



AICCRA

Accelerating the Impact of CGIAR
Climate Research for Africa



Briefing meeting with
national partners

Livestock Feed and Forage Options

Introduction

- o Feed is one of the three pillars (feed, breed and health) that influence livestock productivity
- o Feed gap/deficit is common in most parts of Ethiopia due to anthropogenic, ecological and other factors
- o ILRI/Africa RISING is contributing to AICCRA Ethiopia project through integrating livestock feed and forage options (cultivated forages, fodder trees, post-harvest utilization practices and forage seed system)
- o Build on Africa RISING experiences (scaling and capdev) to reach and benefit more smallholder farmers in the Ethiopian highlands
- o Engaged in four out of the eight AICCRA - Ethiopian project activities

AICCRA activities in which the feed and forage work contributes

- Activity 2.3.3: *Build capacity* in three focus countries of public and private sector next users to support implementation of CSA technology packages
- Activity 3.3.1: Identify climate- and gender and social inclusion-smartness of CSA packages
- Activity 3.3.2: Prioritize and increase awareness of best-bet CSA options and approaches for key value chains
- Activity 3.3.3: Integrate climate-smart options and tailored CSI advisory systems for specific value chains

Deliverables of 2021

- Capacity building need assessment (Report)
- Preparation of training materials on climate smart feed options (Training material/module)
- Screen available feed options against climate, gender and social smartness (Report)

Progress made so far

1. Capacity building need assessment

- Mapped/identified actors for capacity need assessment (farmers, extension, research, Universities, private sector, NGOs and media)
- Identified a capacity development topics for partners prioritization
- Finalized qualitative and quantitative data collection on capacity need assessment using online approaches
- Compiled data and drafted a report on capacity need assessment

2. Preparation of training materials on climate smart feed options

- Developed ToR for a consultancy
- Identified capacity development training topics for module preparation
 - ✓ cultivated forage production and utilization
 - ✓ crop residue improvement techniques
 - ✓ methods for planning annual feed requirements
 - ✓ ration formulation for smallholder dairy cattle
 - ✓ forage seed and planting material production techniques
 - ✓ scaling and financing feed and forage innovations
- The capdev module targets extension, media and forage seed producers and marketers

3. Screen available feed options against climate, gender and social smartness

- Held preliminary discussion with the Ethiopian Forage Seed Producers and Marketing Association (EFSPMA) members to capture their views to what extent the available feed options are climate smart, gender sensitive and social inclusive.
- Discussing with the AICCRA- Ethiopia team members on how to develop a framework and screen available feed options against climate, gender and social smartness.

Going forward – Tasks to finalize by the end of the year (2021)

- Finalize report writing on capacity development need assessment
- Produce capacity development training module
- Produce a report that contain available feed options evaluated against climate, gender and social smartness

National, private sector, NGO and international development partners

- Regional Agricultural Research Institutions (RARIs): ARARI, SARI, IQQO
- Federal Institutions: EIAR and MoA
- Local Universities: Debre Birhan University, Madda Walabu University, Wachemo University
- Regional Agricultural Bureaus and Office: North Shewa, Hadiya and Bale
- None Governmental Organizations: SNV, ATA, Ethiopian Forage Seed Producers and Marketing Association (EFSPMA)

Existing and potentially upcoming big thicket projects

- Africa RISING (Africa Research in Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation)
- ILSSI (Innovation Lab for Small Scale Irrigation)
- Grass4Cash (Improved Forage Grasses: Making the case for their integration into humid to sub-humid livestock production systems in Kenya and Ethiopia)
- LegumeSELECT (Science-driven Evaluation of Legume Choice for Transformed livelihoods)
- PCSL (Programme for Climate-Smart Livestock Systems)
- Forage4Dairy (Feed and forage innovations for dairy cattle resilience in the Ethiopian highlands)

Challenges

- The COVID -19 pandemics travel restrictions

Opportunities

- Availability of development partners that have interest to scale feed and forage innovations and benefit livestock keepers and other beneficiaries.
- Existence of USAID funded R4D projects such as Africa RISING, ILSSI and others where the AICCRA Ethiopia project can benefit from the research efforts and achieve its objectives.