

Summary of Initial Site Profile at Afar Region, Elida'ar Dry Valley (EW1W)

A. Basic Data

The survey was conducted on 29/03/22 in Afar regional state zone one Elida'ar woreda, specific name of the dry valley is Dangolo. The land tenure system of the area is communal. The type of interview conducted was a focus group discussion including both men and women with a total number of participants 17 household heads of which 3 were women headed. The average household size of the area is 6.

B. History of the Area

According to the respondents, in the past the area was covered with a variety of vegetations and the ground water was easily accessible then water wells locally called Ela'a were developed through a support from Turkshi government. But currently due to drought and land degradation things are changed and become a reverse. The biggest problem concerning the natural resource of the area is unavailability of water for both household and livestock consumption.

C. Scope of Users of Available Natural Resources (NR)

Due to the challenges mentioned above at present the natural resource of the area is used only for water sources with limited availabilities both for human and livestock. The estimated number of primary beneficiaries in the area is about 600 household heads out of this 300 are women headed. Moreover, during the dry season there are secondary users who are coming from other kebeles for sharing the available limited water. According to the respondents the estimated number of the secondary users is more than 400 household heads.

Because of the strong traditional resource sharing mechanism available within the communities, so far conflict was not occurred due to the secondary users coming from other area.

D. Livestock and Access to Pasture/Rangeland

Currently the available pasture (grass/trees) and water in the area is not enough for human and livestock consumption. To reduce the effect of land degradation the communities in the area had some experience on applying simple physical soil and water conservation measures like stone bund and gabion through the support of PSNP project.

The dry valley has been affected by an invasive species locally called Demboho which is not palatable by most of the livestock except donkey and goat, but the milk flavor is changed and the black meat for goats. The level of infestation slight and the communities in the area don't have a knowledge on how to prevent the further spreading of the species.

Currently the average number of livestock per household head in the area is summarized in the following table:

Livestock	Average Number of Livestock per Households
Camel	5
Cattle	2 – 3
Goats	15
Sheep	10
Donkey	2 – 3

Due to an external factor like drought; land degradation; lack of water and diseases the number of livestock's in the area is declined. As there are not enough trees in the area the communities in the area prefer to keep browsers (camel/goat) instead of grazers (cattle/sheep).

E. Water and Wood: Availability and Access

The communities in the dry valley have experience on accessing water from the traditional wells locally called Ela'a with a depth of 22.5m which was at lower depth before. These traditional wells are the only water source in the area for which less than one hour is enough to reach.

F. Trees/Shrubs

The tree species locally called Meka'ni; Eaeaby and Merkato are the most common and important tree species found in the area which are useful for fodder and firewood. But, the communities are not considering the numbers of trees/shrubs found in the village are enough for their livestock. The women's in the area spent on average more than 2 hours a day for collecting firewood. So far, the communities didn't have experience of propagating trees/shrubs, but they are interested and needs an external support.

G. Crops

As the area is drought prone and moisture stressed the community in the area don't have experience on cultivation of crops.

H. Organizational Issues within the User Community

Besides the traditional structures in the community there are two cooperatives engaged in livestock marketing and small business. The community in the area only have access to the daily livestock market mainly goat. So far, the communities of the area didn't face with conflicts over the uses of the natural resources but whenever it happened they have a strong traditional conflict resolution mechanism.

I. Skills and Income

Regarding the skills some of the communities in the area have an experience on making traditional handicraft.

J. Suggestions

For further development of the area the following points are suggested by the communities in the dry valley:

- The implementation of WSW measures needs a close follow up from the project.
- The woreda should mobilize the community.
- According to the MoU every part should