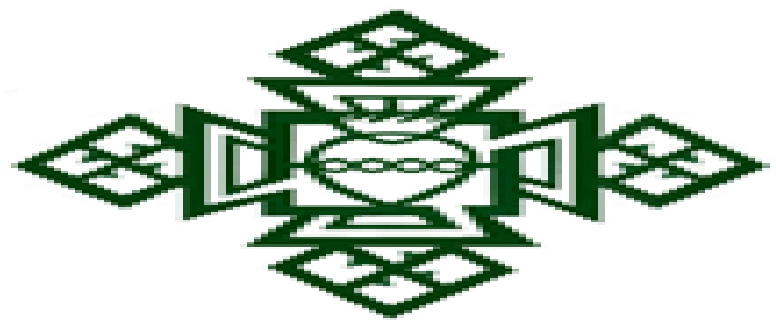


HORIZONT
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AUSTRIAN ORGANISATION
FOR DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION
Regional Office East Africa
Kampala, Uganda



ECC-SDCOH

Building Farmer's Knowledge Base to Best Prevent and Confront Changes

1

**PRESENTATION FOR EAST AFRICA CONFERENCE 2014
ON**

RESILIENCE IN DEVELOPMENT

KAMPALA, UGANDA, NOVEMBER 04 - 06 2014

PRESENTED

BY

ETHIOPIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH-SOCIAL AND

**DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING OFFICE OF HARAR (ECC-
SDCOH/HCS)**

Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Outline of the Presentation

1. INTRODUCTION

2

- FFS/PFS Approach
- Philosophy and Experience behind FFS/PFS
- Important Phases /Steps in PFS

2. PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE SHARING(BASE-TO-BEST):-

- PFS Core Activity Implementation
- Role of stakeholders/government Agencies

3. CAPITALIZING ON LOCAL KNOWLEDGE:-

- Knowledge Gained During Implementation
- Documentation of Project Experience
- Sharing of Project Experience
- Dissemination/ Spreading of Project Experience to Others

4. FOCAL ENTERPRISE AS A MEAN FOR RESILIENCE BUILDING:-

- Learn about Success & Failures

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES

6. SUCCESS STORIES

7. LESSONS LEARNT

1.INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

3

➤ **Farmer Field School (FFS) Approach:-**

- Based on the Concepts and Principles of People Centered Learning
- Developed as an Alternative to the Conventional Top-down Test and Verification (T&V) Extension Approach

➤ **Methodologies**

- Innovative and Participatory Methods
 - Observation, Discussion and Participation in Practical Learning-by-Doing Field Exercises
- **To investigate, and overcome a wider range of Soil and Land Management problems, including (Soil Productivity Improvement, Conservation Agriculture, and Control of Surface Runoff, Water Harvesting and Improved Irrigation)**

Cont...

4

- FFS developed for Training Rice Farmers on Integrated Pest Management
- FARM Programme in Four Asian Countries at the end of the 1990s
- Programmes and Projects have been Initiated to improve and further integrate Soil Productivity Improvement in the FFS curriculum
- More recently FFS Programmes on Soil Productivity Improvement have started Applying, Improvising, Validating and/or Adapting the FFS approach for Soil Productivity Improvement in East and Southern Africa

Critical Success Factor 4 FFS Approach

5

- Capacity Building of Facilitators and Curriculum Development, Esp., for Farmer-led FFS that are seen as the key to scaling-up the approach
- Service Providers (Farmer Group Facilitators, Extension Providers, NGOs, etc.) need **Supportive Materials** to illustrate Good Soil and Water Management Practices that can be tested through Participatory Technology Development and Demonstrations, and to help in identifying the most appropriate options for different farm Types and Contexts.

Cont...

6

- Facilitator of a FFS is normally an extension worker or another farmer who has graduated from another field school.
- Facilitator Guides the Group, helps them decide what they want to Learn and Think of possible solutions, and advises them if they have questions.
- Farmers drawn on their own experience and observations, make decisions about how to manage the crop. The Group must hold Two or More Field Days to show other Farmers what they are Doing.

Cont...

7

- Farmers also need **Information to Highlight** and understand aspects of decreasing Soil Productivity and its' improvement.
- Farmers meet every week from Planting to Harvest, to check on how the crops are Growing, Look at the amount of moisture in the Soil, Count the numbers of Pests and Beneficial Creatures such as Earthworms and Spiders. They do Experiments in the field

Cont...

8

- Farmers also host Exchange Visits for members of other Field Schools, and Visit the other Field Schools Themselves.
- This allows them to share ideas and see how and what others are dealing with similar problems.
- At the end of the crop season, the Farmers **“Graduate”**
- They receive a Certificate from the Field School Organizer.

Cont...

9

- The members are then qualified to start a new Field School as a Facilitator
- The Field School includes Team Building and Organization Skills, as well as Special Topics suggested by the Field School members themselves
- The Field Schools are a way for **Farming Communities** to **Improve their Decision Making and Stimulate Local Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture**
- The Emphasis is on **Empowering Farmers to Implement their own Decisions in their own Fields**

Cont...

10

➤ **Pastoral Field Schools(PFS) Approach:-**

- an adaptation of the interactive learning approach of Farming Field Schools (FFS)
- developed by the FAO in South East Asia in 1989 and was very successful in controlling rice pests
- quickly expanded to other continents and other types of agricultural production and started to incorporate socio-ecological conditions
- In 2006, ILRI together with Veterinaries Sans Frontiers-Belgium and FAO piloted the adaptation of the FFS approach to the pastoralist situation in Turkana.

Cont...

11

- PFS has since then caught the attention of Development Agencies in the Horn of Africa, where the Majority of the People depend on Livestock for their Livelihoods, and has been Scaled up in the Region
- PFS's were created mainly as a **Reaction to Droughts**
- Arid and Semi-arid lands of the Greater Horn of Africa, Droughts are a very important natural hazard in terms of impacts on **Lives and Livelihoods**
- Currently, droughts seem to happen more frequently and more intensely over the last 30 years
- This is partly due to Climate Variability and Causes a Decline in Food Production, Changes of Migratory Patterns and Exacerbates Resource-based Conflicts

N.B:- FAO, VSF-Belgium (2009). Pastoralist Field Schools: Guidelines for Facilitation. ECHO funded Regional Drought Preparedness Project, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy and Veterinaries Sans Frontiers Belgium, Nairobi, Kenya. 144p.

Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Cont...

12

- PFS Approach was developed as a
 - Preventive Intervention to Provide a Developmental Approach to
 - Reduction of poverty,
 - Social Risk and
 - **Building of Resilience**

N.B:-Anno, F. (2011). Action Research for Disaster Risk Reduction. Experiences with Pastoral Field Schools and Village Community Banks. Consultancy Report. 20p.

Cont...

13

- PFS is a school without walls.
- PFS Group are Composed of Groups of 30-40 Pastoralists who meet Regularly over a defined period to make Observations that relate Livestock Production to the Rangeland Ecosystem.
- PFS Group are Guided by a Trained Facilitator who also comes from the community to Guide the Learning Process.
- Learning Process itself is based on Observation and Experimentation, in the context of the Pastoralists.

Cont...

14

- PFS Groups provide animals and other resources to use in Simple Comparative Experiments
- PFS Group form a Group's study herd, on which different treatments are tried and observations are made
- The changing environmental conditions and other factors affecting the study herd - such as disease outbreaks - dictate the topics to be addressed each week during the PFS session. A typical PFS Learning Cycle takes about 1.5 up to 2 years and ends with Graduation of Group members.

Cont...

15

- PFS strengthens the capacity of **Local Communities**
 - To Analyze Their Livelihood Systems,
 - To Identify their Main Constraints and Tests Possible Solutions

- By Merging their own **Traditional knowledge** with **External Information**, Pastoralists Themselves can eventually **Identify and Adopt the most Suitable Practices and Technologies** to their **Livelihood System** and needs to become **More Productive, Profitable** and **Responsive to Changing Conditions** in the **Long Term**

Results and Impacts

16

- Pastoralists who Participated in PFS cycles, notice a General Livelihoods Improvement on different levels such as:-
 - **Housing,**
 - **Increased Incomes,**
 - **Food Security and Health**
 - **Adopt and Adapt their own Coping Practices Against Environmental Degradation and Climate Change**

TRAINING OF FACILITATORS IN FFS/PFS

FFS

PFS

3-month (season-long) Training of FFS Trainers + on

1-2 weeks Training of PFS Trainers / project staff



FFS Master Trainer

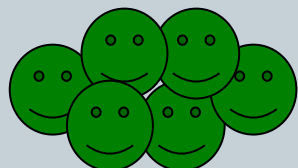


PFS Trainer

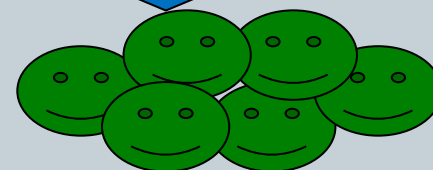
2-4 weeks Training of Facilitators

Training of project staff / coordinators

0-2 weeks Training of PFS Facilitators



FFS Facilitators



PFS Facilitators

PHILOSOPHY and EXPERIENCE BEHIND FFS/PFS

18

- PFS Approach is an adaptation of the Livestock-led(FFS) for use in Pastoral Communities
- The idea behind the Approach is to provide Pastoralists with a means of Testing different innovations against their own indicators of success (which are commonly as much **Social** as **Economic**)
- PFS concept is envisaged to contribute to improved Livelihoods of the Pastoral Communities through **Creating Unity, Poverty Reduction** and **Strengthening of Pastoral Institutions** thus Leading to **Improved Preparedness and Reduced Vulnerability to Drought** and other Crises Like **Flooding and Conflicts** etc.

Cont...

19

- PFS Approach would Guide in a new chapter of Development in the Pastoral Areas
- Educative Process it would also **Empower the Pastoral Communities to Improve Their Livelihoods Strategy** such that they can **Better Cope** and **Withstand the Effects of Shocks, Conflict, Floods and Drought**
- PFS would not be a universal remedy for all problems but become the **Platform** where **Innovative Mechanism** for boosting Livestock Production and Participation of Producers in Value Addition Process would be Established.

Steps in PFS Implementation

Phase 1: PSF Preparation

Steps

1. Pre-condition survey
2. Identification and training of facilitators
3. General ground work
 - Establish contact with the community
 - Awareness-raising meeting to introduce the PFS concept
 - Identification of the participants
 - Identification of the focal activity (PFS learning enterprise)
 - Identification of the learning site
4. Establishing the PSF
 - Participatory introduction of the participants
 - Levelling of expectation
 - Identifying the host team
 - Participatory planning of PFS activities
 - a. Establishing the PFS group
 - b. Problem analysing and ranking
 - c. Identifying potential solutions
 - d. Developing the learning programme
 - e. Developing a detailed budget
 - f. Submitting a grant proposal
 - g. PM&E plan

20

Phase 2: PSF Implementation

Steps

5. PFS sessions with core activities
 - Comparative Experimentation
 - AESA/PESA
 - Topic of the day
 - Group Dynamics
 - PM&E
6. Field days
7. Exchange visits
8. Graduation

Phase 3: PSF Post Graduation

Steps

9. Follow up of PFS activities
10. Establishing PTS networks
11. Income generation activities
12. Setting up of 2nd generation PFS

2.PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE SHARING (BASE-TO-BEST)

21

- Agro-Pastoral Eco-system Analysis (AESAs)/Pastoral Eco-System Analysis(PESA)
- Comparative Field Experimentation
- Topic of the Day
- Group Dynamics
- PME&L
- Field Day
- Exchange Visits
- Graduation

Sample of PFS Group Sessions



German PFS Group During Session with Facilitator



Fetuli PFS Group During Session with Facilitator

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Agro-Pastoral Eco-System Analysis (AESAs)

23

- The main steps in AESA/PESA includes:-
- Making Observations
- Analyzing Data
- Presentation of Findings
- Discussions and Decision Making
- Discussion, Analysis and Interpretation of Field Information
- Decision Making
- Presentation of Results and the Decisions taken to the Entire Groups

Sample Pictures on AESA

24

- Agro- ecosystem analysis (AESA)-is the main activity of the field school



During observation of ecosystems at the field level Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Pastoralist Eco-System Analysis(PESA)

25

➤ Pastoralist- ecosystem analysis (PESA)-is the main activity of the Field School



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Cont...



26



Discussion & Analysis of the field Observation by PFS Group

Presentation of Field Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Comparative Field Experimentation

27

- Poultry Production
 - Vegetable production
 - Goat Fattening,
 - Fodder production
 - Fruit Production
- Tick Control,
 - Fruit and vegetables pest and disease control,
 - Rangeland Management, option to improved soil fertility and water retention,
 - Tradition vs. improved honey production, and Poultry Production
 - Conservation of soil and water in crop field, planting techniques,
 - water harvesting techniques.

TOPIC OF THE DAY

28

- Understanding the concept of ecosystem,
- Grazing(Rotational,Enclosed,Open etc.)
- Beekeeping Management ,
- Basic Financial Management,
- Farming as a Business,
- Livelihood Diversification(Petty trading, Small shops)
- Simple Credit Managements,
- Drought Cycle Management,
- SILC Concepts,Methodologies and Practices,
- Animal Health, Livestock Breed and Selection,
- Soil and Water Conservation, Dairy Management,
- Gender Roles and Labor Divisions at family level,
- Livestock Marketing,
- Environmental Hygiene,
- Water Harvesting,Management and Sanitation,
- Introducing of new Crops, Crop Rotation, Intercropping, weed control and Land Rehabilitation

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GROUP DYNAMICS

29

Group Dynamics includes:-PFS claps, appreciation, give and give again, the chain message, inside-outside the field, fruit and animals, the goats and the lion, Gun, rabbit, wall etc.



**Group Dynamics Presented by the Host Team of
the PFS Group(German PFS Group)**

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Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

30



Pilot PFS Project Evaluation

Ongoing PFS Project Supportive

Monitoring Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Supportive Monitoring & Review Meeting Sessions

31



Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Austrian Embassy Team Visit to PFS Project Sites

32



Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Cont...

33



Ongoing PFS Project Visit by Austrian Embassy Team, Fetuli PFS Group
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FIELD DAY

34



Dimtu PFS Group Visiting their degraded land for Conservation Practice Wednesday, November 26, 2014

EXCHANGE VISITS



35



**Exchange Visit of Billa PFS(old PFS) with
German PFS Group(New PFS)**

**Exchange Visit of Billa PFS(old PFS) with Gota
PFS Group(New PFS)**
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GRADUATION

36



Wednesday, November 26, 2014

ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS

37

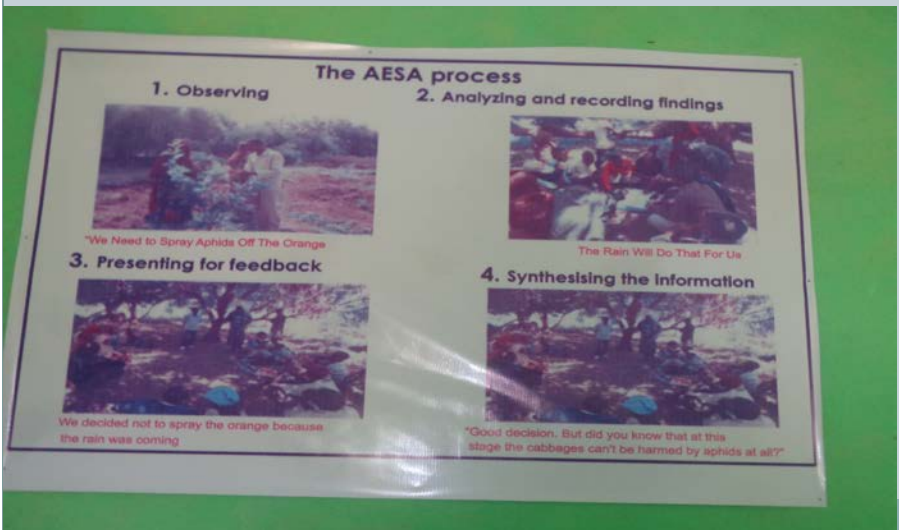
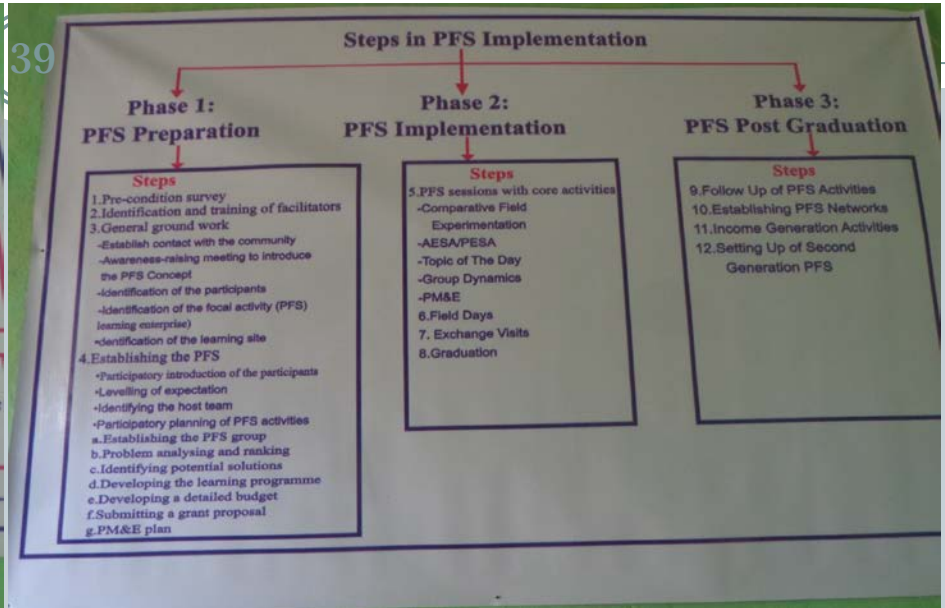
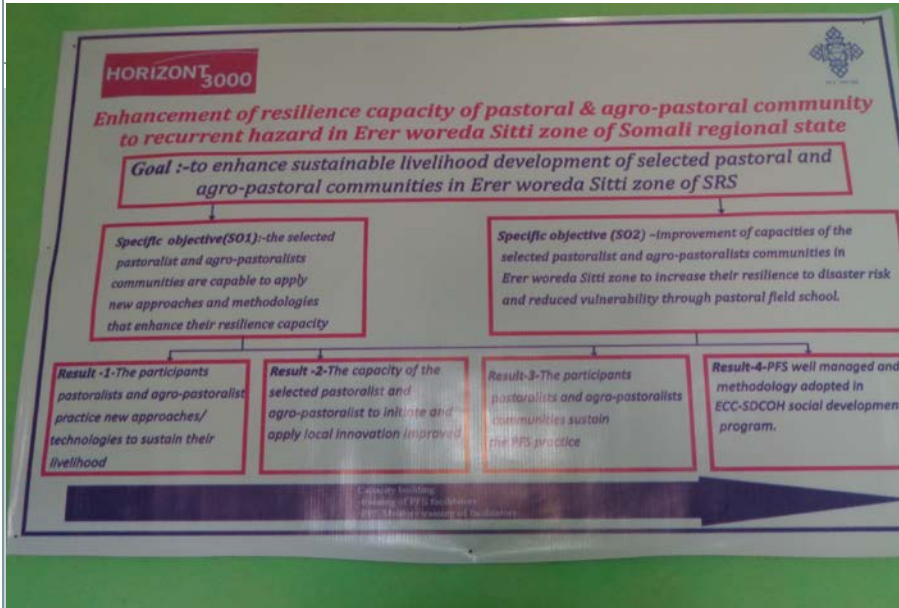
- Site Selection
- Assigning of Development Agent(DA's) for Follow up , Monitoring, Supervisions and Evaluation of the PFS Sessions
- Facilitation of the Topics of the Day
- Assigning of Woreda Level Expert for Topics of the Day
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Registration of the PFS Groups via Cooperative Promotion Office
- Legalization of the PFS Groups through Providing Licenses

3.CAPITALIZING ON LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

38

- **Knowledge Gained During Implementation**
 - PFS becomes a Platform where the agro-pastoralists make Enquiries on any Enterprise
 - Challenges Local Perceptions and Believes esp. in relation to Natural Resources
 - Maintains high Motivation among Facilitators and Community
 - Helps Groups to Solve Local Problems
 - Improves Skills among Facilitators and Community Workers

Documentation of Project Experience



Annex B) Logical framework/planning matrix for programme interventions Ethiopian Catholic church social and Development Coordinating office of Harar /ECC-SDCOH/Enhancement of Resilience Capacity of Pastoralists and Agro-pastoralist Communities to recurrent hazards in Erer Woreda of Somali Regional State

Logical framework

	Reason For Intervention	Indicator	Means of Verification	Assumption
Overall Objective	To enhance sustainable livelihood development of selected pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in Erer woreda			
Specific Objective	The selected pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities are capable to apply new approaches and methodologies that enhance their resilience capacity	The ability of communities to plan and apply PFS packages	Baseline Survey Regular progress monitoring of the baseline Project final evaluation report	OO stable or other conflict no serious droughts Policy environment remains conducive
Result -1	The participant pastoralist and agro-pastoralist practice new approaches/technologies to sustain their livelihood	75% of the PFS group members practice new approaches and technologies on their own field	Training attendance report Field assessment report	Governmental partners and local communities are cooperative The participants agree to the activities or other conflicts The serious droughts
Immediate Result -1.1	Facilitate pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities to learn new ways to solve problems and adapt to change	80% of the PFS group members practice new approaches and technologies on their own field	Regular progress monitoring of the baseline	the participant must be interested in learning and not expect material benefits
Output 1.1.1-	Maintain the existing two groups and establish 8 new groups	No. of group established	Project report	
Output 1.2-	Introduce the PFS approach to the community	No. of pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities practicing PFS	Project report Training attendance report	
Result 2-	The capacity of the selected pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities to sustain the PFS practice	80% PFS practitioners	Project Report	No ethnic or other conflict

Sharing of Project Experience



Facilitators sharing their respective Experience



German PFS Facilitator conducting his Session for Experience Sharing for Other Facilitators

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Dissemination/ Spreading of Project Experience to Others

41

- [PFS-2014-15\PFS photo 2014\German-PFS\MP_ROOT\100ANV01\MAH03542.MP4](#)
- [PFS-2014-15\PFS photo 2014\DD TV News PFS Graduation\SEGMENT\ITEM0001.DAT](#)

4.FOCAL ENTERPRISE AS A MEAN FOR RESILIENCE BUILDING

➤ **LEARN ABOUT SUCCESS & FAILURES**

- Billa PFS Group-Vegetable Production for Marketing
- Gota PFS Group-Fruits Production for Marketing
- German PFS Group- Poultry Production for Marketing
- Fetuli PFS Group- Forage Production for Marketing
- Dimtu PFS Group-Goat Fattening for Marketing

Billa PFS Group-Vegetable Production for Marketing

43



Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Billa PFS-Groups Vegetable Production for Marketing

44



Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Gota PFS Group-Fruits Production for Marketing



German PFS Group- Poultry Production for Marketing

46



Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Fetuli PFS Group- Forage Production for Marketing

47



MAJOR CHALLENGES

48

- *Challenged by Illiteracy*
- *Registration of PFS Groups, (Cooperatives Promotion Office at Woreda Level)*
- *Legalization of PFS Groups(Bureau of Cooperative at Regional Level)*
- *Lack of Strong PFS Groups Networking with other Implementing Partners*
- *Lack of Support for self-facilitated PFS Groups*

SUCCESS STORIES

49

- Success Stories [IGAs-Billa Vegetable Production & Marketing.docx](#)
- Success [Stories Goat Fattening in Dimitu PFS Group-2012.docx](#)

LESSONS LEARNT

50

- Innovative, More Participatory and Beneficiary Driven Support System that Addresses the Specific Needs of the Pastoralist and Agro-Pastoralist Communities
- Excellent Entry Point and Platform for improved Self Confidence and Feeling of Dignity Among Pastoralist and Agro-Pastoralist Communities
- Group Cohesion Developed, Collective Spirit and Sense of Belonging had assisted individuals much in improving their Lives and Livelihoods
- Competent and Well Trained PFS Facilitators with Enough Time available to Prepare and Run Weekly PFS Sessions are Crucial for Quality Implementation.

51

Thank You



**WISHING ACCELERATED
SUCCESS TO ECC-SDCOH**

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