



INSPIRATION FROM YEWOL FOR ALL OF US



WE WORKED TOGETHER

Our land is scattered. If we work individually, we cannot get there. Even the office of agriculture can't get there. Each of us contributed 60 days to build these structures on our farms and on those of our neighbors.

ALI AHMED | A FARMER
FROM WOREILLU DISTRICT

YOU CANNOT DO IT ALONE

I am from Ethiopia and want to see my country prosper. Watershed management is a very complex agenda. It requires multiple players and multiple skills. So I talked to as many people as possible, finding others who also had a vision and cared about the people and the environment."

DR TILAHUN AMEDE | ICRISAT

OTHERS ARE STILL WAITING

Almost every initiative that has come to the watershed has been beneficial. But not everyone has benefitted. There are also possibilities to scale this approach out to other sites.

DERIB HASSAN | DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATOR FOR WOREILLO

1

Saving the soil

Terracing and contour ditches prevented soil erosion and increased recharge of groundwater



7,500 hectares

i.e. the entire watershed area was terraced by the community as part of the government's Safety Net Program with technical support from ICRISAT

2

Mobilizing the community

Scientifically tested solutions ensured effectiveness and sustainability. Local byelaws were framed to support solutions



60 days

of work was contributed by each farmer for building terraces and other structures

3

Capturing rainwater

Dug wells and farm ponds upstream for harvesting rainwater. Increased river flow downstream



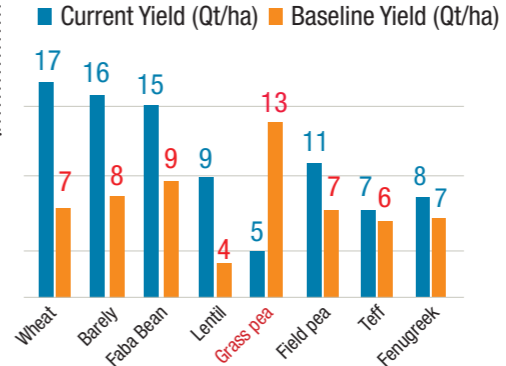
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increase in irrigable land

4

Revitalizing the soil

Best agronomic practices and access to quality seed helped conserve the soil and get more yields



Grass pea cultivation decreases with increased water availability and cultivation of market-oriented crops



5

Growing new crops

Crop diversity increased by growing new and profitable crops



6,250 birr*

was the average income of young farmers in the potato cooperative.

5,140 birr per annum earned from agroforestry products

>17 new crop varieties were introduced including potatoes, garlic, carrots, apples, etc

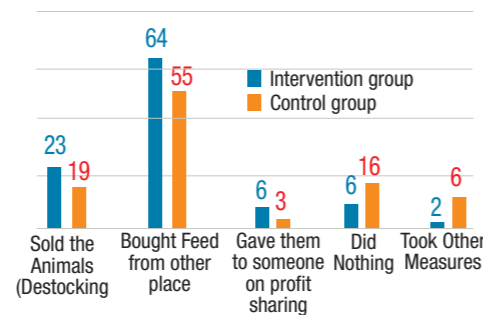
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Livestock innovations

The project distributed crossbreed bulls and rams, and recruited artificial insemination experts



Mechanism to save livestock from the effect of drought (% of households)



7

Market access

Forming farmer cooperatives improved farmers' bargaining power



Shift towards market-oriented crops
Rising adoption of high-value crops: Apple, carrot, chickpea and spices.
Food security crops: Potatoes

8

Climate resilience and improved livelihoods



Better adaptive capacity results in better incomes

Change in 5 years

Intervention group **82%** | Control group **51%**
Improved food security

53% | **92%**
Reliance on food aid

9

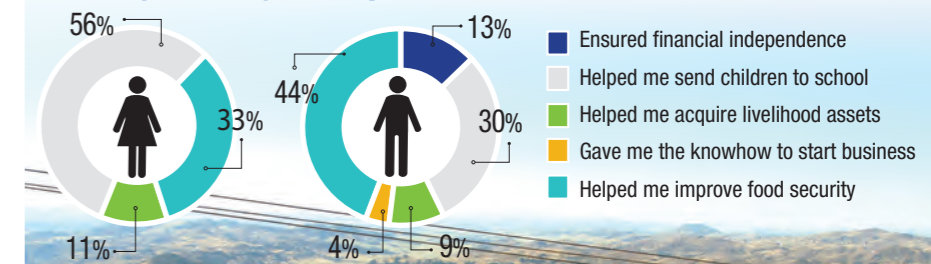
Upscaling avenues

Influence on policy makers

Project success caught the attention of higher officials, decision makers and regional administrators including the president of Amhara regional state. Concrete actions taken by concerned institutions include:

- Allocated additional budget for further scaling up/out
- Started interventions of the same kind and showed interest to scale-up/out
- Incorporated it into the Productivity Safety Net program (PSNP)

The Way the Project empowered Female and Male Farmers



* 1 birr=0.035 US\$



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Woreilu Woreda Administration
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- Development Agents of the kebeles

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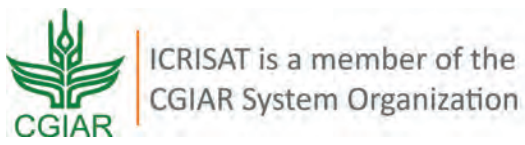
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Partners



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