



# Progress Report

## Progress Report No.: 2

<b>Title of the Intervention:</b> SWEEP- Water for Food Security, Women's Empowerment and Environmental Protection in East and West Belesa, Ethiopia
<b>Project Period:</b> 01.10.2017-30.9.2020

### Reporting period:

<b>Reporting period:</b> 01.10.2017-31.12.2018	<b>Report submitted on (date):</b> 28.02.2019
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## Summary of the progress of the intervention (not more than 1 page)

In general terms the intervention is on track and all stakeholders have been very active in ensuring qualitative implementation. In fact, we could already record a number of positive results. Since the beginning of the project, the monitoring data revealed that the participation and engagement of marginalized groups such as female head of households and persons with disabilities is more encouraged in the communities. Women and persons with disabilities are members in WASHCos and watershed committees; and women, young girls, female head of households and persons with disabilities are also more engaged through a number of SWEEP interventions. All these new opportunities not only pave the way in changing the perception men and communities have towards women, girls and persons with disabilities, but also the perception women, girls and persons with disabilities have about themselves.

The contribution of the target communities in the planning, designing and implementation of some of the activities was found paramount and exemplary by several government partners. By the end of December 2018 for instance, 1,597 (925 female) persons were able to participate in the community review and reflection process which were also attended by Government partners and the project staffs. In fact, all stakeholders involved in the project highly appreciate the numerous platforms SWEEP is offering for all parties involved to share their thoughts and concerns and learn from each other. The use of the Community Score Card has also been very successful and is paving the way for rights-holders and duty-bearers to communicate more openly with each other. To date, 4 community action plans were developed with the participation of a total of 235 (86 female) people who participated in 9 CSC sessions.

The project team did not face major delays, except for the implementation of 2 irrigation schemes. Also no major changes occurred during the reporting period, except for the performance/situational assessment on previously constructed/rehabilitated watersheds, which initially was planned to be conducted on 8 watersheds, but was reduced to 4 after discussing it with the Agriculture office and the ADA in Ethiopia. More details are provided in the report below.

### Outcome 1

In this annual reporting period, the project enabled a total of 27,903 people to access safe water for domestic use through the construction of 37 and the rehabilitation of 48 non-functional water supply schemes, as well as the rehabilitation of one masonry dam and the distribution of 1,000 water filtration kits. A total of 12 new watersheds were selected for intervention and a total of 400 hectares of land from four watersheds were already treated with physical and biological measures. 937 WASHCo members and woreda water office experts are now aware about legalization procedures and operations. A total of 683 WASHCo members are knowledgeable on water supply schemes management and administration and 76 are aware of the most important hygiene and sanitation standards.

### Outcome 2

A total of 51 Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs) are established and functioning, with a total of 1,151 female members. From the total members, 58 are persons with disability and 176 are female head of households. To date the VSLAs saved a total of ETB 83,296 (about \$2,975). The VSLAs also started providing loans to their members, and a total of 277 (5 persons with disabilities) members took loans amounting to a total of ETB 49,590 (about \$1,771) and started engaging in individual income generating activities (IGAs). The 873 members of the 30 SAA groups also started reflecting on existing discriminatory social norms and barriers related to gender and could already identify key areas they want to work on (including the unequal division

of work between men and women). Among the 60 SAA facilitators who support the SAA groups, 3 are persons with disabilities.

### Outcome 3

The project hosted a regional validation workshop with representatives from region, zone and woreda government office where various assessment findings were presented and discussed. The workshop created an opportunity to share learnings among the participants, apart from discussing the findings from the assessment. In addition, five quarterly review meetings were conducted with woreda and kebele steering committees (SC), with a total of 135 participants. Similarly, 11 monthly meetings were conducted with woreda SC. One zone level bi-annual review meeting, facilitated and led by Central Gonder Zone Chief Administrator, took also place and eight community reviews and reflection meeting sessions were conducted in different project intervention kebeles with a total of 1,597 participants. Furthermore, five joint field monitoring visits took place with a total of 17 woreda and kebele level steering committee members. Finally, one bi-annual regional level steering committee review meeting with the presence of zone steering committee representatives was conducted, as well as the annual joint monitoring with regional project steering committee.