

## FIGHTING FUTURE FAMINES IN ETHIOPIA

### #2 / Project Report

#### Overview of Disaster Risk

Ethiopia is extremely vulnerable to disasters, and in particular, climate-induced disasters. By the end of 2015, Ethiopia was suffering its worst drought in fifty years due to the global El Nino. In the next 30 years, temperatures are expected to rise by 2 degrees, which will devastate unprepared farming communities.

Ethiopia has been identified as a key high-risk area, where climate change will almost certainly increase the frequency and occurrence of floods and droughts<sup>1</sup>. This increasing variability will more likely than not lead to food shortages within the country<sup>2</sup>.

#### Current Situation

The World Bank Climate Profile of Ethiopia identified the following disaster risks in Ethiopia:

- 1) Climate change will almost certainly increase the frequency and occurrence of floods and droughts
- 2) Increasing variability and droughts will lead to food shortages
- 3) Livestock production will be negatively affected, exacerbating disasters when they do happen

#### World Vision Resilience Response

The aim of this project is to help farming families and their children to avoid losing everything to climate change and its effects, while also preparing children – as change-makers and primary generation bearing the brunt of climate change in the coming years – to face, brace against and protect themselves against the onset of climate change.

Over the course of the project,

1. **565 households** who were badly affected by heavy rain and snow were **provided seeds and other agricultural inputs** to restart their farms
2. **2 vulnerable families in poor living conditions** were selected to receive materials to build a new house
3. **202 farmers were trained in climate-resilient agricultural techniques** to sustain their livelihoods in the coming years
4. **228 community and government official** were trained on natural resource conservation, compost preparation, and utilization of fertility and water retention capacity.



*Cultivation of seedlings in government nurseries for vulnerable farmers' transplanting*

<sup>1</sup> Changes in precipitation patterns, rainfall variability, and temperature, which could increase the frequency and occurrence of floods and droughts

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. "The increasing year-to-year variability and increases in both droughts and heavy precipitation events lowers agricultural production with corresponding negative effects on food security".

5. **3,745,000 tree seedlings were planted on 2,200 hectares of degraded land**, contributing towards the national tree planting campaign goal of creating a “Green Ethiopia”.
6. **272 most vulnerable households were provided 900kg of improved maize seeds and 100,000kg of improved wheat**, feeding 1,360 people.
7. **74 teachers and students were trained in disaster risk management.** This training of trainers initiative cascaded into training of a further 1,530 students, 35 teachers, and 255 farmers. It also enabled some schools to independently plant 14,500 tree seedlings and develop soil and water conservation structures.
8. **46 members of the Oromia Regional Education Bureau were engaged in an advocacy workshop and training** to include Disaster Risk Reduction into existing school curriculums. This resulted in an increased willingness and commitment to revise the primary school syllabus in 2020 to include Disaster Risk Reduction.



*Fully constructed house of one of the vulnerable families  
– Mr Berhanu*



*Farmers received practical training on compost preparation and utilization*

### **Moving forward**

Thank you for your generosity and love for children and their families in their time of greatest need. On behalf of beneficiaries who may never have a chance to thank you personally, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your gift to send hope and help in this disaster-stricken area.

The Survival Fund by World Vision Singapore allows us to reach out to disaster-stricken victims and is a way to allow us to stand in the gap while both bracing at-risk communities and providing relief to those recovering from disasters. To learn more, visit [www.worldvision.org.sg/disaster](http://www.worldvision.org.sg/disaster).



*Children in schools learning about natural resource and environmental management to cope with the future effects of climate change*