



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

ANNUAL REPORT OCTOBER 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2016

THE AGRICULTURE KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, DOCUMENTATION AND POLICY PROJECT



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ANNUAL REPORT OCTOBER 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2016

THE AGRICULTURE KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, DOCUMENTATION AND POLICY PROJECT

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The Agriculture Knowledge, Learning, Documentation and Policy project (AKLDP) is part of the U.S. Government's Feed the Future initiative in Ethiopia. The project supports improved practice and policy across a range of agriculture, food security and nutrition initiatives and programs. It provides analyses, reviews, evaluations and technical support to government, implementing partners and the private sector. The AKLDP covers Ethiopia's three main agro-ecological zones – high and low rainfall highland mixed farming and lowland pastoral – and therefore covers issues affecting agriculture, livestock and pastoralism. The project also provides collaborative learning support on climate change adaptation, nutrition and gender-equity.



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HIGHLIGHTS FROM YEAR THREE

EL NINO IN ETHIOPIA: REVIEWING IMPACTS AND RESPONSES

From 2015 into 2016 Ethiopia experienced a major drought, with 10.2 million people needing food assistance in addition to 7.9 million people supported by the Government's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP). This review covered the impacts of the drought and the emergency responses up to March 2016, with initial lessons focusing on the timeliness and scale of response, coordination, the use of contingency mechanisms by the Productive Safety Net Programme, and the increasing use of flexible funding and crisis modifiers by development projects. [AKLDP El Nino Review March 2016](#)

FOOD SECURITY IN ETHIOPIA IN 2016

This comprehensive food security assessment examines: local food supply and imports; the effects of food imports on price stability and food security; the logistics and distribution of imported food; and the performance of cereal and pulse markets. Key findings include estimates of the food deficit in 2016 and the levels of imported food required. [TUFTS 1640 El Nino market assessment V3 online](#)

FARMER PERSPECTIVES AND FOOD PRICE TRENDS

To support aid responses the AKLDP produced rapid analyses of the drought in Ethiopia. Field Notes summarized how farmers describe the devastating impacts of the drought in Amhara, Oromia and Tigray regions, and Food Price Briefs tracked rising cereal and pulse prices, and their food security implications. www.agri-learning-ethiopia.org/el-nino-impacts-in-ethiopia-farmers-perspectives/

NUTRITION-SENSITIVE AGRICULTURE

The AKLDP helped champion the Government's focus on nutrition-sensitive agriculture by supporting the development of the National Nutrition Program II design and the Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Strategy.

GENDER EQUITY STRATEGY FOR ETHIOPIA'S AGRICULTURE SECTOR

The AKLDP is working with Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Agriculture Transformation Agency to develop a gender equity strategy for the agriculture sector.

NEW RESEARCH ON AGRICULTURE AND PASTORALISM IN ETHIOPIA

Under the research grant program, university and other research partners finalized eight research reports with direct policy relevance to agriculture and pastoralism in Ethiopia. These reports will be published in late 2016.

AKLDP BLOGS

The AKLDP carried out an assessment among smallholder farmers in Oromia Region in November 2015 on the impact of bio-fertilizers on the yields of faba beans and chickpeas and follow-on cereal crops. The assessment threw-up an interesting non-bio-fertilizer related finding on the subject of post-harvest losses (PHL), which became the subject of the first AKLDP blog. A second blog continued the theme of post-harvest losses but with a shift in focus from wheat to teff. www.agri-learning-ethiopia.org/category/blog/



BACKGROUND TO THE AKLDP

The Government of the United States of America launched Feed the Future in 2011 to support increased investments and broad-based agriculture growth through improved productivity and improved resilience to shocks. In Ethiopia, Feed the Future is primarily implemented through USAID Ethiopia and its implementing partners, and has committed more than USD \$320 million to increase agriculture production and productivity, improve farmers' incomes, strengthen markets, address food security and improve household nutrition.

Within the Feed the Future portfolio, the AKLDP is tasked with helping USAID and its main implementing partners learn, document and take to scale evidence-based good practice; and to document and use good practice to inform and influence Ethiopia's policy and strategy processes in agriculture, food security and nutrition. The project is focused on agriculture and livestock development programs in Ethiopia's three main agro-ecological zones — high and low rainfall highland mixed farming, and lowland pastoral.

Feed the Future in Ethiopia has moved well beyond conventional international donor support for Ethiopia, and includes an ambitious program of investment in Ethiopia's more fertile highlands with a focus on agri-business and

markets, as well as more conventional support for food insecure and pastoral areas. The AKLDP was designed by USAID to use evidence to guide improved policy and programming across Feed the Future in Ethiopia, and was therefore structured around two Intermediate Results (IRs) viz. IR1 *Policies improved*, and IR2 *Agriculture development and resilience programs improved and evaluated*. These IRs are achieved using four main types of project activity: Coordination and Technical Support; Reviews, Evaluation, Studies, Analyses; Capacity Building and Grants; and Knowledge Services. In addition, the project supports both structured learning, which is planned in advance, and responsive learning that is more opportunistic and responds to unexpected issues and needs as they arise.

Sectorally, the AKLDP covers a broad set of policy and programming issues related to agriculture, livestock and pastoralist area development, as well as cross-cutting issues of climate change adaptation, nutrition and gender equity. The project works at different levels — from high-level policy analysis to field-level 'good practice' programming — and engages a very wide range of actors. The AKLDP works strategically to add value to existing programs and processes where possible, and combines rather than sets up parallel processes.

AKLDP'S EXPANDING ROLE

The Agriculture, Knowledge, Learning, Documentation and Policy project is a five-year project that started in January 2014. This third annual report covers the reporting period October 2015 to September 2016. The project is implemented by the [Feinstein International Center](#) at Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, [Tufts University](#). The [AKLDP Team](#) is a mix of economists and specialists in agronomy, agriculture, livestock, food and nutrition security, and crop and livestock marketing.

In 2015 the spring belg rains failed across large areas of Ethiopia and the impacts of a deep El Niño episode started to become evident through weak summer kiremt rains. The subsequent drought had a major impact on the direction and role of the AKLDP during its third year of operation. With the drought driving the world's third largest humanitarian crisis, and more than 10.2 million people in need of food assistance in Ethiopia, the AKLDP team undertook a large number of El Niño related tasks in addition to the structured tasks of the work plan. USAID was approached by the United Nations to request the temporary deployment of the AKLDP Chief of Party to be chair/facilitator of the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) for the Disaster Risk Management – Agriculture Task Force (DRM-ATF). The deployment was approved through to 31st December 2016. The AKLDP also supported the DRM ATF with two interns, one for emergency seeds and one for emergency livestock responses, whose work helped enable the SAG to mobilize additional donor funding for emergency responses.

The AKLDP is designed to respond to emerging issues and provide rapid analysis and technical support. This flexibility

has allowed the AKLDP team to react to the many requests for strategic guidance from Ethiopian humanitarian and development partners this year, and also to undertake its own practical research on the most relevant issues. The El Niño response work of the AKLDP has been highly valued; in particular the provision of climate data and forecasts, harvest predictions, food prices and other food security and agriculture sector recovery information for both government and non-government agencies.

During its first two years the AKLDP had established strong working relationships with government stakeholders and others across the agricultural sector; including the Ethiopian Institute of Agriculture Research (EIAR), the Agriculture Transformation Agency (ATA), CGIAR institutes, UN agencies and a range of development partners and international NGOs. During this third year of project activities the AKLDP has continued to provide policy and practical support to technical committees, task forces and working groups within the restructured Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The appointment of a new Senior Agronomist within AKLDP will now allow the work with the Cereals and Legumes Working Group, and the Roots and Tuber Crops Working Group to be continued. Similarly, the appointment of Dr. Bewket as the AKLDP Senior Livestock Advisor in May 2016 ensured the Public-Private Partnerships work and other livestock focused activities could be re-launched. The AKLDP team also benefited from two short-term undergraduate summer placements, which focused on the AKLDP-led Home Garden Network and using AKLDP's networks and resources to study climate change issues. A full list of AKLDP staff and consultants is given in annex IV.





PROJECT ACTIVITIES

This third annual report is structured according to the four main areas of AKLDP activity:

- Coordination and Technical Support
- Reviews, Evaluation, Studies, Analyses
- Capacity Building and Grants
- Knowledge Services

Each section summarizes the achievements for the planned activities (structured) as well as the more responsive activities that have arisen largely as a result of the El Niño episode. To further illustrate the progress against planned deliverables, more detailed examples of some of the activities that the AKLDP team and their partners have been involved in during the reporting period are presented within each section. A set of annexes provides additional information, including a summary of progress against the Intermediate and sub-Intermediate Results in the 2016 Work Plan.

The AKLDP first annual report covered the first nine months of the project to September 2014 see [AKLDP Annual Report 2014_web](#). The second annual report covered the period October 2014 to September 2015 see [AKLDP Annual Report 2015 web](#).

COORDINATION & TECHNICAL SUPPORT

The AKLDP project undertakes a set of structured learning and coordination activities based on policy and programming issues that have been prioritized with USAID and the GoE. Specifically, the AKLDP provides coordination and technical support to guide improvements in USAID agricultural programming and to support national development policies and strategies —particularly those geared towards assisting poorer households to benefit from agricultural and food security investment.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA

During 2015 the Ministry of Agriculture became the [Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources \(MoANR\)](#), a Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MoLF) was created, and a new State Ministry of Food Security and Rural Employment (SMoFSRA) was established. Collaborating with the GoE at many levels, the AKLDP has helped promote learning and ensure the wider understanding of good practice by using existing coordination mechanisms and establishing new ones, for example:

- Continued engagement with the Rural Economic Development and Food Security (RED&FS) Sector Working Group (SWG)¹, including contracting a Donor Coordinator to maintain a single RED&FS platform across different ministries.

¹ Out of 26 bilateral and multilateral development agencies providing assistance to Ethiopia 22 support the rural economic development and food security sectors in Ethiopia. They include (African Development Bank, Austria, Canada, European Union, FAO, Finland, France, Germany, IFAD, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UNDP, United Kingdom, United States, World Bank and World Food Program). The 22 donors are applying a division of labor amongst themselves. Each of the organizational arrangements within the Sector Working Group has two donor co-chairs who are responsible to lead the work under their respective arrangements and represent the donor community vis-à-vis the government. www.moa-redfs.gov.et/

- Engagement with various RED&FS SWG Technical Committees and Task Forces, including the:
 - *Livestock and Fisheries Production and Marketing Technical Committee*: This committee supports three task forces – mixed crop-livestock, pastoral and agro-pastoral, and fisheries and aquaculture. The AKLDP is an active member of the technical committee and two of the three task forces – mixed crop-livestock and pastoral and agro-pastoral. The AKLDP is also the co-chair of the pastoral and agro-pastoral task force.
 - *Animal Health and Feed Quality Control – Technical Committee*: This committee supports two task forces for animal health and feed quality control. The AKLDP is an active member of the technical committee and is co-chair for both of these task forces.
 - *Veterinary Services and Drug and Feed Quality Control Task Forces*: establishment and co-chairing of regular meetings.
 - *Private Sector Development Task Force (PSDTF)*: work on the policy revisions and institutional strengthening recommendations for the New Alliance Cooperation Framework for Ethiopia. Developed with significant input from the AKLDP, this represents a major policy success that was endorsed by H.E. the State Minister.
 - *Agriculture Research and Technology Taskforce (ART-TF)*: support on developing the terms of reference and annual planning.
- Engagement with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, including the undertaking of a feasibility study of different public private partnership (PPP) options across different livestock sector infrastructure and services.
- Liaison with the Directorate for Agriculture Extension and Planning and the Programming Directorate on various

issues, such as the nutrition sensitive agriculture strategy and the re-launch of bi-annual M&E forum.

- Participation and promotion of new groups such as the Gender Equality Network Advisory Group.
- Reviewing the Growth and Transformation Plan II (GTP2) and participating in harmonization workshops for the livestock sector.
- Supporting the national consultation workshop on forage seed and forage seed industry development for improved livestock productivity.
- Supporting the [Agriculture Transformation Agency \(ATA\)](#) and in particular with the provision of consultants to support the Women's Affairs Directorate to prepare the Gender Equity Strategy for Ethiopia's Agriculture Sector.
- Providing Support to the Ministry of Health in areas related to nutrition, including the editing and redesign of the National Nutrition Program (NNP) implementation guidelines and the SURE (Sustainable Under-nutrition Reduction in Ethiopia) training of trainers program.

SUPPORT TO USAID

The AKLDP provides coordination and technical support to USAID and its Feed the Future Implementing Partners (IPs) primarily through the establishment and facilitation of collaborative learning groups (see text box: example I). Support is also provided through the facilitation of the Feed the Future Quarterly Meetings. A meeting on gender was held in November 2015; the meeting on Information Communication Technology (ICT) for extension and scale up held in March was regarded as one of the best to date [report-of-march-ftf-meeting-on-ict](#); whilst in June the Feed the Future meeting looked at Reducing Post Harvest Losses [report-ftf-meeting-reducing-post-harvest-losses-sf](#)

Collaborating with the GoE at many levels, the AKLDP has helped promote learning and ensure the wider understanding of good practice using both existing coordination mechanisms and by establishing new ones.

The AKLDP also provides support at the USAID Gender Champions meetings.

SUPPORT TO DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

See detailed list of technical assistance requests in annex II.

SUPPORT TO THE EL NIÑO HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

During 2015, in response to the El Niño and the associated drought, the AKLDP began dividing its resources for coordination and technical support between its routine development work and supporting the activities of the humanitarian sector. This support continued through 2016 when it became clear that the El Niño was one of the strongest in modern history. As a learning project the AKLDP did not respond operationally, but played a strong role in supporting the humanitarian sector, especially with strategic guidance and rapid technical analyses. Our technical support to key stakeholders in Government and non-government agencies recognized that more informed action would help reduce the impacts of the El Niño on agricultural output and the national economy (see text box: example 2).



COORDINATION & TECHNICAL SUPPORT (CONTINUED)

The AKLDP El Niño response work included support for the preparation of the *2016 Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD)*, which was launched in Geneva and Addis Ababa in December 2015. The AKLDP subsequently produced the *DRM ATF Revised El Niño Related Disaster Preparedness and Response Road Map – January to December*

2016. Since then the AKLDP has continued to work with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA), and a small group of senior humanitarians, to hone and up-date El Niño response messaging for development partners. For example, the AKLDP has attended meetings of the Inter-Cluster Information

Management Working Group and provided analyses on areas for improved coordination and response, including issues related to the Belg Assessment and HRD revision. The AKLDP also participated in the joint-response planning workshop to establish a clearly prioritized inter-cluster response strategy in support of government, and provided a presentation on learning from the experiences of successful Ethiopia drought responses in the past.

In mid-April the AKLDP COP was invited to establish and Chair the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) that supports the UN Agriculture and Food Security Cluster/ Disaster Risk Management – Agriculture Task Force (DRM ATF) to provide strategic and technical guidance to the Cluster on the El Niño response. Subsequently, the SAG has met twice monthly. Since April, the SAG has produced the following:

- Terms of Reference and Key Deliverables
- Emergency Seeds Response – Framework for Action
- Emergency Livestock Response – Framework for Action
- Emergency Seeds Response – Operational Guidelines
- Emergency Livestock Response – Operational Guidelines
- Resource mobilization for the Emergency Seeds and Livestock Working Groups
- Support to the Emergency Seeds Working Group including monitoring and reporting on progress
- Support to the Emergency Livestock Working Group including monitoring and reporting on progress
- Indian Ocean Dipole briefing paper
- Livestock Contingency Plan – October 2016 to July 2017
- A number of other studies, reviews and analyzes were also generated within the AKLDP as part of its broader work on the drought response. The key documents include:



- Researching and producing the report *Assessment of Meher 2015/16 Crop Production Market Function and Implications for Food Security in Calendar Year 2016*
- Responding to requests for 'conservative' and 'worst-case scenario' 2015 meher harvest estimates and tracking imports to estimate the food gap using a simple food availability diagnostic
- Producing monthly Food Price Briefs for key commodities – maize, sorghum, wheat and teff and pulses (see for example: <http://www.agri-learning-ethiopia.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/AKLDP-FPB-Maize-Sorghum-Feb-2016.pdf>)
- Contracting the UK Meteorological Office to produce monthly seasonal forecasts for Ethiopia
- A set of Field Notes that summarized the findings of visits to rural areas of Ethiopia in which interviews were conducted with young women farmers, local government workers, traders and others. The Field Notes summarize the impacts of the drought on crop harvests, food and livestock prices, and describe the local coping strategies (see text box: example 3 in next section).

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 1

Establishment and facilitation of collaborative learning groups

A key task of the AKLDP during this year has been the continued organization of regular meetings, field visits and information sharing events for the collaborative learning groups, whilst ensuring the mainstreaming of these networks within government structures. Events this year include:

- *Cereals and legumes group*. Cereals and legumes are major crops for millions of farmers in Ethiopia. October 2015 saw the third meeting of the group focus on wheat – bread and durum – which is grown by around 4.5 million Ethiopian smallholders. Despite years of research, extension and a doubling of production, Ethiopia continues to import more than half-million metric tons of wheat annually. This meeting looked at what can be done to reduce imports and boost wheat production. [CLG Proceedings 3rd](#) A Maize value chain event was also held in March.
- *Soil Health and fertility management*. A Stakeholders Workshop on Transforming Soil Health and Fertility Management for Sustainable Increased Agricultural Productivity was held in November 2015 with the Ministry of Agriculture and AKLDP. [Soil Workshop Proceedings FINAL](#)
- *Feed for livestock in Ethiopia*. A National Consultation Workshop on Forage and Forage-Seed Industry Development for Improved Livestock Production and Productivity was held in Addis Ababa in November 2015 with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI),

MoLF, ATA, and the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR). [CWFFS Proceedings FINAL](#)

- *Home gardens network*. The quarterly meetings of the network continued. The Technical and Operational Performance Support (TOPS) program facilitated a permagarden Training of Trainers (ToT) in Addis Ababa in February 2016. This training was part of the knowledge strengthening activities conducted by the Agriculture and Natural Resource Management component of the program. The event was co-hosted by the Ethiopia Home Garden Network coordinated by the AKLDP. The ToT prepared participants to lead three-day permagarden trainings for farmers and gardeners by teaching the permagarden method and lessons in adult learning. [TOPS ANRM National Network Case Study May 2016](#) In March 2016 a three-day training on permagardens was conducted at the SOS Children Villages, Hawassa for staff and local residents involved in gardening. [AKLDP Permagarden training](#) Further training sessions were also held in July and August.
- *Poultry working group*. Launched in June 2016, the AKLDP has helped facilitate an annual planning process and supported the training of poultry specialists to review Ethiopia's commercial poultry farms.
- *Agro-ecology working group*. Launched in May with steering committee meetings held in July and September.

COORDINATION & TECHNICAL SUPPORT (CONTINUED)

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 2

Technical support for the El Niño humanitarian response

The AKLDP received and responded to a large number of requests for meetings to provide information and advice on the deepening food crisis. Along with the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Ethiopia, the AKLDP made the introductory address to the breakfast briefing ahead of a High Level Round Table event co-hosted by the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon and Ethiopia's Deputy Prime Minister. Other requests include:

Ambassador of Ireland: the AKLDP was invited to a meeting with the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for El Niño and Climate Change at the Embassy of Ireland.

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: the AKLDP was requested to provide its view of the short, medium and longer-term impact of the El Niño on smallholder farmers in Ethiopia.

CRS: the AKLDP met the CRS early warning consultant to discuss ways EWS can be strengthened and better coordinated, and result in improved analysis and messaging.

Donor Assistance Group: the AKLDP made the closing remarks at a DAG Secretariat meeting in which sectors were asked to make a short structured presentation.

ECHO: the AKLDP provided a briefing to the in-coming Head of Office, Mrs. Segolene De-Beco, on the agriculture sector response to the 2015 El Niño drought response.

European Union: The AKLDP participated in an informal early recovery meeting hosted by the EU. The meeting agreed to make a recommendation to launch an Emergency Seed Working Group that was subsequently approved by the DRMFS.

GOAL: the AKLDP met with the Country Director and Desk Officer – Ethiopia, from Ireland, to discuss the La Niña/ Indian Ocean Dipole and to identify meaningful early interventions.

International Monetary Fund: the AKLDP met the visiting delegation undertaking the annual Article IV consultations to discuss the impact of the drought on sector aggregates.

OFDA-DART: the AKLDP was asked by a member of the OFDA-DART team to provide an overview of the drought.

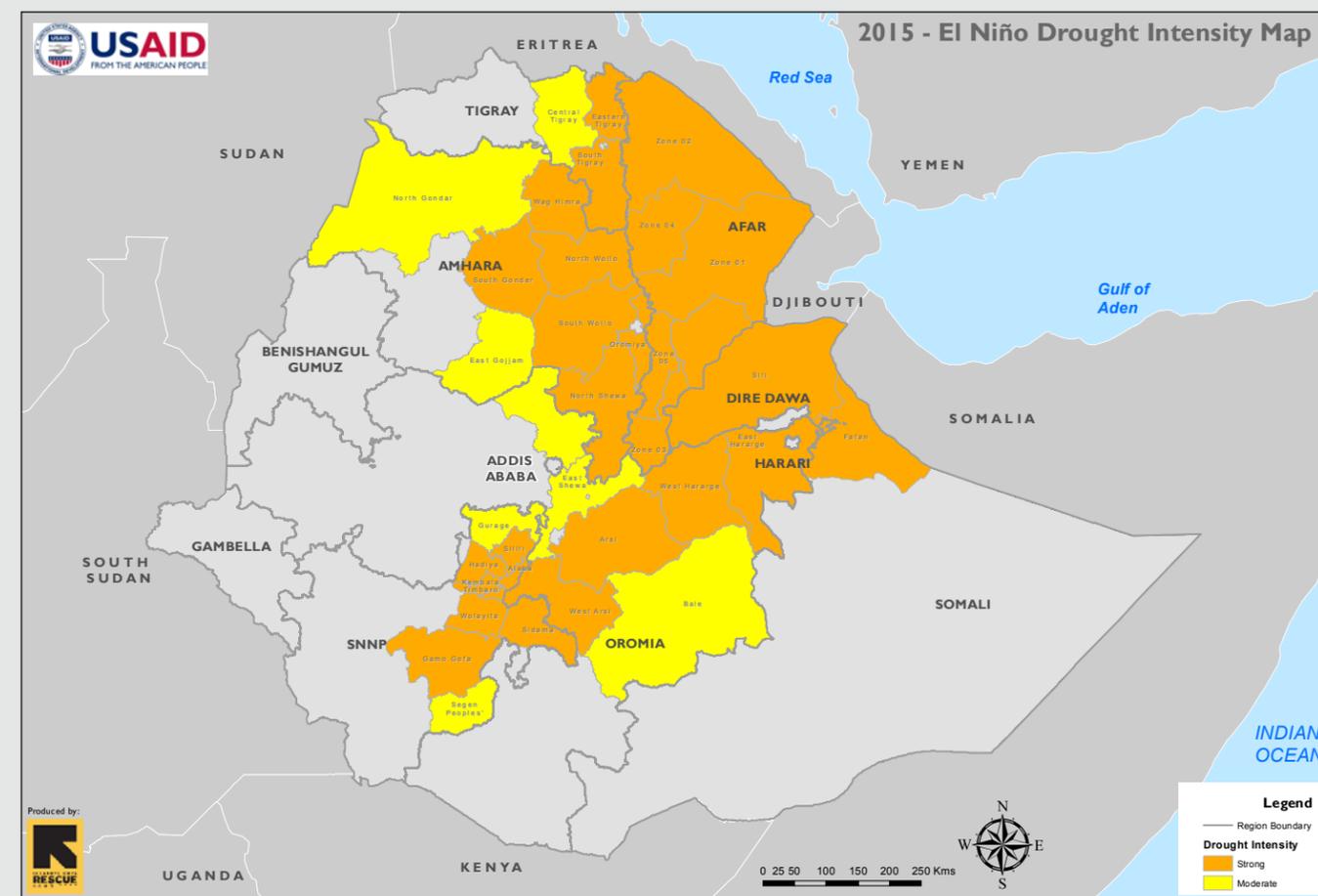
UN-OCHA-led Food Group: the AKLDP was invited to attend a meeting organized by the Humanitarian Coordinators and DFID, USAID-FFP, WFP and the World Bank to discuss food pipelines and therefore assess the potential food availability shortfall in 2016. At the meeting the AKLDP presented the Food Availability Diagnostic.

Save the Children International (SCI): the AKLDP met senior SCI visitors including SC-UK's Head of Emergencies and SCI Head of Programs. The AKLDP made a short presentation on the deepening El Niño episode, followed by a question and answer session. It was agreed that SCI would do more to lobby through informal channels with the result that the UK and other European governments did more to support Ethiopia to contain the emerging food security crisis.

UK Met Office: the AKLDP met the UK Met Office's Strategic Partnerships Manager – Global, to discuss the quality and use of the commissioned UK Met Office monthly up-dates. At a later meeting the AKLDP confirmed the reports were widely appreciated.

UNICEF: the AKLDP was invited by the Country Representative to meet with the UNICEF WASH team to discuss the El Niño response, including multi-sectoral and WASH coordination.

US Embassy: The AKLDP team made a presentation on the status of the Emergency Seed Response at the USAID Emergency Task Force at the US Embassy weekly meeting.



USAID: The AKLDP hosted a visit of the Mission Director and Head of Office, EG&T to discuss the El Niño episode and related agriculture sector issues. The AKLDP participated in a Feed and Fodder meeting and met with FAO to promote the launch of an Emergency Livestock Feed Working Group under the DRM ATF. The AKLDP together with representatives of UN-OCHA and WFP also met with senior management from the USAID/FFP-

funded contract with FEWS NET, including the Washington-based Chief of Party. The AKLDP met and provided market price analysis to two USAID/FFP and OFDA market specialists.

WFP: the AKLDP provided information to the Country Director, WFP ahead of a WFP Executive Board meeting on priority agriculture sector-related early recovery interventions.

REVIEWS, EVALUATION, STUDIES, ANALYSIS

The AKLDP focuses on assessing the functioning and effectiveness of programs to identify what works, what doesn't, why or why not, and what could be done better.

The AKLDP provides structured support for USAID and Feed the Future partners, government agencies, coordination forums and partner organizations. This support includes mid-term reviews, evaluations and impacts studies to help address information and learning gaps. The AKLDP focuses on assessing the functioning and effectiveness of programs to identify what works, what



doesn't, why or why not, and what could be done better. Consultancy teams containing the most experienced experts are brought together, and where appropriate, conduct extensive and participatory local and regional consultations. The findings from assessments are widely disseminated among stakeholders in partnership with the GoE, addressing challenges where programs need to change direction and providing the guidance needed to do so. During the third year of the project, reviews and studies conducted by the AKLDP have included:

REVIEWS AND EVALUATIONS

Ethiopia's Agriculture Sector Policy And Investment Framework (2010-2020): External Mid-Term Review, October 2015. This mid-term review (MTR) was undertaken at the end of the first five years of its implementation; this was also the period for the first Growth and Transformation Plan (GTPI). The objectives were to evaluate the relevance and performance of the PIF for the prioritization and planning of investments and policy development in the agricultural sector, and to provide guidance on the proposed revision of PIF to enhance its role as a strategic tool for the sector. [Agriculture Policy MTR_FINAL](#)

Rapid Assessment Of Feed The Future – Nutrition Capacity Building, March 2016. This review focuses on the capacity-building activities of the Feed The Future project Empowering New Generations to Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunities (ENGINE) in Ethiopia. [TUFTS_1609_Nutrition_CBA_V4_online](#)

A Review Of Feed The Future Collaboration With The Government Of Ethiopia's Agriculture Growth Program, April 2016. This review focuses on two Feed the Future projects, AGP-Agribusiness and Market Development and AGP-



Livestock Marketing Development. It identifies areas of good practice and areas where improvements would lead to stronger collaboration between the Feed the Future program and the GOE's Agriculture Growth Program (AGP). [ff-agp-collaboration-review](#)

Performance Evaluation Of The Ethiopia Development Credit Authority, May 2016. The Development Credit

Authority (DCA) aims to motivate private commercial banks to provide loans to small and medium enterprises by offering partial credit guarantees. This performance evaluation assessed the DCA using six main indicators: appropriateness of the design; utilization; credit additionality; financial sustainability; program sustainability; and impact on borrowers. [DCA evaluation_FINAL](#)

REVIEWS, EVALUATION, STUDIES, ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)

STUDIES AND ANALYSES

Ethiopia Bellmon Analysis 2015/16 And Reassessment Of Crop Production And Marketing For 2014/15, October 2015. This Bellmon Analysis was conducted before the major drought in Ethiopia in 2015 to 2016, and so provides information on food security, market performance and food imports before the drought. [Read the report](#)

Improving Crop Yields In Ethiopia: Early Impacts From Rhizobia-Inoculated Legume Seed, February 2016. This Technical Brief summarizes the results of an impact assessment of the use of bio-fertiliser on chickpea and faba bean yields, as well as yields of follow-on cereals. [AKLDP Inoculants brief Feb 2016](#)

The AKLDP also provides opportunistic and responsive support to address key issues and questions as they emerge during the lifetime of the project. From 2015 into 2016 Ethiopia experienced a major drought, with at least 18 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. As well as the coordination and technical support provided by the AKLDP, a considerable number of technical studies and briefings were produced as invaluable documentation support during the El Niño episode.

REVIEWS AND EVALUATIONS – EL NIÑO

El Niño In Ethiopia, 2015-2016: A Real-Time Review of Impacts And Responses, March 2016. This review covers the impacts of the drought and the emergency responses up to March 2016, with initial lessons focusing on the timeliness and scale of response, coordination, the use of contingency

² A Bellmon Analysis is required by US Federal law to determine that adequate storage facilities are available in the recipient country to prevent the spoilage or waste of commodity and importation of the commodity will not result in a substantial disincentive to or interference with domestic production or marketing in that country.

mechanisms by the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), and the increasing use of flexible funding and crisis modifiers by development projects. [AKLDP El Niño Review March 2016](#)

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 3 Studies to inform El Niño drought response

- AKLDP Field Notes Amhara Region [AKLDP Field Notes Amhara Jan 2016](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes South Tigray Zone [AKLDP Field Notes Tigray Jan 2016](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes – South Tigray [AKLDP field notes Tigray update Feb 2016.docx](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes Oromia Region [AKLDP Oromia Field Notes sf](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes – El Niño and Households Debts in Amhara National Regional State [AKLDP Debts in Amhara](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes – El Niño and Indebtedness in Tigray National Regional State, June 2016 [AKLDP Indebtedness study](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes – El Niño and Indebtedness in Oromia National Regional State, June 2016 [akldp-indebtedness-oromia-final](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes – Impacts of drought on young rural women in Amhara National Regional State, June 2016 [El Niño Impacts Rural Women](#)
- AKLDP Field Notes – El Niño in Ethiopia: Impacts of Drought on Young Rural Women in Eastern Amhara National Regional State, October 2016 [akldp-field-notes-east-amhara](#)

Using Good Practice Guidelines For Livestock Support During Drought In Ethiopia, March 2016. This review covers organizational capacities to use the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS), and the Government of Ethiopia's National Guidelines for Livestock Relief Interventions in Pastoralist Areas, during the El Niño drought in Ethiopia in 2015-16. [LEGS El Niño Ethiopia 2016](#)

STUDIES AND ANALYSES – EL NIÑO

El Niño In Ethiopia: Analyzing The Summer Kiremt Rains In 2015, December 2015. This Technical Brief reviews rainfall in Ethiopia from June to September 2015 by reference to 30-year averages, and uses maps to show geographical variations

in rainfall across the country. The impact of the failed summer rains is explained in terms of agricultural production, and by reference to Ethiopia's Humanitarian Requirements Document. [AKLDP El Niño Rains Technical Brief](#)

Food Security In Ethiopia In 2016: Analysing Crop Production And Market Function After The Main Meher Agricultural Season, April 2016. This comprehensive food security assessment examines: local food supply and imports; the effects of food imports on price stability and food security; the logistics and distribution of imported food; and the performance of cereal and pulse markets. Key findings include estimates of the food deficit in 2016 and levels of imported food required. [TUFTS 1640 El Niño market assessment V3 online](#)



CAPACITY BUILDING & GRANTS

During 2016 the AKLDP's focus has been on supporting the universities to complete the research and produce quality reports that contribute to policy dialogue in Ethiopia.

The AKLDP includes a capacity building component targeted at supporting higher education and research institutes at national and regional levels in Ethiopia to undertake research on agriculture sector issues. The emphasis is particularly on policy-relevant research. During the first year of the project an AKLDP grant fund was established to support capacity building of selected organizations. AKLDP staff identified research topics that would contribute to Feed the Future learning in Ethiopia, and targeted lead research institutions with a proven track record in delivering high quality research. During 2015 the first tranche of funding (70 percent) was awarded to eight research proposals and the universities began undertaking their research. During 2016 the focus has been on supporting the universities to complete the research and produce quality reports that contribute to policy dialogue



in Ethiopia. All the research reports have now been edited, designed and printed. The reports are:

- Dietary diversity and associated factors among rural households, South Gondar Zone, North West Ethiopia, Bahir Dar University and Gondar University.
- Economic linkage between pastoralists and farmers in Ethiopia: Evidence from Afar and Borena areas, and adjacent highland areas, Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute of the Ethiopian Economics Association in collaboration with Debrebirhan University and Bule Hora University.
- Smallholder farmers' perception, attitude and management of trees in farmed landscapes in north eastern Ethiopia, Wollo University.
- Assessment of the magnitude and causes of young stock mortality in major production systems of Ethiopia, Gondar University in collaboration with Samara University, Jigjiga University, Jimma University, BRVL and NAHDIC.
- Spate irrigation for fodder production in Ascoma District, Eli Weha woreda, Afar Regional State, Ethiopia, Samara University and National Regional State Water Resource Bureau.
- The economic value of milk in Somali Regional State, Jigjiga University.
- Effects of herbicide application in wheat crop and on honey bee populations in Ethiopia, Madawalabu University, Ministry of Agriculture, Tigray Region Agriculture Research Institute, Amhara Region Agriculture Research Institute.
- The economic value of hides and skins in Jarrar and Shabelle Zones, Somali Region, Ethiopia, Jigjiga University

The research findings on the [Assessment of the magnitude and causes of young stock mortality in major production systems](#)

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 4

[Findings from the research study *Assessment of the magnitude and causes of young stock mortality in major production systems of Ethiopia*](#)

Livestock is one of the most important sectors in subsistence agriculture and the quest to attain human food security and welfare in Ethiopia. The country has the largest inventory of livestock in the continent, but production is severely affected for various reasons. A single visit survey was undertaken in July and August 2015 with the purpose of determining the annual mortality during June 2014 to June 2015, and investigating the major causes of young stock mortality under different livestock production settings. The study was undertaken in herds from mixed crop-livestock (n = 747), pastoral (n = 452), and peri-urban and urban dairy (n = 332) production systems. One-year retrospective data were collected from livestock owners by interview using semi-structured questionnaires and direct observation of farm practices.

Participatory investigation techniques were used to identify and prioritize causes of young stock mortality. In mixed crop-livestock production systems, mean annual mortality (birth-to-weaning) was reported in the range of 9.2 – 14 percent in calves, 14.9 – 33.5 percent in lambs, and 17.6 – 24 percent in kids. The pre-parturient loss in terms of abortion and stillbirth was 3.0 – 8.7 percent in cattle, 7.5 – 8 percent in lambs, and 9.3 – 14.4 percent in kids. Annual calf mortality in the urban and peri-urban dairy production system was reported in the

range of 15.3 – 25 percent. The premature loss from stillbirth was 6.2 – 14.4 percent. In the pastoral production system, the annual birth-to-weaning mortality of young stock was reported as 26 – 29.2 percent in cattle, 32.5 – 35 percent in camel calves, and 35 – 36 percent in lambs and kids. The premature death rate (abortion and stillbirth) was 17.4 – 21.2 percent in cattle, 23.4 – 48.8 percent in camels, and 25 – 41 percent in small ruminants. Age-specific mortality across production systems declined with increased age, with the highest mortality recorded between the first and third month of life. Regardless of the production system, disease and malnutrition were the most important causes of mortality in young stock.

Among the diseases, diarrhea and respiratory disorders were important causes of young stock mortality. Malpractices in young stock management were identified, including restricted colostrum and milk feeding, poor care and supplemental feeding, and poor health management. Livestock keepers appeared to be aware of the challenges of young stock, but seemed to have inadequate knowledge to deal with the challenges. Interventions in health and husbandry are recommended to control young stock mortality.

Lead Researcher: Dr Tsegaw Fentie, University of Gondar

[of Ethiopia](#) (see text box: example 4) were presented to the State Ministry of Animal Health and Feed Quality Control and bureau heads. The findings were also presented to a number of other institutes, including the National Animal Health Diagnostic and Investigation Centre (NAHDIC) and the National Veterinary Institutes (NVI). The research findings were subsequently endorsed as a Government approved Working Document, which means that all related proposals and budgets are required to reference the

document. The AKLDP then hosted a 15-day meeting of MoLF, ILRI, FAO, Addis Ababa University, Gondar University and NAHDIC which looked at designing and testing technical packages for reducing mortality, which led to a proposal for a pilot program of 6 technical packages in different agro-ecologies. The proposal has now been funded to the value of US\$ 600,000 by the USAID funded Livestock Innovation Lab that is implemented by Florida University.

KNOWLEDGE SERVICES

Knowledge services play a key role in supporting all the activities of the AKLDP. The AKLDP staff are frequently required to produce rapid, succinct and evidence-based analyses, either as verbal briefings or as written documents in different formats. Requests come from GoE or other development partners involved in policy and programming, who are in need of relevant, focused and practical information to help them understand the issues they have to deal with on a daily basis. New AKLDP research and analysis is also presented to donors, government, program partners and other actors at opportune events.



In the past year, AKLDP staff have continued to respond to the large number of requests for technical support by providing comments and advice on proposals, research papers, strategic planning processes, sector reviews, etc. Examples are provided in annex II. During this reporting period the AKLDP team has also participated in many workshops and conferences, acting as facilitators or rapporteurs, providing advice, or presenting papers on AKLDP related thematic areas (See text box: example 5). The AKLDP are also frequently asked to make presentations at training events and to delegations visiting Ethiopia.

During the third year of the project, AKLDP staff have continued to respond to the large number of requests for technical support by providing comments and advice on proposals, research papers, strategic planning processes, and sector reviews.

The AKLDP project website provides a key information source for recent and relevant resource materials.

During this year the AKLDP worked with a design company to improve the website, permitting blogs and more interactive discussions with users. The blog is now operational and has been introduced to key stakeholders. Blogs are posted by staff members and other contributors by invitation only, to ensure quality and accountability. Through Google Analytics the AKLDP is now tracking who is using the website. www.agri-learning-ethiopia.org

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 5

Workshops and conferences with AKLDP participation Oct 2015-Sept 2016

Africa Sustainable Development Forum: The first African Sustainable Development Forum

African Food and Nutrition Forum: 4th African Food and Nutrition Forum

AgriProFocus: Youth in Agribusiness

Bahir Dar University: Launch of the Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Studies

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: Ethiopian Multi-sectoral Discussion on Nutrition

Canadian NGOs Group (CANGO): Learning Event on Resilience

Center for Rural Development, Humbolt University, held at ILRI: Scenarios of rural transformation in arid and semi-arid lowlands of Ethiopia

Ethiopian Institute of Agriculture Research: 50th Golden Jubilee Anniversary celebrations – Crops Research Symposium, Agricultural Economics and Extension Research in Ethiopia

and the Way Forward Symposium. Road Map for Ethiopia's Agriculture Research Council. International Year of the Pulses 2016. Launch workshop of the Ethiopian Institute of Soil Resources.

Ethiopia Society of Rural Development and Agricultural Extension: 2nd Annual Conference

Ethiopian Economics Association: International Conference on the Ethiopian Economy

EU and Italian Development Cooperation: Roundtable on Pastoral Nutrition

EU Delegation in collaboration with Agri Pro Focus: Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Innovation Platform

EU Delegation with FAO: Nutrition Capacity Needs Assessment Consultation Workshop

Forum for Social Studies: Climate Resilient Green Economy public dialogue. Workshop on 'Natural Resources Use, Management and Livelihood in Dry-land Ethiopia'

Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences (IFAS), University of Florida (UF) hosted at ILRI: Feed the Future Innovation Lab workshop

Ministry of Agriculture: Nutrition-sensitive Agriculture Strategic Planning workshop

National Veterinary Institute, Debrezeit: Animal Health Research and Development Linkages panel consultative workshop

Oxfam with Sustainable Environment and Development Action and MoANR: Female Food Heroes Award

Oxfam, University East Anglia and Addis Ababa University: Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions workshop

Padova University Italy, with Addis Ababa, Mekelle and Hope Universities: Sustainable and Agro-ecologically-Compatible Development Options in Ethiopian and Sub-Saharan – Summer School

St. Mary University: Agricultural Policy, Development and Transformation in Ethiopia seminar

Synergos Institute: Annual retreat 'Overview of the state of Ethiopia's Agriculture'

UN-ECA: 3rd National Cooperatives' Exhibition, Bazaar & Symposium. 4th World Coffee Conference

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, and Good to Grow Plc, in collaboration with Ethiopian Institute of Architecture and Building Construction and City Development (EiABC): Sustainable Solid Waste Management Workshop

USAID: ENGINE Project Handover and Dissemination Workshop (Jhpigo), ENGINE Research Symposium. ENGINE Closeout Event. Global Alliance – Livelihoods in Transition Workshop (Africa Lead II).

Women's Affairs Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources in collaboration with the Agriculture Transformation Agency and IFPRI: 'Gender and Agriculture: Reviewing the evidence and the way forward'. Launch of The National Network for Gender Mainstreaming in Agriculture

PROGRESS AGAINST WORK PLAN

REPORTING PERIOD: OCTOBER 2015 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2016

STRUCTURED LEARNING COMPONENT

IR 1: AGRICULTURE SECTOR POLICIES IMPROVED			
Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Result	Progress to Date
<p>Sub IR 1.1</p> <p>Agriculture policy environment improved - livestock, irrigation, seed, biotech, land policy & administration, and pastoral land, price controls, grain storage and climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support selected New Alliance policy processes: PPP for management of livestock infrastructure for export, smallholder seed systems, agro-ecology for climate change Support revision of Ethiopia's Rural Development Strategy for improved poverty reduction and nutrition outcomes in rural areas Support review of Livestock Master Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active participation at PSDTF Studies and analyses support progress of NA policy revisions Studies to support revision of Rural Development Strategy Study of Livestock Master Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active participation in PSDTF: revising ToRs and reviewing Grow Africa 2015 Annual Report, sharing information, promoting focus on rural jobs, and progressing revision of NA policy commitments Livestock specialist recruited and PPP policy work for livestock infrastructure reinvigorated. ToRs produced for feasibility study of livestock infrastructure and services. Draft paper on Agro-Ecology produced.
<p>Sub IR 1.2</p> <p>Ministries lead participatory evidence-based policy dialogue with stakeholders resulting in improved agriculture, livestock and nutrition policies and strategies for the three Ethiopias: "adequate moisture, moisture deficit and pastoral"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support studies to strengthen Ethiopia's agriculture growth strategy and associated interventions Support evidence-based participatory policy dialogue on extension services and gender in agriculture and nutrition-sensitive agriculture Support evidence-based drought resilience policy dialogue including reviews of El Niño impact and response at macro and household-level – indebtedness and nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support participatory dialogue with analyses and studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zero draft of Gender in Agriculture developed Nutrition expert provided to review manuals and guides. MoANR agrees to provide liaison person for joint learning events National Nutrition Program implementation guidelines finalized and with Ministers for endorsement. Support given to SURE. Strategy Paper developed for NDRMC - for duration of the drought DRM ATF should report to them
<p>Sub IR 1.3</p> <p>The findings from research/ impact assessments, cost-benefit analysis, performance evaluations and recommendations disseminated among stakeholders and discussed with Ministries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead performance studies on SHF seed, fertilizer/ soil health and mechanization interventions – related to Sub IR 1.1 Support performance evaluations in pastoral SLM, carbon sequestration in the rangelands, livestock feed and mortality interventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality studies inform decision-making and policy and strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and Programming Directorate and the AKLDP working together on the PPD Bi-annual Forum.
<p>Sub IR 1.4</p> <p>The function and effectiveness of existing, piloted and proposed agriculture policies and strategies are identified and researched on a demand-driven basis. (e.g. what works, what doesn't, why or why not, what are models from other countries?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support ATA Agriculture Commercialization Clusters operationalize revised New Alliance policy recommendations – sub IR: 1.1 Support demand driven research on improved drought resilience including improved cereal management – import/ export/ SGR – and emergency seed and livestock interventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality studies inform decision-making and policy and strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept note on mapping agricultural investments Active engagement with ATA tasks

IR 1: AGRICULTURE SECTOR POLICIES IMPROVED (CONTINUED)

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Result	Progress to Date
<p>Sub IR 1.5</p> <p>Policies identified and implemented to promote integrated public policy for agriculture to address the nutrition and health needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support finalization and mainstreaming of nutrition-sensitive agriculture strategy Conduct follow nutrition-sensitive agriculture studies of barriers to up-take 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy disseminated and mainstreamed Quality studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note prepared on AKLDP contributions to Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture strategy. AKLDP review of latest NSA draft in English and Amharic.
<p>Sub IR 1.6</p> <p>Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First round of research outputs published Second round capacity building grants awarded academic institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First round research reports edited and published Second-round grants awarded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (See example 4 in main text) Reports from 7 university groups moved to final printing stage and dissemination.

IR 2: AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMS IMPROVED AND EVALUATED

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Result	Progress to Date
<p>Sub IR 2.1</p> <p>Collaboration and coordination is achieved across USAID, GoE and other donor programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TA support to the MoANR and MoLF Support to AGP, SLM, Livestock and NDRMC TCs/ TFs for improved coordination, learning and documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TA support to GoE requests Well supported TCs and TFs for improved decision-making and coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (See example 5 in main text) Extensive participation and presentations by AKLDP staff at events across the sector—includes participation in technical committees, task forces and advisory groups. 'Food Security to 2030' concept paper presented to RED&FS Executive Committee.
<p>Sub IR 2.2</p> <p>Through collaborative learning networks, lessons learned about 'good practices' are systemically incorporated and scaled-up across on-going and new activities/ interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainstream AKLDP working groups: perma-gardens; cereals and legumes and roots and tubers Roll-out lessons learned on soil inoculants Support Soil Health network Launch new working groups - extension, oil crops, poultry, PHL, bees and livestock with relevant GoE departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Networks organize regular meetings, field visits and information sharing events Mainstreaming of networks within Government structures Strategies and policies and appropriate institutional development supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (See example 1 in main text) Home Gardens Network quarterly meetings held, field visit conducted and two training courses conducted Maize Value Chain event held for Cereals and Legumes group Soil Health workshop proceedings published Agro-ecology working group discussed. Agro-ecology Network Steering Committee meeting held. Agro-ecology Working Group launched. Poultry Working Group launched in June. Annual planning process undertaken and deployment of specialists to review commercial poultry farms.
<p>Sub IR 2.3</p> <p>Capacity for "learning cycle" strengthened (i.e. evaluation, knowledge capture/ synthesis, best practices identified, incorporated in program design, and implemented)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate FTF quarterly meetings on topical agriculture sector themes for improved poverty reduction and nutrition outcomes Support USAID's gender champions and the MoANR Gender Platform Support USAID's nutrition group including associated field assessments and studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist USAID organize quarterly meetings and other network meetings # FTF related special studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FTF quarterly meeting held on ICT for Extension and Scaling-Up. FTF quarterly meeting held hosted on Post Harvest Losses FTF Quarterly Meeting proceedings circulated. Attendance at Gender Champions meetings Invitation to become a member of Gender Network Advisory Group. Gender Equality Network in discussions with local NGO Nutrition Capacity Building Assessment final report produced

PROGRESS AGAINST WORK PLAN (CONTINUED)

REPORTING PERIOD: OCTOBER 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 2016

STRUCTURED LEARNING COMPONENT (CONTINUED)

IR 2: AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMS IMPROVED AND EVALUATED (CONTINUED)

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Result	Progress to Date
<p>Sub IR 2.4</p> <p>A Knowledge Management System established that captures, shares, disseminates and publishes information about policy and activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain an up-dated web-site Launch an active blog 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Web site regularly up-dated with: AKLDP research/ study findings; AKLDP generated El Niño analysis and documentation Increased positing of other key agriculture sector documentation Blog launched Contact list regularly up-dated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website design improved and regularly updated. Blogs started. Monitoring of traffic through Google Analytics
<p>Sub IR 2.5</p> <p>Participatory analysis of impact, mapping and thematic analysis completed on a demand- driven basis and feed into collaborative learning networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of PRM approaches in pastoral areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality review document 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping book uploaded to website and link widely disseminated by RED&FS Secretariat
<p>Sub IR 2.6</p> <p>Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver pastoral course in partner universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastoral courses delivered in three universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastoral capacity building course held in Awash.

RESPONSIVE LEARNING COMPONENT

IR 1: POLICIES IMPROVED

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Result	Progress to Date
<p>Sub IR 1.1</p> <p>Agriculture policy improved in key areas - e.g. livestock, irrigation, seed, biotech, land policy & administration, price controls, grain storage and climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead a study on food availability, prices and logistical capacity to inform El Niño drought response Support MoANR and ATA develop a agriculture sector Gender Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality study documents Quality Gender Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Availability Diagnostic completed Early Impact Food Security Assessments Weather forecasts and food price briefs widely used and appreciated by expanding number of international agencies. Gender equity strategy out for consultation at regional level.

IR 1: POLICIES IMPROVED

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Result	Progress to Date
<p>Sub IR 1.2</p> <p>MoA leads participatory evidence-based policy dialogue with stakeholders resulting in agriculture, livestock and nutrition policies and strategies drafted and adopted for all three Ethiopias: "adequate moisture deficit hungry and pastoral"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support a SCI study on viable rural transformation pathways for chronically drought-affected zones in Amhara Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality review report 	
<p>Sub IR 1.3</p> <p>The findings from research /impact assessments, cost-benefit analysis, performance evaluations and recommendations disseminated among stakeholders in partnership with government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Development Credit Authority Review El Niño impact on resilience of VESAs and SHGs and other resilience programming for FTF (USAID-GRAD) and non-FTF partners (TEARFUND) Review effectiveness of El Niño mitigation and response interventions across development, social protection and humanitarian actors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality review reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (See examples 2 and 3 in main text) Fieldwork for DCA review completed and draft report prepared. DCA review findings shared and final draft report prepared and posted on website AKLDP has undertaken a wide range of activities in response to the current El Niño crisis with senior humanitarians AKLDP CoP has provided extensive strategic and technical support on El Niño mitigation and response interventions as chair of Strategic Advisory Group Support related to Emergency Seed and Emergency Livestock Responses. Studies of El Niño impact on: rural indebtedness widely appreciated. Assessments of impact on self-help groups and rural young women finalized.
<p>Sub IR 1.4</p> <p>The effectiveness of existing and proposed agriculture policies and strategies are identified and researched on a demand-driven basis. (e.g. what works, what doesn't, why or why not, and models from other countries?)</p>			
<p>Sub IR 1.5</p> <p>Policies and strategies are identified and implemented to effectively trigger action and promote integrated public policy for agriculture to address the nutrition and health needs of Ethiopia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead a review on effectiveness of FTF nutrition capacity-building interventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality review report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutrition Capacity Building Rapid Assessment Report finalized, findings disseminated to stakeholders, and report posted on website.
<p>Sub IR 1.6</p> <p>Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring</p>			

PROGRESS AGAINST WORK PLAN (CONTINUED)

REPORTING PERIOD: OCTOBER 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 2016

RESPONSIVE LEARNING COMPONENT (CONTINUED)

IR 2: AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMS IMPROVED AND EVALUATED			
Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Result	Progress to Date
Sub IR 2.1 Collaboration and coordination is achieved across USAID, GoE and other donor programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead a study on FTF – AMDe and LMD – and MoA-AGP good collaboration practice – Contract Donor Coordinator RED&FS to support sector coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality participatory reviews completed RED&FS Secretariat supported through temporary deployment of Donor Coordinator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKLDP contracted Donor Coordinator played a lead role in RED&FS working group and completed final contract supported by AKLDP Collaboration consultancy team fieldwork in Amhara, Oromia and Tigray. AGP – USAID Feed the Future Collaboration Good Practice findings disseminated and first draft of report presented at USAID. Review being finalized.
Sub IR 2.2 Through collaborative learning networks, lessons learned about 'good practices' are systemically incorporated and scaled-up across on-going and new activities/ interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build MoLF/ BoLF capacity to implement LEGS Support MoANR and EIAR champion the 'International Year of Pulses' for improved agriculture and nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize LEGS training in regions Organize IYP events and promote good practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEGS trainings held in Amhara and Tigray IYP events held
Sub IR 2.3 Capacity for "learning cycle" strengthened (i.e. evaluation, knowledge capture/synthesis, best practices identified, incorporated in program design, and implemented)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to FTF to improve PIA capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PIA training for FTF partners 	
Sub IR 2.4 A Knowledge Management System is established that captures, shares, disseminates and publishes information about policy and activities on a regular basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the use and function of the AKLDP web-site to link to and reference other key agriculture sector documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality website maintained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKLDP early impact food security assessments reposted by PreventionWeb
Sub IR 2.5 Participatory analysis of program impacts, mapping and thematic analysis completed on a demand-driven basis and feed into collaborative learning networks			
Sub IR 2.6 Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring			

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

REPORTING PERIOD: OCTOBER 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 2016

REQUESTS FOR STRUCTURED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE HAVE COME FROM:

Big Win Philanthropy: The AKLDP was asked to meet visiting BigWin representatives on agriculture, livelihood and food security sectors in Ethiopia, who are planning to establish a presence in Ethiopia.

CAFOD: The AKLDP received a request to discuss a range of issues with CAFOD, who are researching the link between economic and agricultural transformation in Ethiopia.

Catholic Relief Services: The AKLDP met with the Chief of Party to discuss a range of resilience related issues.

DfID: The AKLDP was requested by DfID to meet with a staffer researching viable livelihood systems in the pastoral lowlands of Ethiopia.

Dilla University: The AKLDP met researchers from Dilla University to discuss research methods for a proposed research project 'Development challenges in the pastoral areas of SNNPR – human resources, natural resource management and social service infrastructure development'.

Drylands Capacity and Learning Initiative: The AKLDP was asked to review three articles for DLCI's forth-coming journal produced in collaboration with IGAD.

European Union: The AKLDP provided detailed review comments on the 'EU approach to support the livestock sector in the Horn of Africa'.

IFPRI: The AKLDP commented on the two page concept note developed for the RED&FS Executive on the proposed 'Ethiopia's Agricultural and Food Systems: Prospects and Policies for Medium-Term Growth and Transformation' study.

FAO and the European Union Delegation: The AKLDP provided detailed review comments on the resilience knowledge management and research component of the planned Resilience-building Coordination Project.

ATA: Shared an aide-memoire on farm gate prices.

GiZ: The AKLDP was invited to meet an appraisal mission for a transitional aid project for Afar Region – Euro 5 million over 5 years – to include food security, basic infrastructure development and DRR/ early warning systems.

FANRPAN and ILRI: The AKLDP team met with the ATONU staff from to explore collaborative arrangements for possible support to the Ethiopian component of the Improving Nutrition Outcomes Through Optimized Agricultural Investments (ATONU) Project.

New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade: The AKLDP was asked to meet with MFAT consultants to provide background information on the potential impact of drought on a planned dairy development investment.

Oxfam: The AKLDP reviewed the Oxfam concept note on 'Public Sector Spending in Agriculture' and advised that the study should be carried out only after the GoE had reviewed the ToRs.

RED&FS – Sector Working Group: The AKLDP provided review comments on the concept note Ethiopia – Food Security to 2025.

Save the Children International: The AKLDP helped SCI develop a resilience, adaptation and transformation framework for highland and lowland contexts. Provided detailed comments on the first draft SCI transformation paper exploring employment opportunities for young people in the highlands of Ethiopia.

Met with SCI researchers to discuss rural-urban migration issues and innovative and positive approaches to rural-urban migration. Provided detailed review comments on the Pastoral Health Study, and referenced documentation from the SC US 'On the Move' pastoral health initiative of 2009-2010.

Synergos Institute: The AKLDP met with the Synergos Institute to explore areas of collaborative work related to the ATA's Agricultural Commercialization Clusters.

UNDP: The AKLDP reviewed the terms of reference for a planned UNDP resilience study and was invited to meet with the UN Resident Coordinator to provide additional details on AKLDP resilience thinking.

USAID Food for Peace TOPS Program: The AKLDP provided detailed review comments on the draft Designing Resilient Agriculture – Resilience Design in Smallholder Farming Systems. Met with the TOPS consultant undertaking a program review as a key informant. The AKLDP offered insights into the TOPs support to the Home Garden Network permagarden training.

USAID Implementer in the Sahel: The AKLDP met with Amal Rewan, Learning and Knowledge Management Coordinator, Engility, Resilience in Sahel Enhanced (RISE) program - to share thinking on resilience and related learning.

World Vision International: The AKLDP was invited to make the key note address at the Horn and East Africa team's Livelihood and Resilience Forum offering AKLDP the opportunity to explore the viability of rural livelihoods, in particular of poorer wealth groups.

KNOWLEDGE SERVICES REQUESTS

REPORTING PERIOD: OCTOBER 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 2016

REQUESTS RELATED TO THE EL NIÑO RESPONSE HAVE COME FROM:

CRS: in response to a suggestion from the AKLDP, CRS has agreed to summarize the Rapid Seed System Security Assessment (CRS, 2015) in a three to four-page format. The AKLDP provide guidance on style, audience and the level of technicality.

DFID: Multi-Year Humanitarian Financing, Value for Money - Contingency Funding Review, Ethiopia 2015-2016: the AKLDP was asked to provide review comments. Email of appreciation received.

European Union: the AKLDP was requested to re-write the EU Ethiopia Mission proposal to secure Euro 20 million for livelihood early recovery interventions for Ethiopia.

FEWS NET: The AKLDP hosted two separate visits from FEWSNET in which information was exchanged. One of the FEWSNET visitors enquired if FEWSNET could use El Niño-related information posted on the AKLDP website for subsequent dissemination. Already publicly available, the request was approved by the AKLDP.

Government of Ethiopia: The AKLDP provided detailed review comments on the Ethiopia World Humanitarian Summit Side Event Concept Note: A panel discussion 'Ethiopia: A Government-led joint humanitarian and developmental response model that is addressing a major humanitarian crisis', that is sponsored by the Government of Ethiopia, WFP, UNICEF, UN-OCHA and World Bank.

Hope University: The AKLDP made a presentation of its El Niño in Ethiopia - Impact Assessment on Rural Young Women in Amhara National Regional State to a mixed group of undergraduates.

IGAD-Regional Livestock and Pastoralism Coordination Working Group: The USAID Resilience Learning Project (RLP) implemented by Tufts University and based in Nairobi, Kenya presented AKLDP generated Technical Briefs to the meeting.

Oxfam GB: The AKLDP was invited to review and comment on Oxfam GB's El Niño briefing paper. The review has resulted in further information exchanges and Oxfam has requested AKLDP input to a paper that Oxfam is preparing for the World Humanitarian Summit.

Save the Children International (SCI): The AKLDP reviewed and provided detailed comments on the SCI Ethiopia Drought: Humanitarian Response Strategy that resulted in SCI's raising the drought to a Category I Crisis. The AKLDP also drafted responses to drought and resilience related questions from SC sister offices around the world.

UN OCHA: The AKLDP reviewed – with minimal turn-around time – two emergency seed response proposals submitted by Goal and FAO to the UN-OCHA Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund. The combined value of the proposals was more than US\$6 million.

The AKLDP was invited to review the draft La Niña presentation and made detailed comments and some suggested factual corrections. The revised presentation was presented to the EHCT.

The AKLDP also provided UN-OCHA with El Niño related cropping and forecast summer *kiremt* rains information to inform UN-OCHA resource mobilization efforts.

US Embassy – Emergency Task Force: The AKLDP presented the findings of the Indebtedness study at the meeting of the 16th September. The briefing was also shared with UN colleagues on request.

USAID GRAD: The AKLDP provide detailed review comments on the 'Resilience Assessment' report circulated by GRAD and received an appreciative email from the Chief of Party.

World Bank: The AKLDP was requested to review the Assessing the impact of poor *belg* and *meher* rains on poverty in Ethiopia paper produced by the World Bank's Poverty Analysis Unit. The AKLDP observed that the choice of analogue year 2010 – a pastoral drought – had skewed the analysis and that 1997-1998 would be a better reference year. The AKLDP reviewed and commented on World Bank inflation data for Ethiopia in particular on food prices. The AKLDP offered several suggested improvements including around the disaggregation of cereal price data.

AKLDP STAFF & CONSULTANTS

A LIST OF THE CORE AKLDP TEAM MEMBERS AND CONSULTANTS DURING YEAR THREE

ADDIS TEAM

Adrian Cullis – Chief of Party

Dr. Berhanu Admassu – Capacity-Building Coordinator and Senior Pastoralist Areas Advisor

Dr. Bewket Siraw – Senior Livestock Advisor

Dr. Amdissa Teshome – Senior Agriculture, Food Security and Gender Advisor

Dr. Demese Chanyalew – Senior Agriculture Sector Analyst

Dr. Andrew Catley – AKLDP Principal Investigator providing Research, Policy and Analytical support

Mestawet Gebru – Home Garden Network Coordinator

Tsion Fisseha – Project Administrator

Kalkidan Getachew – Project Finance Officer

Yelebe Binya – Intern Emergency Seeds Response officer

Dr. Abe Ususu – Intern Emergency Livestock Response officer

BOSTON TEAM

Grant Administrator – Elizabeth Gelzinis (Dec 2013 – May 2016)

Program Administrator – Elisabeth Robles (from May 2016)

Project Assistance – Liz Layton

CONSULTANTS

Piu Bose – Collaboration review of Livestock Market Development evaluation

Nigusie Alemayehu – Agribusiness and Market Development mid-term evaluation

Wolday Amha – Ethiopia Development Credit Authority – performance evaluation

George Gray – 1 – Bellmon Crop Assessment Study – Production and Market; 2- DFAP

Gebremeskel Dessalegn Tewoldemedhin – Bellmon Crop Assessment Study – Production and Market update

Jim Levinson – Training material review

Bezabih Emanu – PIF Phase I

Mafa Chipeta – PIF Phase I

Gary Wallace – RED&FS Donor Coordinator

Fiona Meehan – SHG

Eden Mengistu – SHG/DFAP

Mulgeta Tefera – DFAP

Solomon Bogale – 1- El Nino food security assessment; 2 – DFAP

Thomas Birk – DFAP

John Morton – DFAP

Mesfin Zewdi – DFAP/PRIME

Sean White – PRIME

Hans Dieter Seibel – PRIME

Tefera Goshu – PRIME

Stephen McDowell – PRIME

Tsehay Redda – PRIME

Fisseha Abenet Tadesse – LEGS trainings

Kassaye Hadgu – LEGS trainings

Firehiwot Tesfaye – Permagarden training

Agajie Tesfaye – Gender study

Tamene Gutema Hailegiorgis – Gender study

Zewdie Abadi Alemu – Gender study

Silvia Possenti – Lit review and fieldwork in Amhara related to impact of El Nino on young rural women

Alessandro Mini – Food diagnostic assessment

Bruk Kebede Gebre – Home Gardens project

Gil Long – Gender study

Mukhtar Amin – Food diagnostic assessment

Mafa Chipeta – PIF Mid-term review

Tekalign Mamo Assefa – Soil health workshop proceedings

Tegbaru Bellete Gobezie – Soil health workshop proceedings

Eshetu Yimer – Workshop proceedings

Amare Ghizaw Amanu – Various assignments

Amanuel Kassie Yigzaw – Rapid assessments of LEGS and NG

Geneva Regassa Beyene – Rapid assessments of LEGS and NG

James MacGregor – Editorial review of pastoralist papers

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS REPORT

AGP – Agricultural Growth Program	NAHDIC – National Animal Health Diagnostic and Investigation Centre
AGP-AMDe – Agriculture Growth Program-Agribusiness Marketing and Development	NDRMC – National Disaster Risk Management Commission
AGP-LMD – Agricultural Growth Program-Livestock Market Development	NNP – National Nutrition Program
AKLDP – The Agriculture Knowledge, Learning, Documentation and Policy project	NSA – Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture
ATA – Agriculture Transformation Agency	NVI – National Veterinary Institute
CLG – Cereals and Legumes Group	OFDA – Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance
CoP – Chief of Party	PHL – Post Harvest Losses
DAG – Donor Assistance Group	PIA – Participatory Impact Assessment
DCA – Development Credit Authority	PIF – Policy and Investment Framework
DFID – Department for International Development (UK)	PPP – Public Private Partnership
DRM ATF – Disaster Risk Management Agriculture Task Force	PRM – Participatory Range Management
EIAR – Ethiopian Institute of Agriculture Research	PSDTF – Private Sector Development Task Force
ENGINE – Empowering New Generations in Improved Nutrition and Economic opportunities	PSNP – Productive Safety Net Program
EWS – Early Warning System	RED&FS – Rural Economic Development and Food Security
FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	SAG – Strategic Advisory Group
FEWS NET – Famine Early Warning Systems Network	SCI – Save the Children International
GoE – Government of Ethiopia	SHF – Smallholder farmer
GRAD – Graduating with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development	SHGs – Self Help Groups
GTP2 – Growth and Transformation Plan II	SLM – Sustainable land Management
HRD – Humanitarian Requirements Document	SURE – Sustainable Under-nutrition Reduction in Ethiopia
ICT – Information Communication Technology	SWG – Sector Working Group
IFPRI – International Food Policy Research Institute	TA – Technical Assistance
ILRI – International Livestock Research Institute	TCs – Technical Committee
IOP – Indian Ocean Dipole	TF – Task Forces
IPs – Implementing Partners	TOPS – Technical and Operational Performance Support program
IRs – Intermediate Results	ToRs – Terms of Reference
IYP – International Year of Pulses	ToT – Training of Trainers
LEGS – Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards	UN-ECA – United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
MoANR – Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources	UN-OCHA – UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
MoFSRA – Ministry of Food Security and Rural Employment	UNICEF – United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
MoLF – Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries	USAID – United States Agency for International Development
MTR – mid-term review	VESA – Village Economic and Social Association
NA – New Alliance	WASH – Water Sanitation and Hygiene

