

Food For Assets

Bringing sustainable livelihoods to Puntland

Improving the nutrition of communities through Food Assistance



Project Summary

The Somalia Nutrition and Resilience Program is in its second phase of implementation which is scheduled to end in December 2015; the 1st phase of commenced in March 2014 and ended in March 2015. Program activities have been implemented in Somaliland, Puntland and South Central Somalia to address immediate food needs of vulnerable communities and also build their resilience to shocks. The program is supported by World Food Program (WFP) and implemented in partnership with respective government departments and selected Local NGOs.

The program has got two focus areas i.e. Nutrition and Food for Asset (FFA).

The nutrition component targets improving the nutrition status of communities especially children under five years (U5), Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) and TB/HIV patients. FFA on the other hand focuses on building community resilience for sustainable livelihoods. Overall, the program activities focus on saving lives through improved maternal child health and nutrition, restoring livelihoods and improved resilience of vulnerable families in Somalia.

The FFA activities under the resilience project include; tree planting, construction of water catchments, fodder production, road rehabilitations and land regeneration through control of soil erosion.

Scope of Report: This report presents stories from beneficiaries in Puntland State of Somalia. In this state FFA activities was implemented in 4 districts i.e. Dangorayo, Burtnile, Eyl and Garowe.

Implementation focused on saving lives



Dangaroyo is full of hope.

Mayor Abdikadir Sayid

I am so grateful to World Vision for the good work they are doing in this town. This FFA project has helped to build check dams that direct floodwaters from entering the town during the rainy season.

This means that the half of the town that normally gets flooded every year no longer need to seek new homes when it rains.

The projects have also supported the communities to build new water sources – earth dams and underground tanks that stores rain water – thus lowering the cost of water and the distances and time that families use in search of water for domestic and livestock use.

Dangaroyo is full of hope, and as we go into Phase II of the project we remain motivated in building the community.



Mahada Yasin Farah

Through the assistance of World Vision FFA project, our community was able to build an earth dam.

World Vision encouraged us to work together as a community and we would get food rations at the end of every month for our hard work. The dam captures water in the rainy season and the community as well as livestock uses this water for drinking.

I am now able to save the income that I used to buy water with and use it to pay school fees for my children and take care of the basic needs of the home.

As a committee, we mobilize the community to work together.

I am now able to save.

BEFORE

Farm in Laacdheere village supported through FFA

AFTER

We were able to capture water.



Hani Abdiaziz Geele

I got to know about World Vision through the targeted supplementary feeding program. My son was suffering from malnutrition and through therapeutic treatment given by WV under their nutrition program, he was able to make a full recovery. It is at this point that I was referred to the FFA project. I was very happy when I was selected to be one of the beneficiaries. I took part in digging our community earth dam.

The fact that we were able to capture water in the rainy season was such a boost for the community. This meant that we did not have to walk very long distances to access water in the dry season. Further, I saved some money, now that I did not need to buy water as before. I now use that money for my children's school fees and for health visits.

Maryam Khalif Mohamed

Before World Vision began the FFA project, my family was literally on the brink on death. I knew I had to be strong for my children but I was also getting weaker as we were all affected by lack of food.

World Vision identified my children and we were immediately put on the TSPF program. I believe this quick action saved our lives.

We were in this program for three months and then I was referred to the FFA project. I was very motivated to work hard because I did not want my family to go back to living without food.

At the end of every month, we received sufficient food rations that fed my family well.

Today, we stand strong as a family.

The future is looking bright for us all, and I am grateful to WV for coming to our rescue.



Today, we stand strong as a family.





GREEN PEPPERS

Activities implemented under resilience project







Shamake Ahmed Shire

Being part of this project has been a great honor for me. Food for Asset (FFA) has allowed us to take care of the food security of the most vulnerable in our community who are often easily forgotten. If the selected family member is too sick or weak to work, we select another member from the same home and this ensures that every household is well taken of.

At the same time, we have learnt to work together as a community to build our resilience. Through construction of earth dams, rehabilitation on rangelands and developing water catchment areas, we have been able to prepare well in advance for dry seasons.

> We have learnt to work together.

Abdisalam Bihi

What I loved most about FFA is that it did not just tackle our immediate problems which is people's need for food but it has helped us see the importance of building our resilience as a community.

Now, we are able to conserve water in the rainy seasons for the dryer season.

We prepare in advance and are not caught off guard. Imagine how many lives we save, both people and livestock, when we are prepared in advance? This is good for our community. We are excited about Phase II of the project that is currently ongoing.

Imagine how many lives we save?



Abdinasir's brother - Ali, Edward Mulindwa- Commodities Officer, and Mohamed Abdinasir in the farm.

We can now handle the long droughts

Mohamed Abdinasir

If you looked at our land a few years ago, you would be shocked. You would not think that such beautiful gardens would come from a place like this. World Vision FFA project started working with us on ways of managing drought. And we received training on various ways of producing food.

We were trained on various options of food production. This means that they do not have to depend on one crop or produce the same crop as everyone else. We were also trained to diversify from just crop production to livestock. In addition, we can handle the long droughts by growing and storing hay so that livestock do not just depend on grass in the fields.

The community now grows fodder for their livestock. We harvest this and keep it for the dry months of the year when livestock have cleared the grass in the communal fields. We now have a good crop harvest and healthy livestock. Our goats will have enough food throughout the drought. Previously, we would have moved away from our homes to take the livestock to areas where pasture is available but now we have it right outside our homes.

Asset Implementation Process



Project Learnings

• The integration of health/nutrition interventions (Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme - TSFP, Outpatient Therapeutic Program - OTP) both at the office and community level strengthened implementation.

•WV staff attached to partner staff for support and capacity building; updating registers, food distribution, and reports improved the capacity of partners in activity implementation and reporting.

•Beneficiaries of tree nurseries were trained on tree planting and nursery management. Through working with MoWET (Ministry of Wildlife, Environment and Tourism) to grow trees, the project was able to train beneficiaries on tree management and this is greatly changing the community perception and helping in environmental regeneration.

•Partnering with Local Non-Governmental Organization (LNGOs) during the project implementation especially in areas where staff have limited access due to insecurity and also as a strategy to strengthen local institutions where access is guaranteed.

•Having a close link with the food assistance, livelihoods and health sectors led to shared resources for technical support and knowledge transfer hence improving project effectiveness.

•Communities provided extra support to the project. For instance in Godobjiran, community members built an extra dam adjacent to the project dam while in Lachedere community members dug a shallow well to irrigate their vegetables. In other locations, communities provided vehicles to transport stones and tools to the FFA sites.



Future Plans

World Vision continues to strengthen collaboration between various units (Government, health, nutrition, WASH and food assistance among other units) to build the community capacities and resilience.





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