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Chain of Love for Human and
Environmental Development

Six Month Activity Report
January 1, 2014 - June 30, 2014

Main Activities Performed

1. Irrigation Development

- PUMP TRANSPORTATION, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING

Expanding irrigable land is a key strategic objective in order to ensure food security and mitigate climate change. Accordingly Chain of Love has been working to support farmers by providing access to irrigation infrastructure. Two high capacity Diesel Engine Pumps are transported in to the respective sites, Sasun-Bethaweriat and Hagua Rega of Gantafeshum District. Installation and commissioning is on progress. This intervention will benefit for more than 50 households. Transportation pumps was very challenging, as they are very heavy, trucks with crane was need and but was difficult to find. After long process of searching and negotiation with Water Resource and Mines Office of the government, we were able to transport with minimum cost.



Total budget Expended:

626,558 Birr

Pictue 1 transsportation of pump to Haguarega, 90km from Adigrat

- ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER USER ASSOCIATION

Side by side, water user associations are established for a cohesive use and administration of the resource. So they are preparing them selves for production for the season and this summer partially.

- DEVELOPING CROP CALANDER AND TRAINING

Modern farming demands careful planning and market reward. One of the best means is planning by considering the market, production period and agro-ecology. This calendar avoids the mismatch between supply and demand. Therefore, a calender was developed of certain cash crops and training

was given to the farmers.

2. Natural Resource conservation and Management

Different physical activities were performed to stop soil erosion and flooding in order to redevelop a gully and enhance water retention. In this respect, on farm structures percolation ponds, trench bands and deep trenches on grazing land in more than 2.3km long gully. Big gabion check dams and loose stone check dams are also constructed with in the gully.

In addition to this, one check dam pond was maintained to collect water that will used for irrigation.

Maintenances of old gabion and loose stone check dams also performed to protect the erosion of main grazing land.

Total budget expended: 361,467 Birr



Picture 2 maintained check dam pond, Sasun



Picture xxxx Gabion Checkdam

3. Income Generating activities

Income generating activities are included in our projects to provide a means of enhancing income of households so that they improve their livelihoods. The activities include, Poultry Beekeeping and shoats fattening.

Total budget expended: 325,193.92 Birr

Poultry: poultry is a traditional practices by the mothers of Tigray but it provided less impact on their lives. This is because the management was backward and the chickens were genetically poor. To change the situation, COL has managed to introduce genetically improved breeds and training was given to raise the awareness and equip better management. Accordingly, 120 women wit more 15 stakeholders were trained. After that, bee feed of 100 kg and 100gram oxytetracycline, an multi spectrum antibiotic, was given for each woman to fill the feed gap and to prevent deaths of the chickens. The, a two month old of age, 20 chicken for each women, was given based on loan to be administered by revolving fund. Another important achievement is preparation of chicken shelter. This was a requirement to join the training and to be beneficiary in general. So far the death rate report is very low.



Picture x Sample of chicken for each woman household



Picture xx woman with 2 chickens of the 20

Beekeeping: this sub-sector is the most important but the most ignored traditional activity of our farmers. It has its own features that it demands serious attention and skill development. COL's aim to initiate and fuel its development in Eastern Zone of Tigray. The approach was beginning from selection of beneficiaries and the preparation needed. Each potential candidate was ordered to construct a shade. Then training is undertaking both theoretical and practical. Strong bee colonies approved by bee technician are selected. Transferring will be completed soon. We have started with seven farmers and will be given 3 bee colonies each. 21 Modern hives and their accessories are to the farmers. Bee calendar will be developed after the training in order to schedule follow up and product harvest.



Picturexxx beekeepers on training



Picture xyxyx Shade for beehives protection constructed by beneficiaries

Shoats Fattening: The activity is part of modernizing agriculture and enhancing benefits from lives stock. Shoats fattening is cost effective and exerts less pressure on the environment. It is at an initial stage. Co-operatives are formed and houses constructed. Agreement was made and training will follow. After that, purchase of shoats for fattening will be effected.

4. At Office Level

- Some activities were performed to strengthen the utility and safety of the working

environment.

- Some furnitures, photo copy machine, cash safety box and broad band Internet service were purchased. In effect, the working environment is improving.

Total Budget Expended:

5. Capacity Building

- One staff member has started post graduate studies which is relevant to our organizational development in Aksum University.
- Additional trainings will be organized based on the need of the organization and experts

6. Way fore ward

The following Major Activities extended to the third quarter months

1. Water Supply for schools

Three sites are selected and ready for drilling at a cost of 465,000.00 ETB. Agreements has been made with a water wells drilling company.

2. School capacity building:

This involves the provision of furnitures for library, books, laboratory materials as well well as sponsoring for some OVC students.

Budget Required: 277,500

Generally

This report is not an exhaustive narration of all activities. It includes all the major activities of Chain of Love funded by “ I Nostri amicci Lebbrosi Onlus” and Ferster Foundation. So the focus of this report is to update on what we are doing during past the six months. All in all, it was the busiest season and the financial flow was stable.