In the case of multiple floods, that can be used, the cooperation between the farmers determines the distribution. Most important is to ensure the soil moisture is sufficient, and to not spread the flood too thinly. More than two or three floods is not advised, in order to ensure sufficient spread of the water.

Though the chat there was a discussion on the aspect of community engagement. It was asked whether it was cluster/zonal based in terms of community leadership having an umbrella kind of management approach cascading to specific zones? Any documented challenges when engaging with communities? The response by Henok Aragie of GIZ was: 'as per the DVRPU approach, the engagement of community is through developing cooperative. In our case, the communities inside the delineated dry valley are primary users. One of the challenges is communal land ownership system in the lowlands of pastoralist area. Obeying bylaws in such land ownership system is the difficult one.'

A next question by Tezera Getahun concerned the salinity of the soils. (1) If the floods are used as a base for crop production, does salinity play a role. (2) Secondly Tezera asked whether budget is the only determining factor for food security?

As for salinity Frank responded that salinity is usually not an issue as these are free draining soils. On the salinity Henok Aragie responded that it is not the normal irrigation which is practiced, therefore there are no challenges with salinity. On the budget, Henok responded that if 10% of the budget for lowlands is directed towards rehabilitation, if the three elements communication, cooperation and coordination is brought in, that is even more important than budget alone.

After the experiences from other countries, the event continued with experiences from Ethiopia.

## Farming practices: current good practices, challenges, extension service experiences, setting the scene for Ethiopia (Afar Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral Research Institute (APARI))

On behalf of the Afar Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral Research Institute (APARI) there was a presentation providing insight in the Afar context, and current good practices in Afar with regards to Flood Based Farming and Crop type selection.

As introduction, the presenter explained the challenges Afar is currently experiencing, including climate change, overgrazing and rangeland degradation. As a response, the government of Afar and development partners, such as GIZ have started intervention options to reverse the degradation. This includes the Water Spreading Weirs. The main aim was to increase the capacity of the agro-pastoralists to resist climatic shocks by rehabilitating the productivity of the landscape.

Within the GIZ program, APARI has been involved as partner institution and ICRISAT as project executing agency.

To highlight current good practices from projects in Afar three projects were explained including:

- Rebuilding Livelihoods of (Agro) pastoral communities in Afar Region through Diversifying and Integrating Drought Resistant Food and Feed Crops.

- Restoring resource enhancing forage development in support of livelihoods of the pastoralists in Awra district of Afar Region.
- Restoration of Natural Resources through Forage Development to Re-build the Livelihoods of the (Agro-) Pastoralists in Yallo District of the Afar Regional State.

Main good practices found are:

- Developing selection criteria, for the selection of community leaders.
- Participatory Community By-laws established.
- Training support (theoretical and practical on-site) and introduction of farm tools
- Several varieties of food and feed crops tested around WSWs. Specific varieties:
  - Food: Maize (Melkasa-6Q, -2), (Melkassa 4Q), Local Maize, Sesame (Adi), and Mango
  - Feed: Mung bean (N-26), Cow pea (9333), Lablab (147 (Black); 6529 (Red), Pigeon pea (ICEAP87091 DURSA), and Napier grass (ILCA-16984)
- Restore and support the forage development and drought resilient livelihood development.
- Well performing varieties:
  - Grass species: Chloris gayana (Rhodes grass) well performed at moist area and Cenchrus ciliaris at moderately moisture sites, similarly, from Local grass:
  - Tree and shrubs: Moringa oleifera and Leucenia lecocephale well performed and adapted
  - Legumes: 3 important forbs and their vernacular name was identified namely Lekenebo, Abure, & Ouraouda, all are annual



*Figure 3: Example of Capacity Building training by APARI, specifically seed source collection*

Main challenges observed during the projects are neglect of the bylaws by some community members, desert locust, the war in Tigray and delayed maintenance of the WSW structures. Lessons learned is that the sites all develop differently, thus need to develop a wide range of technologies. Also working WSWs is requires continuous planning and learning.

The presentation can be downloaded [here](#).

## Farming practices: current good practices, challenges, extension service experiences, setting the scene for Ethiopia – Mohamed Rashid Mohamud (Research Institute Nuru, Somali Region)

While Ethiopia experiences regular droughts, flooding also has long been recognized as one of the major disasters affecting the lives and livelihoods of the people. Especially in the lowlands, flooding is a common part of the life of the inhabitants, especially in those areas close to the major rivers of Ethiopia. While floods can cause major damages, they also provide the areas with the highest potentials for flood farming as the runoff generated from the highland SNNPR, and Tigray can be available in the immediate lowland.

In Somali regional state, there are considerable numbers of livestock, which is the basis for the pastoralism. Crop production is also an important agricultural sector for the rural small holder agro-pastoralists. Production is for both home consumption and cash income.

Flood farming practices are based on moisture stress and on runoff coming from the highlands. The production under floods based farming encompasses common and staple dry land crops like sorghum, maize, millet, teff, cowpea, sesame, groundnut, vegetables, and other fodder crops. In addition, flood farming could increase the availability of livestock feed and livestock water which support to addressing the feed shortage in the dry months

Although it is an uncertain type of farming, economically it is one of the potential entry points for agricultural production in the drought-affected and dry lands. It has the potential to influence local livelihoods, economies, and biophysical systems as it is the only source of water in arid and semi-arid environments. Especially on the short term, the flood based farming can help support the crops and overcome crop failure. A proper understanding of flood occurrence and adaptability is needed. Thus, addressing the knowledge and evidence gap on the potentials of flood farming contributes to an informed decision towards unlocking the opportunities of flood farming to support livelihoods and economic development in drought prone areas.

One of the challenges is that, despite the growing flood events and seasonal flood hazards reported over years, there is no account of the extent of flood occurrence and lack of national strategies and aspirations to convert flash floods into an opportunity for mitigating drought and boosting dry land agricultural production. Other challenges are:

- Climatic constraints
- Soil constraints
- Lack of suitable varieties
- Traditional cultivation practices
- Heavy weed infestation
- Resource constraints
- Technological constraints
- Socio economic constraints

The presentation can be downloaded [here](#).

## Good farming practices, challenges, and proposed solutions, Somali Region – Tesfu Mengistu (PhD) (Jigjiga University)

The next presentation was by Tesfu Mengistu of Jigjiga University. From the perspective of the Somali region he provided an overview of the region, crop production in the region and specific suitable food and forage crops, based on research of Jigjiga University and SoRPARI (Somali Region Pastoral & Agro-pastoral Research Institute).

Somali region has two main climatic zones being hot arid and semi-arid, which is the majority of the region. Main resources in the region are livestock of genetic diversity, various types of plants and several perennial and seasonal rivers. Various crops are grown; cereals, oil crops, pulses, industrial crops, vegetables and fruits and forage crops.

Pastoralism is the main farming system (70%), agro-pastoralism is second with 18% and pure crops producers cover 12%. Inputs (fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides, etc.) are not commonly used. Most of the land preparation is done with use of the traditional practices.

After the introduction a range of crops were presented, including specific varieties and it was explained to what extent, based on research, these performed. The details can be found in the presentation, available [here](#).

Crops covered are rice, bread wheat, sorghum, maize and vegetables such as haricot bean. Also sesame, groundnut, forage grasses, chick pea, pearl millet, sweet potato, onion are covered. For each crop the yield found during the research was presented and compared to the national average. The presenter also provided information on the preference of growers and consumers and the marketability of crops.

The presentation also covered the main challenges within flood based farming, based on the various studies of Jigjiga University. The main factors are:

- Scarcity of water (mainly in case of irrigation)
- Natural resource degradation
- Pests and diseases
- Poor coordination among partners
- And others.

Suggestions on improvements are:

- Adopt improved practices
- Conserving the natural resource and reducing the pressure on the ecosystem
- Building the capacity of DAs and local experts

The presentation can be downloaded [here](#).

## Parallel group discussion in Semera, Jigjiga and virtual

Following the presentations and reflections, the parallel group discussions take place in Semera, Jigjiga and online. After the 30 minutes discussions, the outcomes of the three groups were shared in the plenary session.

The main questions discussed are:

1. What potential crops are seen for flood based systems/ DVRPU, based on the examples from other countries.
2. What are bottlenecks to achieve the potential?
3. What is already on the ground and can support?

After the discussion in three groups the summarized findings were presented by a representative of each group. Below the summarized notes of the three groups are provided.

## Online Discussion

### *1. What potential crops are seen for flood based systems/ DVRPU, based on the examples from other countries.*

- Sorghum/ millets
- Maize
- Groundnut
- Sesame
- Chickpea
- Fodders such as lucerne , elephant grass
- Pigeon pea
- White/ red onion (pest management is headache)
- Wheat
- Maize
- Teff
- Rice (irrigated)

### *2. What are bottlenecks to achieve the potential?*

- Market – remoteness, price unattractive in main markets , example millet for highlands
- Importance community preference – maize or sorghum (food habits)
- Community readiness
- Post-harvest management:
  - Lack of machinery to shell it ..
  - Storage
- Need proper planning rather than big campaign
- Seed supply and access, lack of access to agricultural inputs and extension services
- Inadequate coordination
- Lack of access to financial institutions

### *3. What is already on the ground and can support?*

- Availability of land – 1000 dry valleys
- Customary institutions (can engage them)
- Policy that is promoting lowland development
- Technology is there (WSWs)
- Producing affordable livestock quality feed
- Interest of private sector (industrial parks)
- Available research

## Jigjiga Discussion

1. *What potential crops are seen for flood based systems/ DVRPU, based on the examples from other countries.*

- Cereal.
  - Sorghum, Maize, dryland wheat
- Oil seeds
  - Sesame, ground net
- Vegetable
  - Water melon, onion, tomato
- Forage
  - Sudan grass, elephant grass Rhodes, Napier grass, cow pea, chick pea
- Tree and shrubs
  - Moringa Olivera tree

2. *What are bottlenecks to achieve the potential?*

- Scarcity of water
- Climate changes (drought, flood,
- Poor commitment
- High invasive species
- Lack of agricultural extension practices
- Low product marketing system
- Shortage of crop varieties or drought resistance seedling
- Lack of farmers participation in techno ledge development practices
- Lack of coordination and integrated partners
- Low communication to aware and persuade farmers on existing technologies
- Lack of agricultural mechanization system

3. *What is already on the ground and can support?*

### **Opportunities**

- Potential and fertile land or large area of cultivable land
- Service and ground water potential (River, Basin, Streams)
- Commitment of government institutions
- Stable biodiversity
- Promising developed food and feed technologies
- Researchers and studies are already prepared

### **Support/solution**

- Strengthening partners and building coordination system
- Ground implementation of pastoral policy
- Effective communication and coordination system
- Strong commitment and community participation
- Producing skilled manpower
- Integration of lowland development projects
- Create strong product marketing system
- Create water flood storage system for productive use

## Semera Discussion

1. *What potential crops are seen for flood based systems/ DVRPU, based on the examples from other countries.*

Flood based farming systems using flash floods and rainfall, secondly there is the irrigation.

- Cereal and food crops
  - Maize
  - Tomato
  - Sorghum
  - Green pepper
  - Moringa
- Forage Crops
  - Chick pea
  - Rhodes grass
  - Pigeon pea
  - Cow pea
  - Local grasses (durfa, mursa, lablab)
  - Sesame

2. *What are bottlenecks to achieve the potential?*

- Climatic problem, especially the variation in rainfall characteristics
- Lack of experiences in adapting the mentioned crops
- Perception, floods are seen as a risk while they can also provide an opportunity
- Awareness for the potential of flood water, as a source of generating income
- Lack of demonstration sites in the region
- Accessibility and availability of the variety of seeds, they are not available in the market.

3. *What is already on the ground and can support?*

- Technological support can be made available, on the ground
- Awareness creating can be provided
- Financial and capacity building has to be increased
- Market value chain is the main challenge and should be solved.
- Indigenous knowledge of the traditional irrigation system can be utilized and incorporated in the area.
- Potential of the partners which are already cooperating and existing governmental institutions.
- Huge land resource which can be used.

## Wrap-up and closure

The moderator wrapped up the meeting and gave the floor to Tezera Getahun to offer a few reflections on the event. Mr. Tezera Getahun acknowledged the stressful conditions the lowlands are currently experiencing. Therefore diversification is key towards the future. Similarly cooperation and informing of decision makers is key. The lowland setting needs to be understood by all involved.

Mr Shanko (senior advisor of the Ministry of Peace) also responded on the meeting. The Eritrean Experience shed light on the possibilities for the lowlands of Ethiopia. We have to look into the lowlands practically, resource mapping is essential prior to initiating any development, to ensure the areas are used in a targeted manner. Once the areas are identified, the agricultural production can be linked to multi-purpose use. The three components are in continuous interaction (the people, the herd

and the environment). Above all the people should be the main participants in the process, including the private sector.

After the closing words of Ato Shanko, Frank van Steenbergen wrapped up the meeting and thanked the participants for the rich discussion and numerous contributions. The video from Eritrea will be shared online and a follow-up event will be organised. Lastly an extension package is currently being developed together with GIZ on the theme of the event.

The presentations of the Hybrid Event can be found on the website: <https://sdr-africa.com/>