



ETHIOPIA
2020-21

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COUNTRY PROFILE

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Alemnesh Tereda, 28, and Marsenesh Lenina, 29, Injaffo Multi-barley Coop, Gumer

Scaling up agricultural production, improving nutrition security, developing new enterprise and market opportunities for farmers, strengthening community-based seed production and building climate resilience, are all key areas of Self Help Africa's work in Ethiopia.

Last year, the organisation was involved in implementing close to a dozen development projects, all of which are being undertaken in collaboration with local and/or international partners.



PROJECT KEY

- Scaling up RuSACCOs
- Strengthening & Scaling up of rehabilitation of degraded lands and enhancement of livelihoods in Lake Ziway catchment
- Feed the Future
- Dairy for Development
- Stronger Together: Linking Primary Seed and Seep Cooperative Union
- Climate-Smart Agriculture
- Capacity Building of Farmer Training Centers
- Unleashing the productive capacity of poor people through Graduation Approach in Ethiopia
- Integrated Community Development
- Livelihood Enhancement: Working Inclusively for Transformation



	Programme	Donor	Total Budget	Time Frame	Implementing Partner	Programme Area
01	Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)	Irish Aid	€ 806,695	2015 ▼ 2019	SOS Sahel, Farm Africa, Vita	SNNP region
02	MF: Scaling Up Rural Savings and Credit Cooperatives (RuSACCOs)	Irish League of Credit international Development Foundation	€ 420,000	2020 ▼ 2022	Zonal Departments of Finance & Economic Cooperation and Departments of Cooperative Promotion	N/Shewa Zone of Amhara, N/Shewa Zone of Oromia and Guraghe Zone of SNNP regional states
03	MORE:DAIRY - Dairy for Development	Jersey Overseas Aid Commission	€ 503,963	2018 ▼ 2021	Nesri Terign, Nano, Mendida, and Adere, Gordoma milk producers cooperative	Abichu Gna'a woreda, Oromia Region
04	MORE: MAIZE - Feed the Future - Maize Value Chain Development	USAID Fintrac	€ 251,964	2018 ▼ 2021	Bako Bore Farmers' Cooperative Union Ambo Farmers' Cooperative Union	Ambo Zuria, Bako Tibe and Toke Kutaye Woredas, West Shewa zone of Oromia
05	Climate Change: Capacity Building of Farmer Training Centre	Alliance for a Green revolution in Africa (AGRA)	€ 264,862	2019 ▼ 2020	Local Government	Oromia, Tigray, Amhara, and SNNP Regions
06	Climate Change: Strengthening & Scaling up of rehabilitation of degraded lands and enhancement of livelihoods in Lake Ziway catchment	IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative	€ 340,065	2019 ▼ 2020	N/A	Adami Tulu Jido Kombolcha -Jido Kombolcha District, Central Rift Valley, Lake Ziway catchment, Worja Woshgula Kebele and vicinity
07	MF: Graduation Unleashing the Productive Capacity of Poor People through Graduation Approach in Ethiopia	Irish Aid	€ 285,000	2019 ▼ 2021	N/A	Asagirt Woreda, North Shewa Zone, Amhara
08	Integrated Community Development	Glimmer of Hope	€ 5,127,328.66	2020 ▼ 2025	N/A	Oda Bultum Woreda
09	Livelihood Enhancement: Working Inclusively for Transformation	UK Aid Direct	€ 1,965,974	2020 ▼ 2024	N/A	Bench Maji

01

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

Objective: To build the resilience and improve the food and nutrition security of 15,500 target households.

Ethiopia is predicted to be one of the countries most affected by climate change in the coming years. Since 2016, Ethiopia has experienced three consecutive years of extreme drought, leading to widespread food insecurity in many parts of the country.

The objective of this Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) project is to build the resilience and improve the food and nutrition security of 15,500 target households through the adoption of climate-smart agriculture practices.

A collaboration with SOS Sahel, Farm Africa and VITA, this CSA project started in June 2015. The project builds the resilience of individuals, households and communities to climate extremes by: improving and diversifying livelihoods; developing community-based management systems of resources such as water, farmlands, communal land and forests; and embedding location-specific climate change adaptation and mitigation into its development initiative.

The project also focuses on strengthening market access and building the institutional capacity of community-based organisations and business development service providers. The aim is to effectively engage resource-poor farmers in the production of high-value crops and small livestock, and also in the uptake of new production and processing technologies.

15,500 households

02

SCALING UP RURAL SAVINGS AND CREDIT COOPERATIVES (RUSACCOS)

Objective: To contribute to the development of a sustainable rural finance system and increase financial inclusion of smallholder farmers.

Ethiopia has one of the lowest levels of financial inclusion in the world, with only 22% of adults holding an account with a financial institution and just 14% able to access credit. This is because the financial sector is dominated by commercial banking, and the coverage of these financial services is still extremely limited and concentrated in urban areas. Most rural and remote areas of the country remain excluded or unbanked. Savings and Credit Cooperatives have better outreach in rural parts of the country than commercial banks, with greater potential to serve the low-income and active poor unbanked sections of the population.

For over a decade, Self Help Africa has supported a network of Rural Savings and Credit Cooperatives (RuSACCOs) to provide financial services to over 53,000 people in Ethiopia. This has helped RuSACCOs members to develop on and off-farm enterprise, thereby increasing income and food security for poor rural households. Building on the success of the first three phases of the RuSACCOs programme, in January 2020 SHA launched MF: Scaling Up Rural Savings and Credit Cooperatives (RuSACCOs); a project which expanded its existing work with four RuSACCO Unions and 370 RuSACCOs found in the 13 Woredas of the three target project Zones: North Showa-Amhara, North Showa-Oromia and Guraghe.

The project's overall objective of promoting higher levels of increasing financial inclusion through sustainable, community-owned financial institutions will be achieved through: enhanced governance and management capacity of RuSACCOs and unions; growth in membership of RuSACCOs and introduction of new products and services; and dissemination of lessons, approaches and good practices.

SHA has conducted tailored organisational capacity assessments and developed capacity-building plans for each of the unions. Training has been delivered on business planning, savings mobilisation, bookkeeping, leadership and management. Each union is also receiving ongoing mentoring support from a project officer with expertise in micro-finance.

Number of Households: 93,968
beneficiaries (50% Women)

Current membership plus average 10% growth per year projected.

Objective: To increase food security and disposable income of smallholder households from dairy production in Ethiopia.

In the Oromia region of south-western Ethiopia, 75% of the population live in poverty. Chronic and acute malnutrition are highly prevalent and 38.4% of children under five are stunted. Despite being the biggest milk-producing region in Ethiopia, average yields in Oromia remains far below potential. Insufficient inputs, use of poor animal feeding and husbandry practices, and poor access to markets are hampering the potential of the dairy value chain. Addressing these challenges will revitalise the dairy sector's potential to improve the livelihoods of smallholder communities in the area.

The MORE:DAIRY - Dairy for Development programme focuses on boosting rural livelihoods and nutrition by enhancing production techniques, strengthening value chains and improving the genetics of dairy cows. The project is designed to build the skills and knowledge of farmers and local government on commercial dairy production, improve the genetics of local dairy herds, and facilitate access to market for dairy products.

In order to improve the productivity of dairy cows, 600 producers are being trained on improved breeding management practices, as well as herd health management. The government's district nursery is also being supported to produce improved fodder to increase access for producers. The government's Artificial Insemination (AI) service is being strengthened through the training of AI technicians and the provision of equipment. 600 producers can now access AI to improve the genetics of their herd.

The organisational and operational capacity of three dairy cooperatives is being increased through the provision of equipment and training in milk hygiene testing and processing, facilitation of links with local processors and buyers and training in marketing, business plan development, financial management and cooperative management. Value chain actors are also receiving gender training to address the barriers that women face in participating in the value chain.

The project also aims to improve nutrition at the household and community level. 600 producers are being trained in milk utilisation and basic nutrition education, with a focus on infant and young child feeding practices. To promote the nutritional benefits of milk and a diverse diet, 50 care group leaders are being trained in the basics of nutrition including the importance of dietary diversity, the consumption of dairy products for nutritional benefits, with a specific focus on infant and young child feeding practices. Practical demonstrations are also being delivered to train participants on cooking of local foods using different local recipes.

Revitalising the dairy sector in Ethiopia has the potential to have a significant impact on both the income, food and nutrition security of smallholder communities.

Number of HouseHolds: 600



Samuel Gizaw, Oromia Region, Abichu District, Mandida Village



Asada Niguse (15, F), Meseret (11, F), Tomas (7, M), Tsion (4, F), Kebele in Butajira

04

MORE: MAIZE - FEED THE FUTURE - MAIZE VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

Objective: To enable smallholder farmers to become better integrated into the maize value chain.

Self Help Africa is working with Bore Bako and Ambo Farmers' Cooperative Unions (FCU) and their member cooperatives to enable smallholder farmers to become better integrated into the maize value chain in Ambo Zuria, Bako Tibe and Toke Kutaye districts of the Oromia region.

Building on its Smallholder Support Scheme project (2015-2018), the purpose of the Feed the Future project is to increase maize marketing and dietary diversity among members of the two unions and their member cooperatives.

This will be achieved through training on post-harvest management practices, establishing a contract-based forward marketing system between farmers, targeted primary cooperatives and respective FCUs, training on marketing, facilitating business coaching for primary cooperatives, providing technical support on the set-up and management of revolving funds for threshers and the establishment of commercial threshing services, organising business to business meetings among maize value chain actors, providing business management and cooperative leadership training for the targeted FCUs and respective cooperative members, and creating linkages with local financial institutions.

These activities will help smallholders to increase the volume, quality, and thereby value of maize aggregated and sold. They will also enhance smallholders' capacity to engage in profitable maize marketing, and will build the governance, business and leadership capacity of the unions and member cooperatives/farmers, helping to establish their position within the target communities as centres for aggregation, marketing and other services.

Number of HouseHolds: 13,000

Objective: To enhance the transfer, adoption and dissemination of Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) technology and practices to target farming communities.

Ethiopia's agricultural extension system is heavily dependent on Farmer Training Centres (FTCs) and trained Development Agents (DAs) to provide extension support to farmers.

Despite the huge responsibility, their level of functionality varies greatly and most of the 12,500 FTCs that have been established over the last decade are not capable of providing the expected services to farmers at their full potential.

The Climate Change: Capacity Building of Farmer Training Centre project is aimed at building the capacity of DAs and FTCs to enable them to disseminate information and training on improving soil fertility, one of the major constraints to agricultural productivity.

The project will also train Lead Farmers, further enhancing the support available to smallholders by developing a community-based extension system that complements the activities of DAs and FTCs.

Number of HouseHolds:

968 direct, 6,600 indirect



Abede Gebre (45) and Tsedu Behutiyo (35), Ambelta Kebele



Hajat Ahmed, 47, Nuredin Shati, 65,
with their children, Tehula Kebele

06

CLIMATE CHANGE: STRENGTHENING & SCALING-UP OF REHABILITATION OF DEGRADED LANDS AND ENHANCEMENT OF LIVELIHOODS IN LAKE ZIWAY CATCHMENT

Objective: The goal of the project is to contribute to livelihood improvement and the establishment of financially viable governance structures for sustainable land & water management in the Ziway-Shala Basin.

The Lake Ziway catchment is located in the Central Rift Valley which is one of the most environmentally vulnerable areas of Ethiopia. The lake itself has been degraded as a result of both natural processes and human activities over the past three decades. As a result of increased land degradation over time, agricultural productivity has decreased and worsened food insecurity and poverty for the people living around that area. The Lake Ziway catchment is also very vulnerable to climate change and frequent drought as they encompass areas of dry land zone. If current trends continue, there is a threat that Lake Ziway will dry up completely.

This project aims to rehabilitate highly degraded areas into productive units of land, creating alternative livelihood for the local communities and relieving pressure on land and water resources. The project also aims to build good relations among companies, communities, government and Civil Society Organisations operating in this critical landscapes. The outputs of the project include 150,000 ha of degraded land rehabilitated, 600 households with diversified livelihood options and income sources, improved capacity of communities and Local Government to manage natural resources and Improved smallholder access to services.

Number of Households: 600 and 150,000 ha degraded land rehabilitated

Objective: To contribute to sustained food and nutrition security for chronically and transitory food insecure (vulnerable) rural households in rural Ethiopia

Over the past two decades, Ethiopia has made significant progress in reducing poverty, with the headcount poverty rate declined from 46% in 1996 to 24% in 2016. Nonetheless poverty is still a challenge in Ethiopia has over 22 million people living below the national poverty line. When poor people encounter shocks and stress, they suffer from the direct effect of poverty and hunger making them less productive and less able to earn a living. They are also forced to employ negative coping strategies such as reducing food consumption, selling productive assets, and removing children from school.

The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) has been implementing a social protection program, called the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) since 2005.

The PSNP is a large-scale social protection intervention aimed at improving food security and stabilising asset

levels, supporting close to 8 million chronically food insecure people in designated PSNP woredas. The process of reducing vulnerability so that people can move off the PSNP programme provision into more productive and resilient livelihoods is popularly termed 'graduation'. In other words, once the PSNP beneficiaries gain sufficient assets, they are expected to graduate from the programme.

The goal of this three-year project is to graduate 300 chronically food insecure households from the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) food support in Asagirt woreda and strengthen their resilience to cope with income and food related shocks by building on these five core elements: consumption support, savings, asset transfer, technical skills training, and regular life skills coaching.

Number of Households: **600** and **150,000** ha degraded land rehabilitated

Farmers in the Oromia Region, Abichu District, Ethiopia, 2019



Zulta Sifir, 35, Zemzem Medi, 24, Tenaye Moshe, 38



08

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Objective: To alleviate poverty through a holistic development approach (across multiple sectors) to address the development needs of rural communities.

A Glimmer of Hope's five-year Integrated Community Development Program in Oda Bultum woreda (ICDP) aiming to improve the sustainable livelihoods and to increase the resilience of 95,721 people in Oda Bultum, Oromia, Ethiopia.

The project has been designed as part of GoH's Oda Bultum Integrated Community Development Program (Oda Bultum ICDP) and aims to alleviate deep-rooted poverty through a holistic development approach (across multiple sectors) to address the specific development needs of rural communities in Oda Bultum. The sectors included in the program are Education, Water, Health and Livelihoods.

95,721 beneficiaries

09

LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT: WORKING INCLUSIVELY FOR TRANSFORMATION

Objective: To contribute to the development of a sustainable rural finance system and increase financial inclusion of smallholder farmers.

SHA will work with 30,000 primary beneficiaries and 100,000 secondary beneficiaries over 4 years in SNNPR Ethiopia, to tackle chronic food insecurity and poverty through improved agricultural production, greater consumption of nutrient-rich diversified diets and better market and financial access. Communities will increase food, nutrition and income security.

Exclusion of marginalised communities including people living with disabilities and the marginalised Menja minority group will be addressed.

30,000 primary beneficiaries
100,000 secondary beneficiaries



Hajat Ahmed, Tehula Kebele, Ethiopia

ETHIOPIA

PO Box 1204

Addis Ababa

Tel. +251 116 620 659

Email: ethiopia@selfhelpafrica.org

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Zenebech Girma from Oromia Region, Rural Kebele of Abichu District