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Fact Sheet REAAP



Project: Resilience through Enhanced Adaptation, Action Learning and Partnerships

Life of Project: Oct 2014 - Sept 2017

Funds: USAID/OFDA, Global Climate Change Initiative, and Feed the Future Initiative

Implementing partner: Catholic Relief Services

Sub awardees: ECC-SDCOH, Handicap International and Cordaid

Area of operation: East and West Hararghe

Key Targets:

- 475,000 people in 100 kebeles implement risk-reducing actions to improve resilience to climate change as a result of U.S. Government assistance.
- 95,000 rural households will directly benefit.
- 12,000 people receive financial services through self-managed savings and internal lending communities (SILC).
- 6,396 farmers and others apply new technologies or management practices.
- 4,840 people undertake new livelihoods development activities.
- 190 institutions improve their capacity to address climate change issues.

With Funding from USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and the Global Climate Change Initiative, and Feed the Future Initiative, CRS and its partners have launched a new activity entitled REAAP: *Resilience through Enhanced Adaptation, Action-learning, and Partnership*. REAAP works hand-in-hand with 100 farming, agro-pastoralist, and pastoralist communities in six vulnerable *woredas* of East and West Hararghe zones of the Oromia Region to design and implement action plans to decrease the risk of climate and related disaster, and to increase resilience to shocks when they occur. Through REAAP, the Community-Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CM-DRR) process builds community knowledge and skills, highlighting the link and inter-dependence between livelihoods, food security, nutrition, and natural resource management. Community selected and managed Disaster Risk Reduction committees develop strategic horizontal linkages to consortium partners and other initiatives and vertical linkages to learning institutions and Government of Ethiopia-led food security, agricultural growth, and disaster risk management structures. Through the CM-DRR process, community-level threats are assessed, identified, and prioritized using participatory disaster risk assessment.

Community Intervention Toolbox

Facilitated by a range of technically-strong partners, REAAP supports robust, representative CM-DRR committees to plan for and undertake prioritized actions through its *Community Intervention Toolbox* of resilience-building initiatives. This *Toolbox* is defined by low-tech community-appropriate options for both adaptation and climate change mitigation.

Toolbox options require a *minimum of external financial and technical inputs* over time, and are manageable and sustainable by the communities themselves. Some of the key activities offered in the toolbox include integrated watershed resource management, saving and internal lending communities, multiple use water services, small scale irrigation development, fuel efficient stoves, rangeland management/area enclosures, livestock marketing, animal health, promotion of appropriate crop production technologies and community-lead total sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Linkages

REAAP plays a *complementary and facilitative role* in terms of horizontal and vertical linkages: it facilitates the creation of internal community-led processes and builds upon existing resilience-focused initiatives from USAID and other agencies, while ultimately recognizing the centrality of leadership from the Government of Ethiopia nationally and the community locally. Vertical linkages between government and capacitated communities enable harmonized provision of early warning information, strengthened area preparedness and response plans, and external support to action plans. These linkages will contribute towards the sustainability of DRR committees, as well as government efforts, in a mutually beneficial relationship leading to less vulnerable and more robust communities.

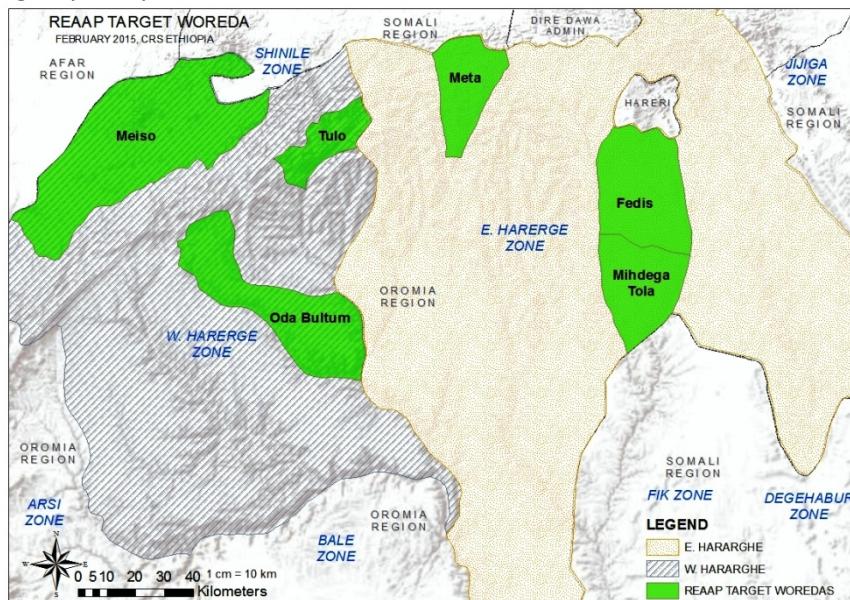
Cross cutting themes

Disability Inclusion: REAAP is based upon inclusive programming that empowers people with disabilities to participate in and benefit from, resilience-focused activities.

Knowledge Management: REAAP will create a knowledge management structure, which includes indigenous knowledge, dissemination of weather/climate and early warnings information that aids, supports, and enables evidence-based decision making by the communities.

ICT4D: CRS introduced ICT4D approaches to early warning data collection and analysis in Ethiopia using SMS mobile phone technology, collecting weekly updates from the six *woreda*. CRS will use e-Valuate to monitor REAAP progress.

Gender focus: Recognizing that *empowerment of women* is a key ingredient for building climate resilience and positive social transformation, REAAP addresses **gender inequality** at the household and community levels in order to improve the long-term resilience of vulnerable populations to shocks, conflict situations and natural disasters. Women comprise of at least 50 percent of representatives in DRR Committees. REAAP-supported saving and internal lending community groups help women to increase their social and economic status in the household and community.



REAAP Operation Area



REAAP Sub-Awardees



Catholic Relief Services – Ethiopia

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