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ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT
Enabling dryland communities to realize their potential

“I have overcome adversity, and achieved self-sufficiency”

Gubba Koricha woreda, W/Harerghe zone, is one of the drought -prone areas of the Oromia NRS, Ethiopia. Among other things, lives and livelihoods of the subsistence farming communities inhabiting the area are often challenged by the recurrence of drought, and related hazards. The drought that prevailed in the area over the last few years had a devastating impact in terms of the depletion of water and pasture resources, crop loss, livestock mortality, malnutrition, morbidity, disruption of livelihoods, and the like. This has rendered the local communities victims of humanitarian crisis.

With a view to addressing the prevailing crisis, Action for Development is currently implementing a humanitarian recovery intervention. Among other things, the project pertains to the supply of different types of crop seed, forage seed, vegetable seeds, veterinary intervention, WASH, and complementary cash transfer. The project, which directly benefits 3,148 affected households, is already witnessed to have gone a long way in improving local food security and complementing livelihoods.

One of the beneficiaries of the project is Kadiya Mohammed Hasen, a 45-year-old mother of five residing in the Goro Meta Kebele, of the woreda. With just a 0.65 hectare of farmland, she struggles to fend for her household amidst erratic rainfall patterns. The 2023 crop season proved particularly difficult, as the rains ceased prematurely, threatening her harvest.



In a crucial intervention, Kadiya received 25.5 kg of improved, early maturing Chickpea seed from the AFD humanitarian project. She was also supported with a complementary direct cash transfer of Birr 3800, to enable her make ends meet. Despite the challenging weather conditions, the improved Chickpea seed yielded a remarkable harvest of 7 quintals. Reserving half of the yield for leaner days, and for future planting, Kadiya sold half of her harvest at the local market, and got Birr 35,000, whereby generating income to purchase essential food and non-food household items. Utilizing the cash assistance provided by the project, she purchased five hybrid chicken. This

investment provided her with a sustainable source of eggs for both consumption and sale, further bolstering her income and nutritional security, beside significantly improving her financial stability.

Appreciating the project's timely support, and witnessing its transformative impact on her life, Kadiya says, "I have overcome adversity, and achieved self-sufficiency. The seeds of change and cash support have enabled me to improve the well being of my family, and look into the future with confidence". Her fellow villagers who have benefited from the project relate similar stories as well. Stories of more secure livelihoods, and of resilience.



Kadiya's harvest