

## CASE STUDY PIA 3: Livelihood Support and Basic Social services



8. Multi-nutrient blocks for livestock survival feeding and production	
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<p>The Multi-Nutrient Block is a technology promoted by FAO since 2009. This supplementary feed offers many advantages for pastoralists and agro-pastoralists:</p> <p>they can secure access to feed in times of drought, help generate additional for the family and also serve as entry points for livestock and livestock product value chain enhancement.</p>
<b>LOCATION /GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE</b>	Afar Region in drought-prone areas linked to agro-industries able to provide MNB manufacturing ingredients.
<b>STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS</b>	FAO together with Afar Pastoral and Agricultural and Rural Development Bureau supported the establishment of the MNB production and Cooperatives NGOs in Afar are engaged in dissemination of the Good Practice through PFS
<b>METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishment of three Multi-nutrient Block (MNB) Producer Cooperatives in strategic locations of the region (in Awash, Berhale and Chifra).</li> <li>2. Sale of the blocks through NGOs and Public Institutions while the market is not yet well established (see constraints)</li> <li>3. Dissemination of the Good Practice with the help of local NGOs or government</li> <li>4. Training by FAO of households and development agents in the efficient use of feed resources.</li> <li>5. Advocating the Good Practice through field days, exchange visits, workshops and field visits.</li> </ol>
<b>VALIDATION</b>	The MNB is playing an important role in bridging the drought-time critical feed



	<p>shortage. It diversifies the livelihoods for those who can work in the cooperatives and is also use as emergency feed, providing food and incomes. For example, in the last drought, 36 000 heads of female breeding goats and 6 000 heads of cattle were kept alive and stimulated to resume milk production (FAO 2011).</p>
<b>IMPACT</b>	<p><u>Beneficiaries:</u> Beneficiaries of the MNBs are not only limited to the Afar region but also include the neighboring woredas of Amhara and Tigray Regions. Moreover, the beneficiaries of the MNB technology are not only livestock keepers but ex-pastoralists who involved in the MNB Production have also benefitted.</p> <p><u>Increase of livelihoods and assets:</u> New employments and incomes sources</p> <p><u>Increase of feed security and preparedness:</u> To date, over 25,000 small ruminants and 9,000 cattle belonging to 7,500 pastoral and agro-pastoral households have been protected from drought-induced feed shocks (FAO).</p> <p><u>Increase of food security:</u> Improve household level milk availability and the nutrition of children and lactating/pregnant women. The supplementation of MNBs to lactating goats at the rate of 100 g/head/day and cows at the average daily rate of 400 g supported daily milk production of 0.25-0.50 L and 0.5-1.0 L, respectively (FAO).</p> <p><u>Increase of the capital:</u> Reflection from the MNB beneficiaries also indicates that MNB supplemented breeding stock; particularly small ruminants that also grow and reproduce better than similar animals kept solely on the range forage.</p>
<b>INNOVATION AND SUCCESS FACTORS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Simplicity of the technology</li> <li>- Diversity in the Ingredients used, from local ones as Prosopis or soil to industrial by-products as molasses</li> <li>- Convenient to store and transport</li> <li>- Cost-effectiveness (MNBs are 40% less costly than concentrate (FAO))</li> <li>- Double impact: on survival and production</li> </ul>
<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The development of the market is the biggest challenge faced in the program. The access to MNB by the livestock keepers has to be improved.</li> <li>- Because of the high demand during drought, the market is unstable and has to be build during the 'normal' period by advocating the impact on production.</li> </ul>
<b>LESSONS LEARNED</b>	<p>Developing feed banks is crucial in time of drought. This development is better in the hands of communities and pastoralists; it provides employment, incomes diversification, survival feed and an increase in production from livestock.</p>
<b>SUSTAINABILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Creating and development of markets</li> <li>- Use of cheap local ingredient as Prosopis</li> <li>- Development of source of local feed through rangeland management</li> <li>- Development of the dairy or fattening value chain to emphasize the impact of the MNB on production</li> </ul>
<b>UP-SCALING</b>	<p>Develop the cooperatives and the market to improve access to the MNB by the livestock keepers as well as the value chain to advocate the impact on production.</p>
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<b>URL OF THE</b>	<p><a href="ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/a0242e/a0242e00.pdf">ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/a0242e/a0242e00.pdf</a></p>

<b>PRACTICE</b>	
<b>RELATED RESOURCES THAT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED</b>	<u>FAO 2007</u> : Feed Supplementation Blocks <u>FAO 2012</u> : Highlights on 2012 feed intervention
<b>Case Studies Adapted from : Flora Baudron, Good Practices Building Resilience Experience from Ethiopia and IGAD countries, FAO-SFE, 2013</b>	