

THE EUROPEAN UNION EMERGENCY TRUST FUND FOR STABILITY AND ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA

**Action Fiche for the implementation of the Horn of Africa Window
EUTF05 – HoA – ET - xx**

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title/Number	Building Resilience to Impacts of El Niño through Integrated Complementary Actions to the EU Resilience Building Programme in Ethiopia (RESET Plus)		
Total cost	Total estimated cost: EUR 22,500,000 Total amount from the EU Trust Fund: EUR 22,500,000		
Aid method / Method of implementation	Project Modality: direct management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants – Negotiated procedure • PAGODA Delegation • Service/works contracts 		
DAC-code	52010	Sector	Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture

2. RATIONALE AND CONTEXT

2.1. Summary of the action and its objectives

The project (RESET Plus) is based on objective one "greater economic and employment opportunities" and two "strengthening resilience of communities and in particular the most vulnerable, as well as refugees and displaced people" of the **EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa**, and is aligned with the **Valletta Action Plan** priority domain number one "Development benefits of migration and addressing root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement". This project is part of the global EU response to the El Niño phenomenon.

The implementation of this project, and the wider EU’s development response to el Nino in the Horn of Africa, under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa is consequent with the effects of climate change on forced migration. Alongside armed conflict and insecurity, **droughts and other climate-change events are a major driver of displacement in the region**, particularly in Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan. A disaggregation of natural hazards versus conflict related displacement (World Bank, 2015) shows that **nearly 30% of forced migration in the region is due to climate change**. Indeed, the latter threatens to undermine development gains and future opportunities, as it increases the vulnerability of households, ethnic and resource-based conflict, and consequent dispossession and forced displacement.

As this project builds on the on-going implementation of the project Resilience Building in Ethiopia (RESET II), also financed by the EU Trust Fund for Africa, the **geographical coverage** of this action will largely focused on the eight existing RESET II geographical clusters (Waghimra, Afar, Siti, Liben, Bale, Borena, Wolayta, and South Omo). However, some activities might also take place beyond the demarcation of these geographical clusters as long as this is necessary to maximise the impact of the proposed project.

The **intervention logic** of the proposed project is that by investing in economic opportunities and in long-term resilience building measures with strong links between emergency, recovery and long term development will have multiple impacts in a) achieving long term food security through increasing productivity and income; b) maximizing direct and indirect employment opportunities for asset-poor groups; and c) empowering women and youth. By improving the food and nutrition security of the targeted areas and

enhancing the economic/livelihoods opportunities, the proposed action will help tackling the root causes triggering destabilization, forced displacement and irregular migration.

The **overall objective** of the action is to contribute to addressing the adverse effects of el Nino on the resilience of already vulnerable regions and communities, and reduce the effects of forced displacement and irregular migration in the region.

The **specific objective** of the action is to address the structural and systemic root causes of vulnerability and chronic food and nutrition insecurity of populations in most vulnerable areas. There will be a specific focus on targeting rural women and youth who are most vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity in the context of extreme weather events and climate change. Overpopulation being one of the main global factors triggering migration and food insecurity in vulnerable areas, this intervention will also work on improving the awareness of the impacts of demographic pressure and consolidated family planning practices, ensuring a proper linkage between these practices and resilience.

2.2. Context

2.2.1. Country context

Internal migration, irregular migration, trafficking in human beings and smuggling of people are transnational challenges that affect Ethiopia to high degree. A country with an estimated population close to 100 million inhabitants, Ethiopia hosts over a million displaced persons, including about 730 000 refugees, the largest refugee population in Africa. The geostrategic situation of Ethiopia makes it a source of, a destination for, and a transit region for migration and refugee flows, mostly within the region but also to the Gulf countries and Middle East (Eastern Route), Europe (Northern route) and South Africa (Southern route). Ethiopia has an open door policy to migrants and refugees fleeing war, famine and hunger. In this context, it is often difficult to clearly distinguish irregular migrants from refugees. The concept of mixed migration has thus appeared to describe these complex population movements including refugees and asylum seekers, unaccompanied minors, victims of trafficking, economic migrants and others often travelling in an irregular manner. Ethiopia is increasingly becoming a transit country for mixed migration flows, mainly from Eritrea and Somalia using primarily the Western route, as well as a country of departure for migrants mainly using the Eastern route and to a lesser extent the Southern and Northern routes.

According to demographic projections, more than a million young Ethiopians enter the labour market every year. The challenge of their socioeconomic integration is immense. A lack of success in integrating these young people would be a collective failure and it could risk destabilising Ethiopia. In addition, Ethiopia is regularly hit by humanitarian crises.

In Ethiopia, there is a strong causal relationship between climate variability and vulnerabilities of rural households, for whom rain-fed agriculture remains the main source of livelihoods. As a result of increasing rainfall variability due to climate change over the past years, rural communities are experiencing greater scarcity of water and reduced food productions, which in turn exacerbate the existing social and economic problems. These, combined with high levels of poverty and low levels of technology, leave people with limited choices and few resources to absorb and adapt to climate shocks.

Moreover, Ethiopia is particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and concomitant recurring droughts due to rapid growth of human and livestock population. This further increases pressure on exhausted arable land and pasture, the destruction of the natural vegetation because of deforestation, overgrazing, cultivation of hillside slopes and a lack of sustainable natural resource management system. In addition, poor farming practices and limited access to modern farming technologies, as well as to basic social services further undermine communities' resilience.

2.2.2. Sector context

The year 2015 was an atypical one as the *El Niño* phenomenon caused the worst drought in decades and severe food insecurity in most parts of Ethiopia: the country has missed two consecutive rainy seasons, leaving some 18 million people (almost 20% of the total population of the country) in need of humanitarian assistance. The most affected parts of the country are a substantial part of the cropping areas in the eastern and central parts of Ethiopia. Southern and Eastern Tigray, Eastern Amhara, Eastern Oromia, and parts of Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNNPR) have experienced crop production which were lower than the needs of the population. Waghimra is a good example where the *Kiremt* rains on which they depend for the only crop of the year has become increasingly unreliable and over half the population is under Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) or drought assistance in any bad year.

The pastoralist areas (Afar, Somali and Borena) similarly suffered from failed *Ganna/Gu/Sugum/Dirac* (March-May) season and the poor onset of the *Karma/Karan* (July-September) seasonal rains, resulting in massive livestock out-migration from the most severely affected areas. As with previous severe droughts in the Horn of Africa (2010/11), it is expected that herd rebuilding will be beyond the capacity and resources of many poorer pastoral households and that these households will drop out of pastoralism to join the growing number of ex-pastoralists in the country. At least in the short-term, many of these households in transition will remain vulnerable to livelihood shocks as they would not gain much from precarious livelihood strategies in peri-urban areas around market-towns and trading centres.

Looking back to previous *El-Niño* episodes, it is highly likely that *La Niña* event, which is characterised by wetter-than-normal conditions for the *Kiremt* season, will set in. International climate models indicate the likelihoods of *La Niña* beginning to strengthen from August 2016¹.

Generally, the impact of the climate-induced shocks and continual high number of people in need of emergency assistance every year has mainly caught the attention of humanitarian donors with a focus on short-term responses. However, such short-term responses could not bring sustainable livelihood as most of them target the effects rather than the root causes of food insecurity.

Ethiopian food insecurity is not only due to drought but there are also other structural factors aggravating it. These, among others, include:

- *Demographic growth*: Ethiopia's population has more than tripled in just over forty years, from 30 million in 1974 to close to 100 million today. Most vulnerable areas of the country are already overpopulated in relation to their capacity to produce food and, in the absence of external aid, the only future for many of their inhabitants may lie in migration.
- *Limited access to potable water*: despite the government efforts, access to water, hygiene and sanitation still remain inadequate. According the Growth and Transformation Plan II (GTP 2016-2020), standard, the rural, urban and national water supply coverages were estimated as 59%, 51% and 58%, respectively. The gap is considerable and when drought strikes, the different water points in the remote areas dry-up, leaving large number of vulnerable people under serious water stress. The drought of 2015/2016 provides typical scenario of such an impact whereby 5.8 million people were affected by acute water shortages.
- *Vulnerability to climate change*: climate change is not solely to blame for persistent food insecurity. The rural poor are disproportionately vulnerable because of their greater dependence on agriculture and their lack of awareness about, and limited possibilities to, adopt new technologies.
- *Land tenure and carrying capacity*: of the many factors that lie at the root of low productivity in Ethiopia, land is a key problem. With an average size of 1.2 ha, or as low as 0.5 ha in most of the farming vulnerable areas, plots are too small and fragmented to reap economies of scale or even to feed the average family of five. Because land is owned by the state and farmers' tenure is less secure as a consequence, smallholders' incentives to invest in their plots is limited, so also is their ability to obtain finance for investment on the land.

¹ According to the International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Colombia University, during early August 2016 the tropical Pacific SST anomaly was close to -0.5C, approaching the weak *La Niña* threshold. During the November, December January season, the probability of *La Niña* reaches to 60%

- *Limited uses of supplemental irrigation and heavy dependence on rain-fed farming:* Despite the existence of enormous potential for irrigated production and government's recognition of the critical need for development of small-scale irrigation schemes, only limited areas of land are under irrigation.
- *Limited alternative opportunities in the rural areas:* The rural youth and women are facing tremendous challenges in accessing scarce livelihood opportunities. This is partially owing to the limited level of literacy and relevant skills. Thus, migration for short term employment has been a feature of the livelihoods of the poorest in many parts of the country. As population numbers increase, so does the number of young people migrating for employment².

Hence, investing in economic opportunities and in long-term resilience building measures with strong links between emergency, recovery and long term development will have multiple impacts in achieving long term food security and also curbing irregular migration, in particular by preserving viable livelihoods through increasing productivity and income, and maximizing direct or indirect employment opportunities for asset-poor groups. This calls for a more holistic long-term investment in tailored activities with high impact potential for recovery and improvements of households' food security and enhanced resilience. The action is tailored to that end and is anticipated to reinforce and maximize the implementation of RESET II action which is designed to achieve this dual purpose: mid-term recovery and long-term resilience of the affected people.

The formulation of this programme reflects key policies developed by the Ethiopian government. The Government of Ethiopia has placed resilience high on its agenda with a number of appropriate policies and strategies in place, the overarching one being the ambitious Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) which sets a long-term goal for Ethiopia to become a middle-income country by 2025. The GTP sets overall strategic framework for the country's development. Building on the achievement and lessons of GTP I (2010-2015), the GTP II (2016-2020) seeks to further accelerate human development, with emphasis on enhancing productive capacity and competitiveness and increasing the industrial share of the economy. It's Agricultural Sector Policy and Investment Framework (2010- 2020) articulates more specific details for the agriculture sector that pursues agricultural transformation by increasing private sector investment, value addition, and the value of exports. This framework describes four priority areas i) achieve a sustainable increase in agricultural productivity and production; ii) accelerate agricultural commercialization and agro-industrial development; iii) reduce degradation and improve productivity of natural resources; and iv) achieve universal food security and protect vulnerable households from natural disasters. The GTP is supported by a number of sectorial policies, such as the Food Security Programme (FSP), which includes the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP), the Disaster Risk Management Strategic Programme and Investment Framework (DRM-SPIF), the National Nutrition Programme (NNP), the Health Sector Development Programme, the Water Resources Management Policy or the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE).

2.3. Lessons learnt

This action builds on, and complements, RESET II which is in turn based on short-mid-long term strategies and joint EU humanitarian and development programming and management. It considers multi-sectoral interventions and is also informed by an in depth situation analysis that is being carried out by the Ethiopian Development and Research Institute (EDRI) in each of RESET II clusters to prioritize those activities that specifically address the impacts of El-Niño in the short-medium term and the root causes of vulnerability in the areas of intervention in the long-term. Other studies and analyses have also provided the necessary information for formulating the specific activities to be funded by the current action in the respective clusters.

Tackling poverty in drought prone and chronically food insecure areas requires a holistic approach that integrates humanitarian response, disaster risk reduction and long-term development. It is therefore important that livelihood diversification and income creation initiatives look for economic and job opportunities outside agriculture and pastoral livelihoods by complementing relevant sets of skills and engaging the private sector. Whilst RESET II focuses on creating better access to basic services, DRM and

enhancing livelihood income and diversification of opportunities more at household levels, RESET Plus aims to work more on the improvement of the systems, from micro to macro levels and the inter-linkage between sectors.

The preparation of the action is supported by an evidence-based approach underpinned by the EU's prior and ongoing experience and its understanding of local contexts in the targeted areas. Experience showed that resilience building can only lead to concrete and sustainable results if a complementary approach is applied using humanitarian as well as development tools and mechanisms. To respond to the immediate crisis situations and at the same time to address the root causes of vulnerability, both development and humanitarian funding is required and each source of funding should be applied according to the respective comparative advantages.

The fact that the root causes of vulnerability are multi-faceted means that more integrated approaches need to be adopted in addressing them. Without tackling key factors like the demographic pressure, investment in others may result only into short-term gains. Likewise, the social and cultural barriers (skills gap, employability) need to be addressed to enable the rural landless and potential migrants' access to job opportunities.

It is also to be noted that social protection programmes cannot by themselves bring the intended impact in terms of increasing productivity and long-term resilience, unless they are well integrated with livelihood asset building and economic productivity for achieving self-reliant and long term resilience of the most vulnerable households.

Regarding gender, through the research component of RESET and the application of its findings to all interventions, implementing partners will be able to improve the coherence, impact and effectiveness of gender programming and monitoring approaches. Such exercise will require a thorough examination of the two-way causal relationships between women's empowerment and community or household-level resilience, and connect with the ambitious goal of transforming gender relations and the overall theory of change for the resilience building programme.

The on-going collaboration between EU (Joint Research Centre, JRC) and UNICEF in mapping ground water resources in pilot drought-prone areas of the country has already reached some successes and lessons that earned appreciation from the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy. Indeed, the mapping increases the success rate of drilling productive deep wells, providing access to sustainable water sources to communities living in areas with water shortage. This initiative sets important stepping stones and will be rolled out in the RESET Plus clusters and beyond.

Experience from the USAID funded GRAD project reveals that village economic and social associations (VESA) members developed more confidence to take Microfinance Institutions (MFI) loans to invest in new livelihoods activities because they have gained skills to better use of the credit and most agree that the VESA loans are easy to access³. Such groups also offer entry point for further skills building, awareness raising (BCC) with respect to nutrition, family planning/reproductive health, gender, (women empowerment) and engagement in income generating activities that enable them earn good return.

To address barriers of accessing loan through MFI, some programmes have started supporting several MFIs to developed new products, and have using loan guarantees and insurance schemes to mitigate financial risk related to lending to poor households and individuals. Such schemes have enabled the beneficiaries to finance income-generating activities and value chain development opportunities, and these could be further promoted and scaled up/out to reach much more vulnerable people.

2.4. Complementary actions

The current intervention will **focus on the complementarity with past and existing resilience building initiatives** supported by the EU addressing some of the root causes of vulnerability through different sectorial interventions such as governance, health, agriculture, or infrastructure. The EU has provided

³ USAID/Feed the Future Ethiopia Livelihoods for Resilience Activity (RFA-663-16-000008)

funding in the order of €300 million since 2012 for resilience building projects in Ethiopia through the ECHO Humanitarian Implementation Plan, the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), Strengthening Horn of Africa Resilience (SHARE), RESET, and PSNP. These joint interventions are considered in the RESET programme, to best benefit from the synergies and complementarities between EU humanitarian and development interventions.

The key features of the joint resilience building model of the EU development and humanitarian aid in Ethiopia (RESET) is iterated by a geographical cluster approach focusing on the most chronically food insecure *woredas*, and based on multi-annual planning whereby nutrition is considered as an entry point.

RESET is based on 4 cornerstones for building resilience, namely i) improving the provision of basic services (WASH, nutrition, etc.); ii) support to livelihoods; iii) linkage to safety nets; and iv) disaster risk management. The EUR 47 million RESET II currently targets 41 *woredas* though additional financial investment would be needed in order to properly build the resilience and expand the coping capacities of the most vulnerable population. Implementation of RESET II is on-going.

The on-going IcSP programme for Ethiopia (EUR 18 million) supports aspects of early recovery based on identified priority needs aimed at fostering social and economic stability of drought affected smallholder farmers and (agro) pastoralists by reducing their vulnerability to shocks (improved resilience).

The EU is currently implementing the *Stemming Irregular Migration in Northern and Central Ethiopia* (SINCE, EUR 20 million) to tackle destabilisation and the root causes of irregular migration and displacement through creating greater economic and employment opportunities, especially for young people and women, with a focus on vocational trainings and the creation of micro and small enterprises. In particular, SINCE intends to enhance the living conditions of potential migrants and returnees through the on-the-job training and capacity development of the target population. RESET Plus will closely work with SINCE by sharing experiences and lessons in view of advancing the EU resilience agenda and understanding the dynamics and addressing root causes of migration.

Furthermore, the EU through its Regional Development and Protection Programme in Ethiopia (EUR 30 million) and humanitarian support (EUR14 million in 2015, EUR 36.5 million in 2016) also supports the over 700,000 refugees hosted in Ethiopia. ECHO has also mobilized EUR133.5M for humanitarian response to the effects of drought 2015/2016, and provided most needed support to the affected local populations and IDPs through food assistance, nutritional treatment, health, WASH and livelihoods.

Finally, the on-going collaboration between the EU (JRC) and UNICEF to locate sustainable deep groundwater, whereby satellite image analysis of the worst affected *woredas* conducted by JRC, helped locating potential groundwater reservoir and selection of appropriate sites for drilling with high probability of success. Expanding this type of technical and scientific support to RESET Plus clusters will help RESET implementation partners and others reduce risk of drilling negative wells and save significant costs which they would have incurred otherwise.

2.5. Donor coordination

In Ethiopia, achieving effective coordination, alignments, synergies and harmonization among the various partners entails enormous challenges. There is a consolidated Rural Economic Development and Food Security (RED&FS) platform located at the Ministry of Agriculture that aims at enhancing the coordination between donors and the Government. The Humanitarian Resilience Donor Group is also an active platform of coordination around resilience.

The partnership with the national and local authorities as well as with other partners intervening in the target areas is an essential part of the approach. RESET has already set minimum standards of governance and external/internal coordination and also inter/intra clusters coordination mechanisms which equally serves this action too.

3. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The central theme of this action will be *Resilience Building* through integrated and cross sectorial approaches to improving the three capacities, namely, **absorptive capacity** (disaster risk management), **adaptive capacity** (long-term livelihoods investment), and **transformative capacity** (improved governance and enabling conditions). The actions should ensure that partners and sectors work together to promote resilience by leveraging experiences and lessons, adopting complementary strategies with on-going actions and government flagship programmes. The interventions will specifically focus on the most vulnerable groups (poor households, landless/jobless rural youth and women) but also the better off as long as that leverages creating opportunities for the vulnerable people. At the same time, interventions at a higher systemic level will be considered whenever relevant in order to address the more structural underlying causes of vulnerability.

3.1. Objectives

The overall objective of the action is to contribute to addressing the adverse effects of el Nino on the resilience of already vulnerable regions and communities, and reduce the effects of forced displacement and irregular migration in the region.

The specific objective of the action is to address the structural and systemic root causes of vulnerability and chronic food and nutrition insecurity of populations in most vulnerable areas. There will be a specific focus on targeting rural women and youth who are most vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity in the context of extreme weather events and climate change. Overpopulation being one of the main global factors triggering migration and food insecurity in vulnerable areas, this intervention will also work on improving the awareness of the impacts of demographic pressure and consolidated family planning practices, ensuring a proper linkage between these practices and resilience.

3.2. Expected results and main activities

The expected results are as follows:

Result 1: Improved access to safe water at community level by reinforcing water harvesting, storage and water management systems, focusing on large schemes benefiting multiple communities

The proposed activities (indicative) are:

- Conduction of deep groundwater mapping, hydrogeological maps, and establishment of a groundwater database;
- Capacity building on well-sitting, drilling supervision and groundwater management;
- Rehabilitation and/or installation of water sources (*birkats*, *ellas*, ponds, subsurface/sand dams);
- Support water storage (rainwater harvesting schemes) and community water management;
- Sanitation promotion (promotion of Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approaches);
- Support strengthening water management system, development of water management strategies including contingency planning for water utilization and management.

Result 2: Improved awareness of impacts of demographic pressure and consolidated family planning practices, ensuring a proper linkage between these practices and resilience

The proposed activities (indicative) are:

- Awareness, attitudinal changes, promotion of family planning, counselling on reproductive and sexual health, particularly those targeting at youth and women;
- Awareness creation on sexual and reproductive health at different local forums like school clubs, *idir*, community meeting places, health service centres, markets or religious spaces;
- Promotion of changes in social norms and values related to gender and sexual and reproductive health;

- Active engagement of men and male youth in sexual and reproductive health;
- Awareness raising on gender issues, particularly targeting non-traditional actors such as community and religious leaders, men and youth;
- Support to access to quality reproductive and sexual health and family planning services, particularly in remote and vulnerable areas, and building capacities of health providers;
- Support non-traditional and social marketing of contraceptives such as outlets (kiosks), engaging trained youth and women, or non-traditional retail outlets.

Result 3: Improved sustainable livelihood through innovative actions in the areas of irrigation, livestock production, access to markets, value chain development, seeds reserve management, and climate smart initiatives, particularly focusing on the improvement of systems from micro to macro levels

Funds will be available to support interventions that target the root causes of food insecurity and/or bring innovation at system and/or household levels in the selected geographical areas. The proposed activities (indicative) are:

- Value chain mapping in agricultural and livestock sectors, analysis of potential markets for the selected livelihood options and link them to markets, linkage between different value chain actors/stakeholders, and support value chain forums;
- Build the capacity of vulnerable men, women, and youth to sustainably move up a value chain and remain in agricultural production as a viable livelihood;
- Promotion of nutrient-dense crops production;
- Support small-scale irrigation schemes with accompanying agronomic practices;
- Assess and strengthen the seed management systems, including the engagement with public and private seed actors, decentralization of the sector, marketing, and quality control;
- Promote community-based seed production/multiplication, taking experiences from inter alia EU funded programmes or small-scale seed business;
- Support agro-pastoralists with improved early-maturing and drought resistant crop and forage seeds;
- Support coordination among seed actors, coordinate with Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA);
- Support climate smart initiatives, linking with the CRGE investment plan, conservation of pastures land (community awareness raising on climate change, environmental protection, rangeland and watershed management).

Result 4: Enhanced access to employment opportunities for vulnerable youth and women within their localities and/or other nearby areas where additional job opportunities existing and/or could be available in a more sustainable way

The proposed activities (indicative) are:

- Identification of existing and potential labour market opportunities through conducting labour market assessments in the selected project areas;
- Understanding/studying the quality of employees (youth migrating from rural to urban areas) required by prospective and existing employers (skills, customer service, behaviour, attitudes, and trustworthiness);
- Demand driven business and vocational skills training that enable small business or self-employment or group business in the rural and peri-urban areas;
- Training, linking and social support to wage employees (support organization of wage employees);

- Establish social clubs, social networking to enhance information exchange among youth, youth centres that provide information services for income generation (entertainment, ICT, family planning, newspaper, social media, etc.), and link with micro and small enterprise (MSE);
- Support the integration of value-chain development principles into off-farm diversification;
- Support youth and women-led off-farm/non-farm activities that diversify livelihoods;
- Support access to financial service for off-farm/non-farm engagements and entrepreneurship for youth and women;
- Strengthen local financial services and financial products for vulnerable women and youth;
- Support development, launching and cascading of the Rural Job Opportunity Creation (RJOC) strategy, liaising with Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) and RJOC Directorate of the Government of Ethiopia.

3.3. Risks and assumptions

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Severe Drought and food security crisis	H	A crisis modifier mechanism is introduced under RESET II; the process of flexible use of fund ongoing EU financed programmes proposed and approved.
Political instability	H	The government acknowledges that the cause of the unrests in the different parts of the country is due to lack of good governance and that it is working to enforce good governance and then instil stability. However, the programme is focussing on youth (as on women) economic empowerment, applying do-no-harm principles, to avoid conflict related to access to resources created through the project. Furthermore, the EU and other partners remain active in political dialogue to insure democratic and good governance in the country.
Environment and climate change, including possible impact of La Niña	M	The program intends to use different platforms and work on awareness creation and promotion of appropriate measures in the area of sustainable natural resource management and climate change adaptation.

Concerning the assumptions, the main one is that chronic humanitarian and long term needs, recurrent food insecurity (caused by drought) and migration (arising from economic and social exclusion, marginalization and inequality), can be more efficiently addressed via a longer term resilience approach, linking humanitarian and development actions, than via short term reactive rapid response actions and disconnected development activities.

Secondly, it is assumed that actions can have much greater impact if information and experience exchange of lessons generated across the programme are used to influence other development programming. In terms of joint programming, RESET programmes are becoming a model of integrated multi-sectoral, multi-agent, multi-level intervention to build resilience of vulnerable communities prone to food insecurity and irregular migration. The standards set in terms of coordination, and M&E are to provide very substantial experiences and lessons for further programming support not only for the EU but also other donors and stakeholders.

A third assumption is that the tense political situation will subside. Indeed, the recently developing political unrest in some parts of the country is of course one major concern. Unless it is solved through constructive

engagement between the government and the people, accessibility in the field may be restricted and planning and implementation of the programme activities may be difficult. When such level of tension exists, the implementing partners are required to secure authorization from the government, which is always subject of severe scrutiny.

3.4. Cross-cutting issues

Gender, nutrition, youth, and climate change are the key crossing cutting issues that should be considered across the Results of the action.

- *Gender*: despite the significant roles that women play in local economy (agriculture, off-farm etc.) their productivity is constrained by unequal access and control over resources like land, financial services, information, and technologies, and capacities. Socio-cultural issues such as men's control over the means of production, women's disproportionate share of reproductive/care responsibilities, lower female educational attainment levels, and socio-religious restrictions on women's mobility constitute common barriers for many women to gainfully participate in labour markets. In all project components, gender mainstreaming, integrating the concerns of women and men through identifying gender differences in vulnerabilities and coping strategies, and determining gender-sensitive livelihoods options and appropriate disaster risk reduction measures, needs to be considered. These imply changing social norms restricting interaction of men and women in markets, fostering opportunities for women to build stronger, broader, more trusting commercial relationships (horizontal and vertical) and addressing gender issues in creating incentives for adopting new livelihood technologies.
- *Nutrition*: nutrition smart approaches addressing behavioural changes, nutrition sensitive productions (agriculture), dietary diversity, adoption of nutrition-enhancing activities to effectively link livelihoods with nutritional outcomes should be embedded into livelihood interventions.
- *Youth*: the rapid population growth is producing significant shifts in the demographic profile: actually 45% of the population is under 15 and the population under 25 represent over 60% of the total. Marginalized youth, including young women in remote rural areas, face challenges in accessing livelihood opportunities and the risk of being trapped in low-return agriculture and marginal employment. Not only are opportunities for off-farm income and wage jobs limited, but also youth tend to have low levels of literacy and work-relevant skills and limited access to livelihood assets. Interventions for productive engagement of youth in market systems and nonfarm employment are key to the current and future development of the country. Improving knowledge and technical skills of youth through vocational training to enable them secure jobs in different sectors is also vital to engage in gainful opportunities.
- *Climate change*: over the last recent decades, climate change is adding a new dimension to the challenges of food and nutritional insecurity by altering growing seasons, increasing frequencies and severities of weather extremes such as drought and floods. Climate change has significantly impacted on securing household water, food and fuel that are usually the responsibility of women and girls, especially in rural areas. Rural livelihood systems are highly sensitive to climate change pressures that exacerbate existing social and economic problems, deplete natural resources, and reduce productivity. These, combined with high levels of poverty and low levels of technology, leave people with limited choices and few resources to absorb and adapt to climate shocks. Addressing natural resources degradations through reversal of environmental degradation and restoration of the biodiversity and promotion of climate smart initiative, including environmentally friendly technologies and practices, is crucial to curb the adverse impacts of climate change, and enhance drought resilience, food and nutrition security of vulnerable groups.

3.5. Stakeholders

The action presents an integrated approach to resilience, implemented by different partners. It includes the work done with the local authorities in defined geographic areas, i.e. clusters of *woredas* which were already selected for the on-going project RESET II. The action will ensure and follow participatory approaches which will accommodate all stakeholders and seek close partnership with government institutions, the target beneficiary communities and their traditional institutions. Key stakeholders will be:

- *Target beneficiary communities:* the target beneficiary communities will be actively involved throughout the project cycle including in setting specific priority intervention areas and the targeting process. In addition, community leaders/elders will take part in project awareness creation and sensitization activities including in the mobilization of their respective communities, cascading of critical matters that require informal consents of the traditional leaders like the case of family planning. The approaches should adopt an empowerment that seeks meaningful participation and voice for women.
- *Implementing partners:* the implementing partners of this action will mostly be the RESET implementing consortia of NGOs, together with some other potential partners which have sufficient experience in implementing similar actions in the clusters and/or in areas close to the clusters as deemed necessary. In rolling out the exploration and mapping of the groundwater reservoir in the RESET clusters, UNICEF will specifically be engaged furthering the existing collaboration between EU-JRC and UNICEF. Given their specific experience, UN agencies such as ILO may be engaged particularly in the areas of job-placement, skills and entrepreneurship training, and microfinance services.
- *Government partners:* there will be a strong coordination mechanism and partnership with the local authorities at *kebele* (village) *woreda* (district), zone, and regional administration levels, as well as with regional research centres and the Microfinance Institutions. All proposed interventions in those clusters are jointly identified, appraised and are aligned with their respective local development plans. The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Federal Disaster Risk Management Commission, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy and other pertinent ministries like the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs will be involved in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of the program.
- *The private sector:* the role of the private sector in such kind of initiatives is highly recognized. It is also equally important to recognize the limitations that the private sector is facing. The private sector will be the final beneficiary of the skill that are brought in by the trained youths, the transactions that comes out as the result of the developing small-scale businesses in their localities, the value chains and market information, and changes in public perceptions on both youth (employees) and employers (private sector).
- *EU Member States:* the EU Delegation in Addis, ECHO field office, and the RESET partner EU Member States shall jointly plan, monitor and evaluate the project all the way from the assessment of action proposals and grant awarding process to monitoring and supervision during field implementation of the programme.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Financing Agreement

It is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

4.2. Indicative operational implementation period

The implementation period will be 42 months. The overall execution period (including a closure phase of no more than 24 months) will not exceed 66 months from the date of approval of this Action Document.

4.3. Envisaged implementation modality

The programme will benefit from the flexible procedures applied under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. The envisaged implementation modalities will be direct and indirect Management. Different aid modalities are envisaged in the current action.

Results 1 and 4 will be implemented through the direct award grant contracts to support the interventions of several consortia of some or all non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that are already implementing RESET II (ACF, SCI, Oxfam, Cordaid, CARE, DCA, IDE, and Vita consortia). The use of direct grants with these NGOs is justified by the need to limit the number of implementing partners of this proposed project for

the sake of coherence and coordination, and their distinct added value in terms of experience and technical capacity as current implementers of the on-going RESET activities. Some of the activities under Results 1 and 4 will be delegated to UNICEF and ILO, for which PAGODA- Delegation Agreements will be signed.

As far as result 2 is concerned, other potential NGOs implementing partners will be identified based on their expertise and experience, and a negotiated procedure will be conducted.

Result 3 will consist of an innovation fund with a call for proposals where non-governmental and international organisations and EU Member State Agencies will be invited to submit their proposals.

Other aid modalities such as service contracts will be considered for such activities as studies/identification of existing and potential labour market opportunities, labour market assessments in the selected project areas, and evaluation and audits.

4.4. Indicative budget

Component	Modality	Indicative amount in EUR
Result 1: Improved access to safe water at community level by reinforcing water harvesting, storage and water management systems, focusing on large schemes benefiting multiple communities	PAGODA + potential direct grants	7,000,000
Result 2: Improved awareness of impacts of demographic pressure and consolidated family planning practices, ensuring a proper linkage between these practices and resilience	Direct Grant	4,000,000
Result 3: Improved sustainable livelihood through innovative actions in the areas of irrigation, livestock development, access to markets, value chain development, seeds reserve management, and climate smart initiatives, particularly focusing on the improvement of systems from micro to macro levels	Call for proposals	6,000,000
Result 4: Enhanced access to employment opportunities for vulnerable youth and women within their localities and/or other nearby areas where additional job opportunities existing and/or could be available in a more sustainable way	Direct Grant + potential PAGODA	5,000,000
Study/identification of existing and potential labour market opportunities, labour market assessments in the selected project areas	Service Contract	300,000
Monitoring and Evaluation and Audit	Service Contract	150,000
Communication and visibility	Service Contract	50,000
Total		22,500,000

4.5. Evaluation and audit

Ad hoc audits or expenditure verification assignments could be contracted by the European Commission. Audits and expenditure verification assignments will be carried out in conformity with the risk analysis in the frame of the yearly Audit Plan exercise conducted by the European Commission. Evaluation and audit assignments will be implemented through service contracts; making use of one of the Commission's dedicated framework contracts or alternatively through the competitive negotiated procedure or the single tender procedure.

A mid-term review of the project will be conducted between 22 and 24 months after the beginning of the implementation.

4.6. Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU. This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner countries and entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be entered into the Agreements concluded by the Commission with the entrusted entities and the partner countries.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

A **logical framework** showing targets and indicators is attached.

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LOGFRAME MATRIX OF THE ACTION

The activities, the expected outputs and all the indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix are indicative and may be updated during the implementation of the action without an amendment to the action document. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for listing the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) when it is relevant and for reporting purpose on the achievement of results as measured by indicators. Please note that baselines and indicators will be defined during the inception phase.

	Intervention logic	Indicators	Baseline (2016)	Target (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective	To enhance the resilience of populations most vulnerable to shocks by improving their absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of months of food gap • Household dietary diversity (incl. gender and age specific) • Number/size/type/value of core productive livelihoods assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X months in 2016 • X types of meal of the targeted households in 2016 • X type/number of productive assets in 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X-x months in 2016+y year • X+x types meal of the household in 2016+y year • X+x productive assets of the households in 2016 + y year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final evaluation reports, • Regular monitoring database 	
Specific objective	To enhance the resilience to shock of chronically food insecure populations in most vulnerable areas by addressing the structural and systemic root causes of vulnerability and chronic food and nutrition insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coping Strategic Index (CSI) of the targeted households, • Percentage of households whose sources of income are diversified to at least three, • Hunger period as a result of improved access to food/number of months of food gap, • Fertility rate in the targeted areas, • Access to local employment opportunities in the targeted or nearby areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X level of CSI for targeted households in 2016 • X% of households whose sources of income are diversified to at least three in 2016 • X length of hunger period in 2016 • X fertility rate in 2016 • X% access to local employment opportunities in the targeted or nearby areas in 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X-x level of CSI for targeted households in year 2020 • X+x% of households whose sources of income are diversified to at least 3 in 2020 • X-x length of hunger period in 2020 • X-x fertility rate in 2020 • X+x% access to local employment opportunities in the targeted or nearby areas in 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSI surveys, • Household surveys/ impact assessments/ evaluation reports, • Data collected and analysed form HP/HC, • Nutritional survey reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political stability is ensured, security problems do not disrupt project activities and no problem of accessibility in the field, • The policy environment remains conducive for implementation, Government cooperation is ensured at all levels, • No unexpected input price hike and market disruption, • In case of unforeseen natural disasters, the effect will not have serious consequences on the normal implementation of the activities and/or the disaster loss will not

						<p>be too big to destroy programme gains,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key social services for the implementation of the project are functioning and providing supplementary support
Results	<p>Result 1: Improved access to safe water at community level by reinforcing water harvesting, storage and water management systems, focusing on large schemes benefiting multiple communities</p>	<p>1.1. Database on availability of deep water resources in the targeted areas</p> <p>1.2. No. of deep wells excavated , % of positive wells,</p> <p>1.3. No. (%) targeted people having access to a minimum of 15lit/person/day for cooking, drinking and personal hygiene,</p> <p>1.4. Reduced distance to water sources,</p> <p>1.5. No. (%) of water sources protected, treated and there is a zero faecal coliforms per 100ml at the point of delivery,</p> <p>1.6. No. (%) of water Management Committees effectively and independently managing the water schemes.</p>	<p>1.1. X database on availability of deep water resources in the targeted areas in 2016</p> <p>1.2. X deep wells excavated and X% of positive wells in 2016</p> <p>1.3. X% targeted population having access to a minimum of 15lit/person/day for cooking, drinking and personal hygiene, in 2016</p> <p>1.4. X distance to water resources in 2016</p> <p>1.5. X% of water sources protected, treated and there is a zero faecal coliforms per 100ml at the point of delivery, in 2016</p> <p>1.6. X% of water management committees effectively and independently managing water schemes in 2016</p>	<p>1.1. X+x database on availability of deep water resources in the targeted areas in year 2020</p> <p>1.2. X+x deep wells excavated and X+x % of positive wells in 2020</p> <p>1.3. X+x% targeted population having access to a minimum of 15lit/person/day for cooking, drinking and personal hygiene, in 2020</p> <p>1.4. X-x distance to water resources in 2020</p> <p>1.5. X+x% of water sources protected, treated and there is a zero faecal coliforms per 100ml at the point of delivery, in 2020</p> <p>1.6. X+x% of water management committees effectively and independently managing water schemes in 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners monitoring reports, • Secondary information from government relevant offices, • Baseline assessments, • End line assessments, • Evaluation report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change of priorities of implementing partners • Lack of technical and management capacities for implementation • Limited collaboration from the government side

	<p>Result 2: Improved awareness of impacts of demographic pressure and consolidated family planning practices, ensuring a proper linkage between these practices and resilience</p>	<p>2.1. Perception on family planning, 2.2. Contraceptive prevalence rate, 2.3. Understanding of linkages between demographic control and resilience, 2.4. Understanding of gender issues (women empowerment)</p>	<p>2.1 X % of informants reporting so in 2016 2.2 X contraceptive rate in 2016 2.3 X persons aware of linkages between demographic control and resilience in 2016 2.4 X persons aware of gender issues in 2016</p>	<p>2.1 X+x % of informants reporting so in 2020 2.2 X+x contraceptive rate in 2020 2.3 X+x persons aware of linkages between demographic control and resilience in 2020 2.4 X+x persons aware of gender issues in 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project assessments, evaluations, reports • Beneficiaries survey report • Secondary information from government relevant offices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requisite human resources with basic skills are available • Supply side and distribution of contraceptives is stable in the country • Full collaboration from key stakeholders
	<p>Result 3: Improved sustainable livelihood through innovative actions in the areas of irrigation, livestock production, markets and value chain development, seeds reserve management, and climate smart initiatives, particularly focusing on the improvement of systems from micro to macro levels</p>	<p>3.1 Percent in household agricultural productivity-quantity produced/unit area, 3.2 Percent in the share of irrigated farmland 3.3 Percent in coverage of improved/drought tolerant/nutritious crop varieties, 3.4 Percent in access to rural credit, 3.5. Percent households access to market, 3.6 Percent households access to inputs, 3.7 Climate resilient programmes</p>	<p>3.1 X% in household agricultural productivity-quantity produced/unit area, in 2016 3.2 X% households that have access to irrigated farmland in 2016 3.3. X% coverage of improved/drought tolerant/nutritious crop varieties in 2016 3.4 X% access to rural credit in 2016 3.5 X% access to market in 2016 3.6 X% access to inputs in 2016 3.7 X climate resilient programs in 2016</p>	<p>3.1 X+x% in household agricultural productivity-quantity produced/unit area, in 2020 3.2 X+x% households that have access to irrigated farmland in 2020 3.3. X+x% coverage of improved/drought tolerant/nutritious crop varieties in year 2020 3.4 X+x% access to rural credit in 2020 3.5 X+x% access to market in 2020 3.6 X+x% access to inputs in 2020 3.7 X+x climate resilient programs in year 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Progress report • AFIS CLIMIS Website • State and County Government reports • Stakeholder survey report • Training evaluation report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainees with potential capacity to analyse CLIMIS can be identified • SCPRP communication facilities still functional • Requisite human resources with basic skills are available • Government staff and stakeholders willing to provide accurate information on markets
	<p>Result 4: Enhanced access to employment opportunities for vulnerable youth and women within their localities and/or other nearby areas where additional job opportunities existing and/or could be available in a more</p>	<p>4.1 New jobs created in vulnerable communities/increase in the %/number of employed youths, 4.2 Number/size/type/value of core productive</p>	<p>4.1 X jobs created in vulnerable communities in year/X% of employed youths in 2016, 4.2 X core productive livelihood assets in</p>	<p>4.1 X+x jobs created in vulnerable communities in year Y+y /X+x% of employed youths in 2020, 4.2 X+x core productive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household Survey • Project progress reports • State and County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff available in the states to undertake agricultural statistics data collection • Trainees have potential to absorb training

	sustainable way	livelihood assets, 4.3 Percent of youths that earn above the margins of the national poverty threshold, 4.4 Functional system that provides linkage between employees and employer in place	2016, 4.3 X% of youths that earn above the margins of the national poverty threshold in 2016, 4.4 X functional system that provides linkage between employees and employer in place in 2016	livelihood assets in 2020, 4.3 X+x% of youths that earn above the margins of the national poverty threshold in year 2020, 4.4 X+x functional system that provides linkage between employees and employer in place 2020	Government reports • Stakeholder survey report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wiliness among different pastoralist agro-pastoralist and farmers groups to find agreement for better use of natural resources • Security situation allows for capacity building to be undertaken
Results		Activities				
Result 1: Improved access to safe water at community level by reinforcing water harvesting, storage and water management systems, focusing on large schemes benefiting multiple communities		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deep groundwater mapping, prepare hydrogeological map, and groundwater database, 2. Capacity building on well-sitting, drilling supervision and groundwater management, 3. Rehabilitation and/or installation of water sources (<i>birkats, ellas</i>, ponds, subsurface/sand dams), 4. Support water storage (rainwater harvesting schemes) and community water management, 5. Sanitation promotion (promotion of Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTSH) approaches), 6. Support strengthening water management system, development of water management strategies including contingency planning for water utilization and management 				
Result 2: Improved awareness of impacts of demographic pressure and consolidated family planning practices, ensuring a proper linkage between these practices and resilience		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness, attitudinal changes, promotion of family planning, counselling on reproductive and sexual health, particularly those targeting at youth and women, 2. Awareness creation on sexual and reproductive health at different local forums like school clubs, <i>idir</i>, community meeting places, health service centres, markets, religious spaces such as mosques and churches, etc. 3. Promotion of changes in social norms and values related to gender and sexual and reproductive health 4. Active engagement of men and male youth in sexual and reproductive health 5. Awareness raising on gender issues, targeting non-traditional actors such as community and religious leaders, men and youth, 6. Support to access to quality reproductive and sexual health and family planning services, particularly in remote and vulnerable areas, and building capacities of health providers 7. Support non-traditional and social marketing of contraceptives such as outlets (kiosks), engaging trained youth and women, non-traditional retail outlets, etc. 				
Result 3: Improved sustainable livelihood through innovative actions in the areas of irrigation, livestock production, markets and value chain development, seeds reserve management, and climate smart initiatives, particularly focusing on the improvement of systems from micro to macro levels		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Value chain mapping in agricultural and livestock sectors, analysis of potential markets for the selected livelihood options and link them to markets, linkage between different value chain actors/stakeholders, and support value chain forums, 2. Build the capacity of vulnerable men, women, and youth to sustainably move up a value chain and remain in agricultural production as a viable livelihood, 3. Promotion of nutrient-dense crops production, 4. Support small-scale irrigation schemes with accompanying agronomic practices, 5. Assess and strengthen the seed management systems, including the engagement with public and private seed actors, 				

	<p>decentralization of the sector, marketing, and quality control,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Promote community based seed production/multiplication, small-scale seed business, etc. 7. Support agro-pastoralists with improved early-maturing and drought resistant crop and forage seeds, 8. Support coordination among seed actors, coordinate with Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA), 9. Support climate smart initiatives, linking with the CRGE investment plan, conservation of pastures land (community awareness raising on climate change, environmental protection, rangeland and watershed management)
<p>Result 4: Enhanced access to employment opportunities for vulnerable youth and women within their localities and/or other nearby areas where additional job opportunities existing and/or could be available in a more sustainable way</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of existing and potential labour market opportunities, labour market assessments in the selected project areas 2. Understanding/studying the quality of employees (youth migrating from rural to urban areas) required by prospective and existing employers (skills, customer service, behaviour, attitudes, and trustworthiness), 3. Demand driven business and vocational skills training that enable small business or self-employment or group business in the rural and peri-urban areas, 4. Training, linking and social support to wage employees (support organization of wage employees), 5. Establish social clubs, social networking to enhance information exchange among youth, youth centres that provide information services for income generation (entertainment, ICT, family planning, newspaper, social media, etc.), and link with micro and small enterprise (MSE), 6. Support the integration of value-chain development principles into off-farm diversification, 7. Support youth and women-led off-farm/non-farm activities that diversify livelihoods, 8. Support access to financial service for off-farm/non-farm engagements and entrepreneurship for youth and women, 9. Strengthen local financial services and financial products for vulnerable women and youth, 10. Support development, launching and rollout of the Rural Job Opportunity Creation (RJOC) strategy, liaising with Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) and RJOC.