

Summary of Initial Site Profile, Ewa Woreda, Dubba Kebele, Humelikolo Village (EW₁W)

A. Basic Data - Site

The survey was conducted on 10/01/2018 in Afar national regional state Ewa Woreda Dubba kebele Humelikolo village. The land tenure system in the area is communal.

B. Basic Data – Interview

The type of interview conducted was Focus group discussion that includes both men and women participants. The number of household heads represented was 9 (2 women).

C. History

Before 18 years the area was experienced by having four different rain seasons locally called (Sugum; Debayiba; Kerma; Deda'a) and fully covered by long grasses and vegetation which makes the visibility of livestock's inside the forest difficult and can't cross easily through it. The different fodder trees and grasses like melif and meddera were found abundantly besides their used for livestock their fruits were also used by the communities. There were no gullies and the soil were very fertile.

As the number of shoats available were too many they were not considered and counted as a livestock asset, but instead camel/cattle were counted. At present day due to recurrent drought and land degradation the situation is changed and become opposite when the elders see the situation they are disappointed.

To reduce these challenges through the support of government programs like PSNP efforts were executed by applying different soil and water conservation measures like terrace and soil bund, the communities also aware the importance of these measures.

Now our plan is to start cultivation of crops/fodders using the soil and water conservation measures going to be constructed by GIZ. Erosion and availability of water both for human and livestock is a big problem of the area.

D. Scope of Users of Available Natural Resources

Total number of permanent household heads that will be benefited from this site are 290 HH out of this 40 HH are female headed. In the wet season looking for pasture there are secondary users coming from other areas like Assayita; Dubti; Mille; Ada'ar and Chifra woredas. The respondents estimate the number of secondary user household heads coming from these areas is around 100.

E. Livestock and Access to Pasture/Rangeland

After the implementation of the project activities started on the dry valley the accessibility of pasture was increased both in terms of quality and quantity. But the available pasture and water is not enough for the livestock in the area.

The result of the focus group discussion shows that the estimated average number of livestock's in the area was dramatically declined within the last ten years. Recurrent drought was the basic factors mentioned by the respondents as a reason for declined number of livestock.

F. Trees/Shrubs

The number of trees/shrubs found in the area is not enough for the livestock and the communities around. Among the available trees Keselto; Kusra and Uddayito are the most important tree species. With having a difficulties of nursery sites which to provide tree seedlings some of the community members have experience in planting trees. Due to deforestation and drought the availability of fuel wood in the area is not enough this makes the women's to spent more than 2 hours per day for searching of fuel wood.

G. Crop Production

There were few agro-pastoralists with having experience in cultivation of maize crops as rain-fed agriculture during summer. But due to moisture stress they can't manage to harvest the grain.

H. Digging Wells

Previously the community in the area had experience in digging ela'as (traditional shallow wells) for household and livestock consumption. They used to dig up to 0.5m depth to find water but currently it is difficult to find water through digging by human labor. At the time of the survey the women's in the area spent 6 hours per day for fetching of water from other kebele of the woreda called Regden.

I. Nutrition

The communities in the area used to eat twice in the dry season and three times in wet season; the type of meals they used are different for various season of the year i.e. in the dry season the adults used shirro with traditional Afar bread by letting the little milk available to their children, in wet season they used milk with traditional Afar bread.

Due to the absence of Sugum rain in most part of the region for the last three years the communities in the area were faced with sever food shortage during the months of January to June locally called "Hagayi".

J. Suggestions

For further development of the area the communities around suggest the following points: -

- Supports on application of SWC measures for controlling soil erosion and protecting the valuable trees that are useful for supporting the livelihood of the surrounding communities.
- Upscaling of the WSW measures to treat the whole cascades of the dry valley.

Average Number of Livestock

Livestock Type	Average Number per Household during the Survey Period	Average Number per Household before 10 years	Remarks
Camel	4	10	
Cattel	10	100	
Goats	10	250	

Sheep	15	100	
Donkey	1	5	