Project Title: Coping With Drought and Climate Change

Programmatic Area/Cluster: Climate Change

Project Description:
Coping with Drought and Climate Change is one of the four Global Environment Facility medium-sized projects being implemented in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique and, Zimbabwe. In Ethiopia, the project is executed in Kalu Woreda of Amhara Regional State and benefits 41,421 community members out of which 21,991 are male and 19,430 females. The project helps build the capacity of the community in six selected villages to cope/adapt to the effects of drought and climate change, including through disseminating and utilizing effective early warning information to various stakeholders in the agricultural production planning process.

Project budget:
USD 995,000

Project start and end date:
January 2009 to December 2012

Project sites:
1. Kalu Woreda, Amhara Regional State

Lead agencies:
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED)

Implementing partners:
Ministry of Agriculture

Donors:
Global Environment Fund (GEF)

Country Context:
Over the past decade, Ethiopia has demonstrated significant socioeconomic progress and an overall decline in poverty. However, the high population pressure, coupled with climate change vulnerabilities has negatively impacted the country’s agricultural production and there is an urgent call for actions to be taken to strengthen the capacity of local communities to cope/adopt the effect of climate change.

Achievements to date
- Capacity of local Meteorological Institutions has been developed and data base system has been established to facilitate early warning information communication.
- The use of early warning information has been strengthened in the areas of Agricultural systems at pilot site;
- Established integrated drought information communication system;
- Introduced different early maturing, drought resistant and high productive crop and fodder seeds
- Various Sustainable Land Management activities introduced and adopted including:
  - Farmers/Pastoralists outside the Pilot sites Replicated Successful Approaches to Cope with Drought & climate change ;
  - Different farmers’ days have been organized by the project for pastoralists/farmers outside the project area for experience sharing practices ;
  - Introduced income diversification mechanisms ;
  - Introduced different water saving and utilization techniques (water harvesting, drip irrigation, gulley crossing, etc..)
  - Markets and approaches for sustainable and commercial exploitation of the products by rural communities identified and developed.
  - Introduced sustainable benefit- sharing mechanism.

Programmatic Context:
Increasing long term temperature and declining rainfall in the Northern half of Ethiopia have been negatively affect agricultural production and livelihoods of the rural poor. Predicted climate change, including variability will exert additional pressures on the already weakened sustainable economy of the pilot area. The project is therefore designed to build the adaptive capacity of the selected community and farmers/pastoralists. By organizing different farmers’ days and exchange visits, it is believed that farmers/pastoralists outside the pilot sites will replicate successful approaches of coping with drought and climate change.
Coping with Drought and Climate Change

In Ethiopia, the project is executed in the Kalu Woreda (district) of Amhara Regional State and benefited 41,421 community members out of which 21,991 are male and 19,430 are females.

Key outcome of the project

1. Livelihood strategies that enhance the resilience of vulnerable farmers to cope with drought and climate change adopted and sustained.
2. Enhanced use of early warning information in Agricultural systems at the selected pilot site.
3. Farmers/Pastoralists outside the Pilot sites replicate successful approaches to cope with drought & climate change.

Programme Facts:

Cluster: Climate Change          Start Date: 2009

Budget: 995,000 USD              End Date: December 2012

Implementing Partners: Ministry of Agriculture

Project Sites: Kalu Woreda, Amhara Regional State