

Project progress report on ARA(Adaptive Resilience Alliance) Project at Lasta Wereda

Project Title: ‘Women Empowerment and Local Climate Adaptation through Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in Lasta wereda’

Activity Name: Buying of CSA tools (hoe and Jerdin) and supplying of vegetable seeds (Lettuce, Carrot and tomato) for **160 women** household head that engaging in irrigation Agriculture.

Objective:

This project is related to sustainable food production in the agricultural sector. It has a wider impact not only at the household level but also at the country level. It contributes for consumption, reduce women burden. Hence, it aligns with the cross-cutting issues of gender. If a woman is empowered and take part in climate smart agriculture, she would improve her children nutritional status. Hence, this project will contribute for the achievement of zero hunger and gender equality goals of SDGs to be achieved by 2030.

Activities Description in detailed

Women in Lasta woreda are vulnerable to the impact of climate crisis and conflict in the last three years. This project will impact not only 160 women but also children and other members in her family. This **ARA** micro-grant project is provided trainings, creating awareness about **CSA**, supply locally produced and low-cost **CSA** technologies, providing trainings on how to use **CSA** technologies and planting seedlings for women under the interventions.

Beside the supplied of improved Mango and Avocado for each **160 beneficiaries** before four months, now we supply **80 hoe** (digging material with two finger) and **80 Jerdin**(Watering can that hold 10 liters). It cost 131,200 (one hundred thirty-one thousand two hundred Birr) and purchased from known local supplier. We distribute to **40 CSA** groups that have four members among four kebeles. The detailed of activities is summarized as follow:

- **Each CSA group** hold 2 hoes digging with particular features of two fingers (one main digger with all iron blended/fixed that make plowing easier). The hoe is easily handed and durable materials for four CSA women house hold member which enabled them increase

to work jointly and communication in production of vegetables finally could share their experience to achieve collaboration in their work. These each group also hold 2 Jerdin each hold ten litters to watering their previously Mago and Avocado crops and vegetable seeds (Lettuce, tomato and carrot) that is individually provided Lettuce (25 gram), Carrot (25 gram) and tomato (6.25 grams).

- The vegetable seeds are highly quality that from Holand origin packaged in Can. They have long expired date lasted to the end of 2025. They provided with separate 480 Caki packed paper that indicated detailed orientation by local expert about how, when and where vegetated in farm/home vegetable areas.
- Land preparation orientation and watering is also given, the skill to replicate by catching vegetable seeds from their yield given
- The need to work collaboratively is also addressed during the orientation
- Since the vegetable seeds distribute of them individually is only used at most for two times, the experts give technical skills during the orientation how to obtained improved seed from their yield and remind to use their local knowledge to incorporate to the practice.
- To conduct the orientation and the distribution of CSA tools to each CSA group members and Lettuce, Carrot and tomato we formed a committee that hold 10(ten) members from Lasta Wereda Women, Children and Social Affairs Office (4) and Lasta Wereda Agricultural office (4) and women beneficiary representatives (2). The committee composed of women need analysis team expert, office heads and experts in fruit and vegetables and young and adult women. Each team awarded and take responsibility about his work during the distribution. The committee was led by Lasta Wereda Women, Children and Social Affairs Office(Atala Kassaw, Delegated head).

Challenges

- High transport cost to logistic the CSA tools and vegetable seeds from the Lalibella town to targeted Kebeles (4)
- Distributing to the beneficiaries need high human labour and expert
- The budget proposed was much less with actual Crops, vegetables and CSA tools in local markets.
- The lack of potential suppliers to deliver these services

- Less monitoring and supervision cost to generate the evidence from our implementation

How to overcome the challenges and what remains

- The transport cost challenged us but we negotiated with local car owners with the least cost
- We involve stakeholders much and use the local expert's willingness
- Reduced the quantity that would be distributed to them proposed on proposal
- We deal with agricultural office to recommend and advocate to them to supply with appropriate cost to their client supplier in similar activities
- We involve stakeholders much and use the local experts with willingness

Lesson learned

- we have learned the essence of collaboration, negotiation and how to established a common goal in the community
- Stakeholders can be a main participant of the projects if we participate them really and give the responsibility and clear the accountability of the project's objective.
- There is amore knowledge and skill to crop production and growing vegetables from local experts and this was shown on workshop trainings and orientations and minutes to conduct activities in the grass-root level.
- Targeted women were more motivated from the trainings they got and the support they hold from ARA micro-project. Further also, we have observed they are highly willing to participate and growing Crops like these can be marketed and home vegetable in their farm yards.

Cross cutting issues

- Even though we are working with 100% of women House hold head to targets, we also included a woman under male house hold head but impacted by climate hazards in this last agricultural production year. We also give consideration a women effort and willingness to grow these crops and experience in growing similar crops and vegetables and that certified by other women and considered as role model.
- Women found in disability condition and women elders were included in the project.

Evidences

1. Attendances and profiles
2. Receipts on payments
3. Members of stakeholders (10)
4. Minute of stakeholders
5. Photos
6. Field report by project head
7. Letter of accreditation from the two stakeholder offices

Photos



CSA group women members after receiving their support



Women representative's/ member of distribution committee asserted the vegetables in packed before packed in paper bag



Women individually hold the CSA tools





Vegetable seeds packaging paper bag



Experts involve to packing the negatable seeds in required amount and package in their office



Women representatives/Committee while they monitor the CSA tools in temporary store



A CSA groups with full CSA tools and vegetable supplies



The kinds of vegetable seeds(Lettuces, Carrot and Tomato): Holand source



The 2 CSA group members of kebele taken orientation about the CSA tools and Vegetable Seeds

