

**ETHIOPIA DESERT LOCUST RESPONSE
PROJECT-P173702**

Social Assessment Report

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Acronyms

CBO	Community Based Organization
COPCD	Channel One Program’s Coordinating Directorate
CSA	Central Statistics Authority
DA	Development Agent
DPs	Development Partners
DRDIP	Development Response to Displacement Impact Project
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EDLRP	Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESS7	Environmental and Social Standards 7
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAO/DLIS	Food and Agriculture Organization Desert Locust Information Service
FM	Financial Management
FPIU	Federal Project Implementation Unit
FSS	The Food Security Strategy
GBV	Gender based violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOE	Government of Ethiopia
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
GRS	Grievance Redress Service
GTP	Growth and Transformation Plan
IDA	International Development Association
IDPs	Internally Displaced People
ILO	International Labor Organization
IPPs	Indigenous Peoples Plans
LFSDP	Livestock and Fisheries Sector Development Project
LLRP	Lowland Livelihood Resilience Project

LMP	Labor Management Procedures
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoF	The Ministry of Finance
MPA	Multiphase Programmatic Approach
MPA-PCU	Multiphase Programmatic Approach –Project Coordination Unit
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPSDRM	National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management
PASDEP	Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty
PCDP-3	Pastoral Community Development Program-3
PIM	Project Implementation Manual
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PMP	Pest Management Plan
PPDs	Plant Protection Directorates
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PSNP IV	Productive Safety Net Program IV
RBoAs	Regional Bureau of Agriculture
RPLRP	Regional Pastoral Livelihood Resilience Program
RPSNP	Rural Productive Safety Net
SA	Social Assessment
SDPRP	Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SLMP	Sustainable Land Management Project
SNNPR	Southern, Nation, Nationalities and Peoples Region
SOE	State of Emergency
SSAHUTLCs	Sub-Saharan Africa Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities
ToT	Training of Trainers
ULV	Ultra-low volume
UN	United Nation

WaSH	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO/DLIS	World Health Organization Desert Locust Information Service

Executive Summary

Introduction

The World Bank and Government of Ethiopia are currently engaged in preparing Desert Locust Response Project chiefly aimed at preventing livelihood threats posed by the desert locust outbreak, which is the most dangerous migratory pest in the world and is severely amplified by the overlapping COVID-19 pandemic. To prevent and address livelihood threats due to the desert locust infestation, the World Bank will finance the government of Ethiopia. To do so, Social Assessment is one of the requirements stated in the World Bank ESF, which is also in line with the National Social Protection Policy of Ethiopia in 2012.

Project Description

The aim of the Desert Locust Response Program is to prevent and respond to the threat to livelihoods posed by the desert locust outbreak and to strengthen the national and regional systems for preparedness. The total funding of the project is US\$ 63.00 million. The proposed project has four components: **Component 1: Locust monitoring and control (US\$ 45.10 million)**, which has three subcomponents: 1) Continuous Surveillance, 2) Control measures and 3) Risk reduction and management. **Component 2: Livelihood protection and restoration (US\$ 16.00 million) that** has two sub-components: 1) Livelihoods Support; 2) Pasture rehabilitation. **Component 3: Strengthening Early Warning Systems and Preparedness (US\$ 1.3 million) that** would assist the Ethiopia MoA in establishing an integrated system for locust detection, occurrence projection, early warning and systematic data analysis and comprehension and **Component 4: Project Management (US\$ 0.60 million).**

Objectives of the Social Assessment

The objective of the Social Assessment is to identify potential social impacts and risks of the proposed project in Ethiopia on the more vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in the participating regions. More specifically, it focuses on describing the social characteristics of local communities including the social and economic characteristics of the possible project affected persons/population. It also assess the potential social risks and impacts of the project on vulnerable and disadvantaged group and provide practical recommendations for dealing with the challenges and risks identified, including a communications and consultation strategy as part of the SEP that can serve to address the risks and manage expectations. Moreover, it identifies expected social development outcomes and actions proposed to achieve those outcomes, and develop a social development plan based on components, potential risks, mitigation measures, responsible implementing agency and budget.

Methodology of the Social Assessment

In order to carry out Social Assessment for Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project, both secondary and primary sources of data were employed using qualitative approach. This assessment was done amid COVID-19 crisis and restrictions owing to the State of Emergency (SOE) declared by Government of Ethiopia (GoE) on April 9, 2020. As a result, the assignment was carried out mainly on the basis of the study already carried out in the Social Assessments, ESMF and SEP prepared for the PSNP and other projects such as DRDIP, PCDP-3, RPLRP,

LFSDP and LLRP. Related documents and studies were also reviewed in addition to the National and International Laws and Proclamations as well as Ethiopian government rules and regulation related to underserved peoples. The review of the existing social risk management instruments were framed in the context of the Ethiopia Locust Response Project document and the situational potential and social risks. The assignment also involved the assessment of any policy/legal conditions that may have changed and institutional changes that may have occurred and need consideration.

Besides, to existing data and analysis relevant to the sector and project, the data collection was based on a combination of three stages: (i) conduct a Rapid Context Assessment of available data, identifying stakeholders and key issues, (ii) undertaking a gap analysis (additional data or consultations), and (iii) reaching out the regions and other stakeholders to collect and organize data and information to fill the gap through different means like phone calls and emails as relevant. With regard to this, the regional level office heads of the MOA, particularly plant protection directorate and other from Pastoral development office have played an important role in organizing telephone call interview and exchanging information via email. For this, the consultant in contact and discussion with the social expert at the MOA assigned for the social risk management and assessment, prepared interview guide checklist questions for key stakeholders working at federal, regional and woreda levels. From each region and federal MOA, key informants who are experts were selected having the practice and experience of controlling, managing and monitoring locust expansion risks in Ethiopia. In addition, information was collected on the socioeconomic, cultural, historical and political contexts of the regions from primary and secondary sources. Through these processes, a clear picture or opinion of the stakeholders was captured about the impacts, risks, challenges and concerns that may be encountered due the implementation of the project.

Review of National Policies and Legal Frameworks

Relevant national policies, strategies and legislations applicable to Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project that can be considered during the project implementation were reviewed. The FDRE has formulated several development policies, strategies, proclamations, programs and projects to improve the livelihood and to promote sustainable development of Ethiopian people in general and the pastoral, agro-pastoral and the farming communities in particular. Applicable Policies for example is the constitution of the FDRE, which was issued in August 1995 with several provisions under articles 41, 42, 43, 44 and 92 that presented the concept of sustainable development focusing on economic, social, cultural, labor, development, and environmental rights.

Ethiopia's agricultural policy objectives are to substantially enhance the production and productivity of the sector for improvement of the living conditions of the people, to conserve and rational utilization of natural resource for sustainable agricultural development, and the policy elements are on crop protection that focuses on non-migratory and migratory pests. The policy statements include but not limited to: importation and handing over of crop protection technologies based on testing their effectiveness, spraying pesticides considered as effective control of Migratory pests, establishment of plant quarantine system to prevent intrusion of exotic pests or move out of the country and for development of pesticide registration and control

system. The Food Security Strategy, Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program, Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty, the Growth and Transformation Plan, Disaster Risk Management, the National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management and others are some of the strategies that should be considered.

Ethiopia has also formulated National Social Protection policy in 2012 with a general objective to create an enabling environment in which citizens (including special need and other vulnerable segments) have equitable access to all social protection services that will enhance their growth and development. Ethiopia's social protection policy is a central public policy component for addressing poverty, vulnerability and inequality. Gender related issues and proclamations on persons with disability and vulnerable groups, the development and change package and the national policy on Ethiopian women should be considered during implementation of the project.

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

The Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA-Plant Protection Directorate) and their counterparts in the respective regions and Woredas shall be the implementing agency for the project. The State Minister for Agriculture Development who oversees Plant and Animal Protection will provide overall oversight for the project. He/she, together with RBoA heads and in consultation with the World Bank Task Team will make all necessary decisions. The PIU for PSNP IV will be a responsible unit for the coordination of project activities and will be implemented by relevant directorates at the MOA and its counter Regional levels. A dedicated project manager will be appointed within the PSNP IV PIU for implementation of the Ethiopia project under the MPA (Multiphase Programmatic Approach)-EDLRP. With a few exceptions (some training and delivery of livelihood support package), most funds and procurement will be managed by the PIU. Additional implementation and technical experts will be recruited as necessary to support the PIU of which the social and environment safeguards officers are one of them.

World Bank's Policies and ESF Standards on Social Impacts

The preparation of the Social Assessment (SA) of Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project (EDLRP) is in line with the World Bank Environmental and Social Frameworks (ESF), which comprises of 10 Standards, of which ESS1 requires Borrower to undertake Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts. The standards are designed to help governments to manage the risks and impacts that will prevail during the implementation of EDLRP, and to improve environmental and social performance, consistent with good international practice and national and international obligations. The ESF places the emphasis of environmental and social risk management on achieving better development outcomes. It allows for adaptive management of project risks and impacts, which utilizes feedback from project monitoring to change project design and/or environmental and social risk management as necessary throughout implementation. The World Bank will also evaluate those aspects of the Government's policy, legal and institutional framework that are relevant to the project, including national, regional or sectoral implementing institutions that are applicable laws, regulations, rules and procedures and the implementation capacity.

The SA for EDLRP focuses on ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities, who are present in, or have collective attachment to the project area. It also assessed the nature and degree of the expected direct and indirect

economic, social, cultural (including cultural heritage), and environmental impacts the project will bring upon them.

Key Social Assessment Findings

Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Groups

The World Bank requirements of the ESS 7 about Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (SSAHUTLCs) is applicable in the project implementation areas of Ethiopia, particularly the people in Afar, Somali, Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz, pastoral and agro-pastoral parts of Oromia and SNNPR. They should be included in a manner that is accessible, culturally appropriate and inclusive. Coupled with vulnerability and being disadvantaged groups, the locust infestation will have disproportionate impacts on agricultural crops, pasture and subsequently on livestock of these sections of the community. This also relates to the food insecurity and loss of livelihood disproportionately impact vulnerable group of the community. Though the exact number unknown, vulnerable group of the community, which include women, women headed household, elders, children, and disabled people significantly and disproportionately affected by the impact of desert locust invasion by increasing malnutrition and food insecurity.

There are several sources of vulnerability in pastoral areas of Ethiopia as stated in various assessments and phone interview with key stakeholders. These include deterioration of grazing/range land due to natural and human-made factors, drought, and deforestation of rangeland epidemic diseases on human and livestock, market failure and poor socio-economic infrastructures even at present time, human population increases pressure on natural resources while conflict and insecurity often make these resources inaccessible. Ex-pastoralists are herding groups who were predominantly involved in pastoral pursuits and can be described as well off by local standards of wealth and social differentiation. Nevertheless, they have over the years lost their livestock wealth to recurrent droughts, veterinary diseases, and inter-group conflicts to the point of being rejected from the pastoral livelihood system. There are also challenges reflected by consulted stakeholders in pastoral communities such as exclusion errors of vulnerable groups in some projects. More to the point, unequal socio-economic dynamics could be resulted due to favoritism or corruption made by kebele leadership or other economically influential community members who can misuse resources to their benefit from projects.

In general, as observed in the SA, there are risks that historically underserved peoples, ethnic minorities in the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities and culturally distinct groups may be left out and/or not be duly included in the project. Thus, the EDLRP should give due attention to these sections of the community during its implementation.

Institutions

Ethiopia has formal government structures starting from federal to *Kebele* level. In addition, there is community institutions (local/informal and formal), which are mechanisms of social order that govern the behavior of a set of individuals within a given community, which promote cultural, social, political and economic aspects of local communities. The two forms of local institutions were existent in the project implementation areas concurrent with formal government structure. Besides government structure, there are several formal organizations such as Community Based Organization (CBO) in all regions included in this Social Assessment. Some

of the CBOs that are commonly mentioned by informants and established by the government up to the *Kebele* levels in the study areas are like Youth and Women Associations though they have their own drawbacks.

Various communities in the project implementation areas mainly the pastoral and agro-pastoral have their own local institutions that are very strong and enable them to ease their daily activities. The *Balabat* system is an informal institution found in all pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in South Omo, for example, in Hamar, Kara, Bashada and Benna ethnic groups where all members of the group are loyal to their respective *Bittas/balabat*. The *Bittas/balabats* perform all traditional rituals and religious practices for their members. There are also common forms of labor sharing, often during planting, weeding or harvesting (*debo, jige, wofera*) and sometimes for house building that are either reciprocal, usually between two individuals or households, or festive, in exchange for food and drink, often called by wealthier households. Many of the customary institutions are led by clan leaders and/or elders and are involved primarily in customary justice with different names and rules in different cultures. There are also customary institutions involved in natural resource management of land, particularly in pastoralist areas for pastureland, water for irrigation, water wells, forestland, etc. In relation to the project, there is traditional ways in which the people combat the invasion of the desert locust. Some informants in the pastoralist and agro-pastoralists areas indicated the seriousness of the infestation on the pasture of their livestock and its effects that leads pastoralists into conflicts.

Customary leaders and institutions notably clan structures were found to play an important role in ‘targeting’. However, from the project’s point of view, this was seen as resulting in the inclusion of people who were not eligible and others who deserved to be included were not, with women often faring badly in PSNP4. Moreover, among the pastoralist groups a strong sharing ethnic often means that aid and PSNP transfers are widely shared. From a project point of view, this is seen as ‘diluting’ the benefits when ‘beneficiaries share their kinsmen who are not included in the program and hence for whom the resources were not intended’ thereby endangering effectiveness in PSNP4. This raises the question of how customary institutions that have the support of the communities can best work with formal institutions in improving the effectiveness of social support and social protection, and how they can be reformed to take account of women’s and children’s rights.

Conflicts and their Resolution Mechanism

Various social assessments and informants consulted for this SA listed main reasons for the presence of conflicts in the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of Ethiopia are due to livelihoods, rangeland or pasture, unstable situation of the youth, information and misinformation. As the project is going to be implemented in both farming and pastoral communities, it is important to take into account their modes of livelihood activities that pass through significant dynamism due to ecological, social and political pressures and the resultant decline in their economy. Such changes have had an impact on the pattern of their relationships of the communities living in the project implementation regions. Thus, first clear understanding about the root causes and magnitude of the conflict. Second, discuss the ways to resolve the conflict with group leaders, elders, and regular members and in this case, it is advised that, be as inclusive as possible and make sure you have not omitted anyone who is directly or indirectly

part of the conflict. Third, identify members having extremely negative positions and work with them individually. Fourth, stress repeatedly that group members must be immune from bias in the process of managing conflict and that the common enemy is poverty, not each other. Fifth, give a chance for group members to resolve the conflict themselves using their own problem solving mechanisms. If this fails, then outside mediators can become involved. Sixth, change anything linked with religion or culture as it needs a slower process, but progress can be achieved. In this respect, the support of community leaders must be sought at the start. Lastly, in some cases, conflicts cannot be resolved and some people may have to leave their groups. Such a process needs to be formalized and include recovery of outstanding resources and other property that belongs to the group.

Grievance Redress Mechanism during Project Implementation

Grievance redress mechanism is commonly used to receive and act on grievances, complaints reported by affected groups, or concerned stakeholders to enable them get prompt actions from program implementers on issues of concern or unaddressed impacts and risks. Project affected communities and individuals may submit their complaint to the Bank's Independent Inspection Panel, which determines whether harm occurred, or could occur, because of the Bank's noncompliance with its policies and procedures. For information on how to submit complaints to the Bank's corporate GRS see <http://www.worldbank.org/GRS>, and Bank's Inspection Panel, see www.inspectionpanel.org

The traditional forms of managing issues can even be recognized and used by the government structures. Previous community consultation in various regions confirmed the relevance of using traditional conflict resolution mechanism parallel to the formal structure such as the *denb* system in SNNPR, *odiyash deganka* in Somali region, *Jarsuma, Aadaa, Safuu, Seera and Sinqee* relate to *Gada* system in Oromia region, *Makaboon* in Afar, *Wilok* in Nuer and *Carlok* in Anyawak in Gambella region. Thus, selected communities for the implementation of EDLRP need to have constant awareness creation in a culturally sensible form about the GRM and project implementation. The locust response project will use the RPSNP project grievance mechanism and in areas where RPSNP is not available, the project will use the public grievance hearing mechanism. The project will equally ensure that grievances related to GBV are recognized and referred to respective service providers based on a survivor-centered approach (that is always based on the demands of survivors and ensuring confidentiality). Such grievances shall be handled according to standard GRM procedures with the support of Woreda Women and Children Affairs Office or female GBV focal points to be selected and trained to provide basic referrals. Key Considerations for EDLRP GRM Procedure includes disclosure of the GRM expectation when grievances arise, grievance submission method, registration of grievances, management of reported grievances, grievance log and response time and grievances reporting mechanism.

Social diversity and Gender

In the project implementation regions as stated earlier, the people regard different social groupings based on various forms of ethnic identities as clearly described in the socioeconomic and context of the population in the project implementation areas. Within the same ethnic group, there are clan and sub-clan divisions mainly in the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of Afar, Somali, Nuer, Aywak, South Omo ethnic groups, Borena, to mention a few. It is also imperative to highlight societal and gender relations in Ethiopia that women in male headed and

female-headed households have been the most vulnerable groups, particularly in the pastoralists and agro-pastoralist communities. The status of Ethiopian women can be seen in terms of societal attitudes towards their socio-economic status, awareness of their rights and their productive and reproductive roles deserve closer examination during the implementation of the project.

Livelihood Activities

The main livelihood activities of lowland communities in the study areas depend on livestock production and a limited level of crop production. Livestock production is the principal means of livelihood for pastoralists. This is to mean that there is a practice of traditional and extensive livestock rearing system (cattle, camels, goats and sheep). The agro-pastoralists also make their livelihood out of mixed agriculture, mainly those households residing along the permanent rivers. However, there have been vulnerabilities due to recurrent drought, chronic water shortages, conflicts, market shocks (livestock and cereals price fluctuations), animal and human diseases. The livestock herd size per household is reducing radically as a result of shortage of pasture. Massive livestock death and reduced animal fertility rates have also become common trends in the study areas. There are different forms of pastoral livelihoods that were addressed by previous social assessments of World Bank: livestock-based livelihoods, agro-pastoral livelihoods, sedentary farmers and ex-pastoralists. These livelihood communities of Ethiopia can be affected by the desert locust infestations that have been prevailing since recent time. Thus, this project is aimed at combating the spread of the locust infestations and to provide support for highly vulnerable groups or communities in the country.

Stakeholders and Community Consultation on Desert Locust Response Project

Community consultation is a method used to ensure a broad participation of the local communities. The usual community consultation was not satisfactorily done due to COVID 19 crisis and the restrictions made following that by the government of Ethiopia on the April 9, 2020 State of Emergency on gathering not more than four people at a time. Hence, the consultation for this SA has limited to the consultation of the stakeholders working in relation to desert locust control at different levels. This has been substantiated by extensive community consultations assessed so far for various related aspects and concerns. However, officials and experts at the targeted regions has been consulted and provided sufficient information on the communities included in the project area. More specifically, the public consultation was targeted to informing stakeholders engaged in the project activities and provide adequate information on the project, its components and activities to the disadvantaged and vulnerable; to understand their needs, concerns, challenges and suggestions and to understand the disproportionate vulnerability of disadvantaged community to pesticide spraying and concerns, challenges and recommendations.

The summary of the stakeholders' consultation meets the requirements of World Bank ESS7 of the ESF and to achieve this, in each of the target Regions, selected government bodies linked with the issues were consulted on the potential positive and adverse effects of the project, their views and concerns towards the project. Accordingly, they pinpointed that the project might more affects or risks vulnerable or disadvantaged groups as these sections of the communities have not been accessed to opportunities relative to other social groups in the country. Moreover, rapid mobilization for emergency response under the government requires rapid decision-making that does not always have time and space for adequate consultation of other stakeholders. This

can lead to discontent, especially if compounded by mis-targeting of critical interventions for locust control and livelihood protection due to inadequate consultations.

Potential social impacts and risks and their mitigation measures

Positive Impacts

The project has four components and will have a positive impact for the vulnerable sections of the community and for the government structures at different levels in various ways. The positive impacts of the project will be seen based on project components. Accordingly, the project will adopt two pronged approaches for locust monitoring and control by direct support to improving surveillance and assessment of locusts' situation, habitat conditions and geographic exposure as well as targeted aerial and ground spraying and capacity building for relevant national institutions and communities prone to locust breeding and invasion. Support to community-based monitoring and forecasting in pastoralist communities prone to locust breeding and invasion will also be provided including training of scouts, experts and sensitization campaigns for community/village leaders.

Moreover, the project will provide a seed-fertilizer-pesticide package to selected farmers to ensure planting in the upcoming cropping season and, in pastoralist areas, fodder to guard against further livestock losses and thus loss of their main productive assets. Additionally, the project will provide fodder seed to affected communities to rehabilitate pastures in rangeland areas depleted by the desert locust invasion that will cover an estimated area of 81,000 hectares. The GoE will also trigger emergency food security mechanisms such as the emergency food appeal and contingency funding under PSNP IV that will complement the project's livelihood support initiatives with cash transfers to cover emergency food needs and to protect against distress sales of assets. Further, the project would assist the Ethiopia MoA in establishing an integrated system for locust detection, occurrence projection, early warning and systematic data analysis and comprehension. It also includes capacity building for federal and regional experts using both national and international experts as well as technical assistance through appointing senior plant protection experts to work with regional desert locust control units.

In addition to the above positive impacts, the Project management activities will be carried out in the PSNP IV Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and will benefit from the experience of the Social Safety Net Project financed by the Bank. The capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture as a principal implementing entity including the RPSNP to manage potential environmental and social risks should be enhanced as necessary at different levels of the project implementation since this is a new intervention. Finally, the project will enable the MoA to have better familiarity with World Bank ESF system of social assessment in which projects need to give due attention for vulnerable and historically disadvantaged groups that is set under ESS7. This will help in accessing knowledge and exposure to best international practices.

Adverse Social Risks and Impacts

As the project does not require land acquisition, construction and resettlement, its negative impact is likely to be modest including on traditional local communities. However, there may be some potential social impacts and risks of the project activities on IPSSAHUTLCs. Generally,

the matrix in the following table summarizes potential social risks, impacts and challenges, along with their mitigation measures, responsible bodies and budget of the project.

Components/Issues	Potential Social Risks, Impacts and challenges	Mitigation Measures	Responsible Body	Budget '000'
1. Locust monitoring and control (US\$ 45.10 million)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate prior information for historically underserved communities in target areas about impacts of pesticide use for locust infestation management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry out awareness raising and provide relevant and timely information to local communities on pesticide treatment schedules and potential negative impacts. - Provide public awareness and inform the local population about safety precautions using different approaches (local radio, TV, leaflet with local language, public presentation) and prepare contextualized communication strategy (i.e. in the local language and through communications channels effective for reaching a particular target group). - Inhabitants in the treatment areas will be informed of the operation beforehand and warned not to come close to it. - Control teams will always make sure that no ecologically and agronomically sensitive areas, person and livestock are present in the area to be sprayed. - During spraying, control staff who will not directly involved in the application will verify that bystanders remain at a safe distance. - The staff will make sure withholding periods are respected after locust control treatments through intensive sensation. 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV	Core activity of component 1
	Historically underserved communities' exposure to health and safety, especially exposure to pesticide and COVID-19 pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In all activities of the project, prevention of COVID-19 will be mainstreamed and the necessary protective equipment will be provided to all staffs. Besides, social distancing will be implemented during meetings. - All sanitary material helpful for washing and disinfection will be availed. Stringent guideline of WB will also be used. 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV and MoLSA in monitoring of its implementation	Core activity of component 1

2. Livelihood protection and restoration (US\$ 16.00 million)	<p>Lack of information on the potential project's livelihoods support and compensation for out of control damages and unintentional overuse/misuse (beyond buffer zone damages) on livestock, crops, fodder or humans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor changing livelihood dynamics with view to retargeting to include those that may fall into food insecurity; - Inform and define compensation mechanism for unintended overuse/misuse (beyond buffer zone damages) of pesticides on livestock, crops, fodder or humans. - Ensure awareness around importance of targeting women for livelihoods support activities 	<p>MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV</p>	<p>Core activity of component 2</p>
	<p>Risk of involving one clan that is more dominant over others during targeting process mainly among lowland communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broaden the representation of community members on targeting committees with greater emphasis on the participation of women; 	<p>MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV</p>	<p>Core activity of component 2</p>
	<p>Increase instances of domestic violence between women and men or husband and wives in relation to livelihoods support or interventions at household level by the project. In the pastoral and agro-pastoral community, it is common practice that men tend to grab resources or properties from women by force to meet their individual needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure beneficiaries receive transfers on time by addressing capacity gaps and root causes, display transfer schedule in kebele - Awareness creation among the men that the women are using the support for the whole family and elders or traditional leaders should provide awareness for the community to avoid violence against women 	<p>MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office</p>	<p>Core activity of component 2</p>
	<p>Elite capture and/or different interest groups including traditional authority structures in influencing community's prioritization and manipulation of support provided; lack of transparency during selection of the beneficiaries for the financial and technical</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparent reporting and information disclosures to avoid the elite capture. In this respect, beneficiaries be realistically selected in consultation with representatives of the community - Create awareness among traditional authority structures and undertake information campaign to ensure the purpose and principles of EDLRP are understood, including targeting procedures and design targeting structures with careful consideration to the balance between formal and 	<p>MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office</p>	<p>Core activity of component 2</p>

	<p>assistance and the exclusion of certain groups and individuals from project benefits in particular vulnerable people and the historically disadvantages regions of Ethiopia</p>	<p>informal traditional authority structures and inclusive project target</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparent reporting on project interventions - Affirmative action will be given for vulnerable people and for the historically disadvantages regions of Ethiopia 		
	<p>Overlooking of historically underserved regions and vulnerable community in general, and people with disability, children, women in polygamous unions and female headed households in particular</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historically underserved regions and vulnerable community will be given special attention during the project implementation. - Vulnerable community will be benefited from the project a certain percent 	<p>MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office</p>	<p>All activity of components</p>
	<p>Potential exacerbation of vulnerable livelihoods of IDPs in project areas and worsening of conflicts among the pastoralists due to the damage of the pasture by the locust invasion and during migration to other territories in search of grazing land for their livestock</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project will include a conflict sensitivity assessment checklist in the ESMF (see also annex 2) and also consider sensitivity of local conflict dynamics and implement in a way to avoid escalating local tensions as the works cover IDP and refugee areas. - The community and the local government will put in place appropriate mechanism including meaningful consultation and full participation of the beneficiary communities during planning, design and implementation phases of the project. - Attempt will be made to resolve conflicts using the traditional way and if this fails to resolve the conflict, government institutions will intervene to settle these conflicts. - In accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), the project will consider the livelihoods and political vulnerability in this areas and craft communication messages in accordance with the local context. 	<p>MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office, Woreda and kebele administrations</p>	<p>Consider in all activities of the components</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The MOA and the PIU will alert the Bank any incidents related to security, conflict and potential sensitivities towards conflict in the project areas. - Assist discussions between community representatives of clan leaders, <i>Kebele</i> chairpersons and elders to support peaceful inter-clan and inter-ethnic as well as cross-border relations by supporting regular forums and workshops that promote inter-ethnic dialogue. - Use the existing grievance handling experiences 		
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1. Introduction

1.1. Background of the Project

The World Bank and Government of Ethiopia are currently engaged in preparing Desert Locust Response Project chiefly aimed at to prevent and address livelihood threats posed by the desert locust outbreak. The desert locust (*Schistocerca gregaria* Forskål) is the most dangerous migratory pest in the world. It is a voracious eater and highly mobile when traveling in swarms, traits that make it a formidable threat to livelihoods and food security and a uniquely difficult and costly pest to combat, challenges and costs that will be severely amplified by the overlapping COVID-19 pandemic that is spreading across the regions. In Ethiopia, more than 156 Woredas across six Regional States (Afar, Somali, Southern Tigray, Eastern Amhara, South-Eastern Oromiya, and SNNPR) have been affected. According to FAO survey estimate, the Desert locust have resulted in loss of about 4,865,830 quintals of cereal, about 2% of the estimated total cereal production of 346,369,767 quintals from Meher production 2019/2020. Communities and regional experts reported about 806,400 farming households were affected by desert locust and an estimated total of 356,000 hectares of cropland and 1,350,000 hectares of land for pasture and browse were affected.

A main effect of locust swarms is to destroy vast amounts of food crops in the field immediately, and through attrition in the case of animals denied pasture and fodder. Pastoralists engage in distress sales with consequent asset losses and falling income as herds lose weight and exhibit increased mortality from reduced pasture and fodder. Their limited options include (a) migrating to find pasture, difficult when the entire region is experiencing similar problems, and which could lead to conflict with other pastoralist groups; or (b) searching for alternative livelihoods if they are permanently decapitalized. Pastoralists also tend to be amongst those likely to fall into poverty in times of severe, prolonged crisis. To prevent and address livelihood threats posed by outbreak of the desert locust infestation, the World Bank will finance the government of Ethiopia. To do so, Social Assessment is one of the requirements stated in the World Bank ESF, which is also in line with Ethiopia's National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management endorsed in 2013 and The National Social Protection Policy of Ethiopia in 2012.

1.2. Project Development Objective

The main objective of the proposed intervention is to prevent and address livelihood threats posed by the desert locust outbreak and strengthen Ethiopia's systems for preparedness.

1.3. Project Description

The aim of the Desert Locust Response Program is to prevent and respond to the threat to livelihoods posed by the desert locust outbreak and to strengthen national and regional systems for preparedness. The Program objectives would be achieved by supporting investments across three pillars as per the regional approach to the desert locust outbreak response: (a) monitoring and controlling locust population growth and curbing the spread of swarms while mitigating the risks associated with control measures; (b) protecting livelihoods of locust-affected households to prevent asset loss, and return them to productivity; and (c) preventing future locust upsurges by strengthening capacity for ex ante surveillance and control operations to facilitate early

warning and early response. The total funding will be US\$ 63.00 million. The proposed project includes three components and discussed as follows:

Component 1: Locust monitoring and control (US\$ 45.10 million): The project will adopt two pronged approaches for locust monitoring and control under this component: (a) direct support to improving surveillance and assessment of locusts' situation, habitat conditions and geographic exposure as well as targeted aerial and ground spraying; and, (b) capacity building for relevant national institutions and communities prone to locust breeding and invasion. There are three subcomponents of component 1:

Sub-component 1.1: Continuous Surveillance to inform effective control operations and identification of affected and at-risk communities for assistance under Component 2. Under the sub-component, the project will finance procurement of equipment and operational costs to deploy expert teams and drones for the collection of data at strategic locations, reporting occurrences and possible occurrences of outbreaks, and assessing geographic exposure to locusts. Support to community-based monitoring and forecasting in both pastoralist and farming communities prone to locust breeding and invasion will be provided including training of scouts and sensitization campaigns for community/village leaders.

Sub-component 1.2: Control measures to reduce locust populations and prevent their spread to new areas through targeted ground and aerial control operations. Activities include procurement/rental of equipment (sprayers, vehicles, drones, aircrafts), support to field operations (aerial and ground operations)—input for field operations will be provided to the MoA through FAO. In addition, awareness raising and training for farmers, scouts, experts and officials at different levels (including training on pesticide management and control) will be provided.

Sub-component 1.3: Risk reduction and management to monitor and assess environmental and human health risks associated with locust control and implement health, environmental and safety measures to reduce risks to an acceptable minimum. A detailed pest management plan (PMP) will be developed and closely monitored as part of the Project Implementation Manual (PIM) to mitigate any environmental impacts of chemical and pesticide use. Activities would include: i) testing of human health and soil and water for contamination from use of insecticides; ii) optimizing the selection of control strategies, protection measures, and insecticides based on situational and environmental assessments; and iii) providing safety and awareness training for spraying teams and other locust control personnel as well as public awareness campaigns on possible environmental and health effects of insecticides, before, during and after locust control operations.

Component 2: Livelihood protection and restoration (US\$ 16.00 million). Under this component, the project will provide a seed-fertilizer-pesticide package to selected farmers to ensure planting in the upcoming cropping season and, in pastoralist areas, fodder to guard against further livestock losses and thus loss of their main productive assets. Additionally, the project will provide fodder seed to affected communities to rehabilitate pastures in rangeland areas depleted by the desert locust invasion. The GoE will also trigger emergency food security

mechanisms such as the emergency food appeal and contingency funding under PSNP IV that will complement the project's livelihood support initiatives with cash transfers to cover emergency food needs and to protect against distress sales of assets. There are two sub-components:

Sub-component 2.1: Livelihoods Support: This component would be achieved through delivering (i) farmer packages to get food and fodder production re-started as soon as possible after the impact of locust swarms has been assessed and the scope of the damage is determined; and, (ii) forage to the affected pastoral households.

Sub-component 2.2: Pasture rehabilitation will cover an estimated area of 81,000 hectares. Activities will include: (i) temporary forage/feed provision in pastoralist areas impacted by the locust outbreak for short-term pasture improvement; and, (ii) compensation for unintended damages that may result from accidental pesticides spray impacts beyond the defined buffer zone on people, livestock, agricultural produce and livestock feed.

RBoAs or Pastoral Community Development Offices will carry out the procurement of inputs such as crop and fodder seed from existing seed sources including Government Seed Enterprise, Agricultural Cooperative Unions and/or Private Seed Producing Enterprises. Bulk procurement method at regional levels will enable to ensure that the right type and amount of inputs are purchased for each agro-ecological zone. Inputs provision to farmer packets would aim to diversify production and introduce improved varieties that provide for higher yields and are resistant to pest/disease and other threats. Pasture restoration would be done in most areas by establishing nurseries throughout the affected area to re-establish pasture flora. Both crop and pasture restoration would need to support plantings that would promote the restoration of pollinator populations in the affected area.

Component 3: Strengthening Early Warning Systems and Preparedness (US\$ 1.3 million). Under this component, the project would assist the Ethiopia MoA in establishing an integrated system for locust detection, occurrence projection, early warning and systematic data analysis and comprehension. Activities include acquisition of state-of-the-art data collection and dissemination tools and improving data collection methods, building analytical capacity for understanding data, assessment of current strengths and weaknesses in locust occurrence projection and early warning systems and development of a roadmap on how best to develop the systems based on international best practice. It also includes capacity building for federal and regional experts using both national and international experts as well as technical assistance through appointing senior plant protection experts to work with regional desert locust control units.

Component 4: Project Management (US\$ 0.60 million). Under this component, financing will be provided for (a) the hiring of a pest management expert; and, (b) operating costs for monitoring (particularly related to financial management and safeguards), technical backstopping at different levels; and (c) communication and information exchange. The project will be implemented by the Plant Protection Directorates (PPDs) within the RBoAs of each regional

state within the desert locust invasion area under the oversight of the MoA. Project management activities will be carried out in the PSNP IV Project Implementation Unit (PIU).

1.4. Objectives of the Social Assessment

The objective of the Social Assessment is to identify potential impacts of the proposed project in Ethiopia on the more vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in the participating regions. More specifically, it focuses on the following:

- a. Describe the social characteristics of local communities, including describing the social and economic characteristics of the possible project affected persons/population;
- b. Assess the potential social risks and impacts of the project on vulnerable and disadvantaged group and provide practical recommendations for dealing with the challenges and risks identified, including a communications and consultation strategy as part of the SEP that can serve to address the risks and manage expectations;
- c. Identify expected social development outcomes and actions proposed to achieve those outcomes and develop a social development plan, based on component, potential risks, mitigation measures, responsible implementing agency and budget. Finally, define monitoring indicators for the identified mitigation measures.

1.5. Methodology of the Social Assessment

In order to carry out Social Assessment for Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project, both secondary and primary sources of data were employed using qualitative approach. The qualitative method helped to explore and produce cultural descriptions, uncovering multiple realities and complexities of livelihood activities of the locust affected regions of Ethiopia. This assessment was done amid COVID-19 crisis and restrictions owing to the State of Emergency (SOE) declared by Government of Ethiopia (GoE) on April 9, 2020. As a result, the assignment was carried out mainly on the basis of the study already carried out in the Social Assessments, Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP) prepared for the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and other projects such as DRDIP, Pastoral Community Development Program-3 (PCDP-3), Regional Pastoral Livelihood Resilience Program (RPLRP), Livestock and Fisheries Sector Development Project (LFSDP) and Lowland Livelihood Resilience Project (LLRP). Related documents and studies were also reviewed in addition to the National and International Laws and Proclamations as well as Ethiopian government rules and regulation related to underserved peoples. The review of the existing social risk management instruments were framed in the context of the Ethiopia Locust Response Project document and the situational potential and social risks. The assignment also involved the assessment of any policy/legal conditions that may have changed and institutional changes that may have occurred and need consideration.

The data collection was also done based on a combination of three stages: (i) conducting a Rapid Context Assessment of available data, identifying stakeholders and key issues, (ii) undertaking a gap analysis (additional data or consultations); (iii) reaching out the regions and other stakeholders to collect and organize data and information to fill the gap through different means like phone calls and emails as relevant (See Annex 3). With regard to this, the regional level office heads of the MOA, particularly plant protection directorate and other from Pastoral

development office have played an important role in organizing telephone call interview and exchanging information via email. For this, the consultant in contact and discussion with the social expert at the MOA assigned for the social risk management and assessment, prepared interview guide checklist questions for key stakeholders working at federal, regional and woreda levels. From each region, three key informants were selected from three woredas having the practice and experience of controlling, managing and monitoring locust expansion risks in Ethiopia. In addition, discussion and information collection (primary and secondary) on the socioeconomic, cultural, historical and political contexts of the regions were made. Through these processes, a clear picture or opinion of the stakeholders was captured about the impacts, risks, challenges and concerns that may be encountered due the implementation of the project.

2. Review of National Policies, Legal Frameworks and Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

This section discusses relevant national policies, strategies and legislations applicable to Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project that needs to be considered during the project implementation phases. Institutional and implementation arrangements of the project are also discussed.

2.1. National Polices and Legal Frameworks

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has formulated several development policies, strategies, proclamations, programs and projects to improve the livelihood and to promote sustainable development of Ethiopian people in general and the pastoral, agro-pastoral as well as the farming communities in particular. The policies, strategies and legal frameworks that are reviewed and discussed in the following sections are directly or indirectly applicable during the implementation of Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project.

2.1.1. Applicable Policies and Strategies

a. The Constitution

The constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia was issued in August 1995 with several provisions. In the constitution, Articles such as 41, 42, 43, 44 and 92 presented the concept of sustainable development focusing on economic, social, cultural, labor, development, and environmental rights.

Article 41: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

- Article 41 of the Constitution states that every Ethiopian has the right to access publicly funded social services. Sub Article 5 of the same article stipulates, the state, within available means, should allocate resource to provide rehabilitation and assistance to physically and mentally disabled, the aged and to children who are left without parents or guardians.

Article 42: Rights of Labor

- Article 42(2) stipulates that ‘workers have the right to a healthy and safe work environment’, obliging an employer (be it government or private) to take all necessary

measures to ensure that workplace is safe, healthy and free of any danger to the wellbeing of workers.

Article 43- The Right to Development

- The Peoples of Ethiopia as a whole, and each Nation, Nationality and People in Ethiopia in particular have the right to improved living standards and to sustainable development.
- Nationals have the right to participate in national development and, in particular, to be consulted with respect to policies and projects affecting their community.

Article 44- Environmental Rights

- All persons have the right to a clean and healthy environment.
- All persons who have been displaced or whose livelihoods have been adversely affected because of State programs have the right to commensurate monetary or alternative means of compensation, including relocation with adequate State assistance.

Article 92- Environmental Objectives

- Government shall endeavor to ensure that all Ethiopians live in a clean and healthy environment.
- The design and implementation of programs and projects of development shall not damage or destroy the environment.
- People have the right to full consultation and to the expression of views in the planning and implementations of environmental policies and projects that affect them directly.
- Government and citizens shall have the duty to protect the environment.

b. The Agriculture Sector Policy and Strategy

The policy objectives are to substantially enhance the production and productivity of agricultural sector for improvement of the living conditions of the people, to conserve and rational utilization of natural resource for sustainable agricultural development, and the policy elements are on crop protection that focuses on non-migratory and migratory pests. The policy statements include: Importation and handing over of crop protection technologies that should be based on testing their effectiveness, spraying pesticides considered as effective control of Migratory pests, the need for the establishment of plant quarantine system to prevent intrusion of exotic pests or move out of the country and for development of pesticide registration and control system, to mention a few.

The Food Security Strategy (FSS) of 1996, the 2002 Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program (SDPRP), Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) (2005-2010) that the government has targeted to increase assistance to marginalized areas or emerging regions of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in the last decades and through the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) (2010/11-2014/15) and GTP-2. Disaster Risk Management (DRM) is also the National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management that was adopted by the Government of Ethiopia in July 2013. The new Policy amends the earlier National Policy on Disaster Prevention and Management (under implementation since 1993) and marks a paradigm shift in doing business differently—moving away from a system focused on drought and emergency assistance to a comprehensive disaster risk management approach.

2.1.2. National Policies, Regulations, and Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment and Management

a. The National Social Protection Strategy of Ethiopia

Ethiopia has formulated National Social Protection policy in 2012 with a general objective to create an enabling environment in which citizens (including special need and other vulnerable segments) have equitable access to all social protection services that will enhance their growth and development. Ethiopia's social protection policy is a central public policy component for addressing poverty, vulnerability and inequality. The following are among the objectives of Social Protection Policy of Ethiopia:

1. Protect poor and vulnerable individuals, households, and communities from adverse effects of shocks and destitution;
2. Increase access to equitable and quality health, education and social welfare services to build human capital thus breaking the intergenerational transmission of poverty;
3. Guarantee a minimum level of employment for the long term unemployed and under-employed;
4. Enhance the social status and progressively realize the social and economic rights of the excluded and marginalized;

The strategy has designed instruments to reach long and short term objectives including conditional and unconditional social transfer, expansion of public works; providing technical support and financial services; mandatory social insurance and community based health insurance; establishment of social work system, services for people with disabilities, the elderly and mobility constrained persons; enhancing abuse and exploitation prevention communication, provide protective legal and policy environment, support for survivors of abuse and exploitation and drop in centers and hot lines.

b. The Development and Change Package (2007)

It envisions to build democratic society where women are equal participants and beneficiaries of economic, social and political life of the country. Widespread awareness creation of women to actively participate in the development process; organizing and associate women to address challenges they face; capacitate women to solve problems and fight demeaning perceptions & fight for their rights; facilitate linkages and support among created associations and organization; and enable women to benefit economically and socially.

c. The National Policy on Ethiopian Women (1993)

It underlines the need to establish equitable and gender sensitive public policies that empower women, especially in education and property rights, and engaging them in decision making. Improving healthy working conditions, ensuring access to basic services, protecting women from harmful traditional practices are among the emphasized key issues in the policy framework.

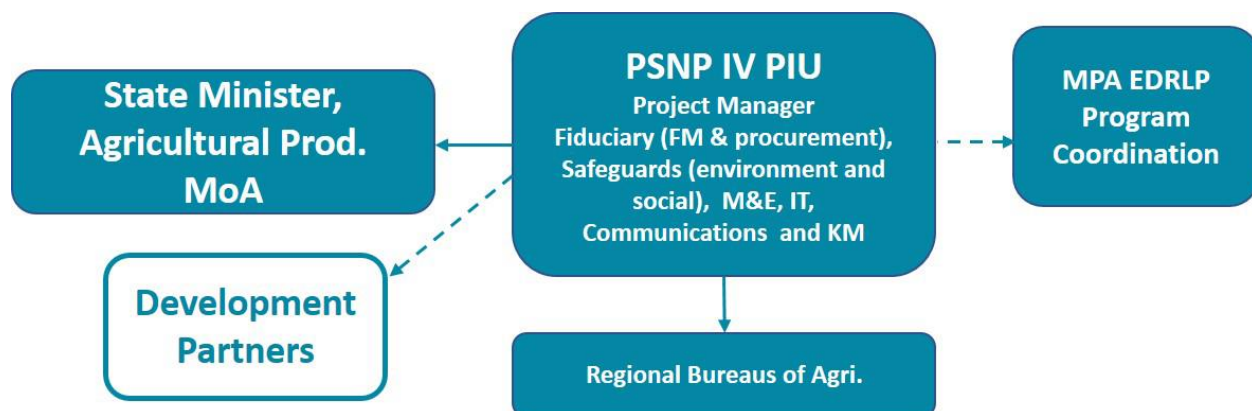
2.2. Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

The Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA-Plant Protection Directorate) and their counterparts in the respective regions shall be the implementing agency for the project. The State Minister for Agriculture Development who oversees Plant and Animal Protection will provide overall oversight for the project. He/she, together with RBoA heads and in consultation with the World

Bank Task Team will make all necessary decisions. The PIU for PSNP IV will be a responsible unit for the coordination of project activities and will be implemented by relevant directorates at the Ministry of Agriculture and Regional levels. A dedicated project manager will be appointed within the PSNP IV PIU for implementation of the Ethiopia project under the MPA-EDLRP. With a few exceptions (some training and delivery of livelihood support package), most funds and procurement will be managed by the PIU.

Additional implementation and technical experts will be recruited as necessary to support the PIU. These may include: (i) a pest management expert; (ii) a financial management officer; (iii) a procurement officer; (iv) social and environmental safeguards officers; (v) a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) officer; (vi) an information technology officer; and (vii) communications and knowledge management officer. Other than the staff, recruitment at the federal PIU level, additional staff may also be recruited at the regional/district level to support project implementation. The project manager will report to State Minister for Agriculture Development and, in addition to managing the PIU, will also be responsible to coordinate with DPs and other stakeholders in Ethiopia as well as to provide regular reports and information to the Multiphase Programmatic Approach level Program Coordination Unit. The structure of the Ethiopia project with direct and indirect linkages between MPA-PCU, Ethiopia PIU, RBoAs and DPs are shown below.

Ethiopia PIU Working Relationships



The Ministry of Finance (MoF), through its Channel One Program’s Coordinating Directorate (COPCD), will be responsible for the overall Financial Management (FM) of the project whereas MoA will be responsible for project implementation. The program will follow the government’s Channel One fund flow mechanism whereby resources will directly flow from IDA to the MoF and from there to the regional finance bureaus, woreda finance offices, and federal level implementers (MoA). The proposed project will use the Bank-financed Rural Productive Safety Net (RPSNP) project system for implementation. This is one of the many projects under COPCD and implemented by MoA.

The following table shows the Institutional Framework during the Implementation of EDLRP.

Actor/Stakeholder	Responsibilities
Federal level	
<p>MoA-Food Security Coordination Directorate</p> <p>MoA-Women, Children and Youth Affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and implementation of the SEP (lead all related activities) • Management and implementation of program GRM • Coordination/supervision of contractors on ESCP/SEP activities • Monitoring and reporting on social performance to GoE and WB • Assign Stakeholder Focal Person to manage PSNP stakeholder engagement and monitor the management, resolution, and reporting of grievances by communicating with the regional GRM focal person • Monitoring of and reporting on issues related to GBV issues and reported to the program GRM. MoLSA will be part of the federal taskforce and collaborating with WCYD on GBV issues.
Regional level	
BoA-FSCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform FSCD of any issues related to their engagement with stakeholders; • Monitoring and reporting on gender and social development performance to federal FSCD • Transmit and resolve complaints caused by the project interventions in close collaboration with and as directed by FSCD • Assigns GRM focal person to monitor the management, resolution, and reporting of grievances. This focal person will be responsible for receiving the list of appeals and resolutions from the woreda level and transmitting them to the federal GRM focal person. • The gender desk in regional BoA will be monitoring of issues related to GBV and reported to the program GRM, to report to FS bureau
Woreda level	
Woreda Food Security Desk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the implementation of assigned activities in the SEP; • Provide report on all grievances submitted to the GRM to the Regional GRM focal person; • Make available project information (brochures, flyers) and GRM procedures to the public. • Provide guidance for the formation of the Kebele Appeals Committee • Support awareness-creation activities • In woredas with MIS, input list of grievances and their resolution into the system • Approve the use of woreda contingency budget • The women, children and youth desk in office of agriculture will be

	monitoring of issues related to GBV and reported to the program GRM, to report to FS bureau. WolSA will be part of the woreda BoA women, children and youth desk.
Woreda Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in resolving escalated and unresolved appeals
Woreda Women, Children, and Youth Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depending on capacity, will advise on gender mainstreaming in the project planning and implementation, and consult on issues related to gender, GBV, children and youth
Community level	
KAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive grievances from PAP • Provide a listing of the grievances received and their resolution to the Kebele Council and Woreda Council within two months of the complaint being heard.
Kebele Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in establishing and ensuring the effective operation of the KAC • Review unresolved appeals from KAC and forward them to the Woreda Council and the Woreda Food Security Desk every quarter • Forward the list of grievances, their resolution and any unresolved cases to the Woreda Council
PAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invited to engage and ask questions about the Project during community gatherings • Lodge their grievances using the Grievance Resolution Mechanism defined in the SEP

2.3. World Bank's Policies and ESF standards on Social Impacts

The preparation of the Social Assessment (SA) of Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project (EDLRP) is in line with the World Bank Environmental and Social Frameworks (ESF), which comprises of 10 Standards. The standards are designed to help governments to manage the risks and impacts that will prevail during the implementation of EDLRP, and to improve environmental and social performance, consistent with good international practice and national and international obligations. The ESF places the emphasis of environmental and social risk management on achieving better development outcomes. It allows for adaptive management of project risks and impacts, which utilizes feedback from project monitoring to change project design and/or environmental and social risk management as necessary throughout implementation. The World Bank will also evaluate those aspects of the Government's policy, legal and institutional framework that are relevant to the project, including national, regional or sectoral implementing institutions that are applicable laws, regulations, rules and procedures and the implementation capacity.

This SA for EDLRP focuses on meeting the standards stated under ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities who are present in, or have collective attachment to the project area. It also assessed the nature and degree of the expected direct and

indirect economic, social, cultural (including cultural heritage), and environmental impacts the project will bring upon them. This standard applies to a distinct social and cultural group identified in accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of ESS7. As a result of this, Social Assessment should be developed, consulted, and disclosed prior to appraisal to guide the development of Indigenous Peoples Plans (IPPs) (social development Plans) during implementation.

3. Key Social Assessment Findings

3.1. Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Groups

As stated in the World Bank requirements ESS 7, there is a requirement to consider Indigenous peoples/Sub-Saharan African historically underserved traditional local communities in the project. This standard is applicable in the project implementation areas of Ethiopia, particularly the people in Afar, Somali, Gambella, Benishnagul Gumuz, pastoral and agro-pastoral parts of Oromia and SNNPR. Coupled with vulnerability and being disadvantaged groups, the locust infestation will have disproportionate impacts on agricultural crops, pasture and subsequently on livestock of these sections of the community. This also relates to the food insecurity and loss of livelihood disproportionately impact vulnerable group of the community. Though the exact number unknown, vulnerable group of the community, which include women, women headed household, elders, children, and disabled people significantly and disproportionately affected by the impact of desert locust invasion by increasing malnutrition and food insecurity.

From the previously assessed World Bank social assessments, livelihood based cultural disparities for five occupational groups: pastoralists, shifting cultivators, fishermen, hunters and craft workers were mentioned. The consultation with stakeholders through email and phone raised related ideas with the previous social assessments on issues like customary institutions, inclusions, and exclusion risks. They emphasized that such risks should be minimized or avoided in the historically underserved regions during the implementation of the EDLRP.

The form of polygamy (multiple marriages) which is practiced in Ethiopia is polygyny (a marriage of a man to two or more women at a time). Among the Ethiopian societies where polygyny is practiced (e.g., Afar, South omo - e.g., Dassanech, Hamar, Banna, Somali, Oromo, Gambella-Nuer and Anywak), a woman joins her husband in his patrilineal village on his ancestral land, the characteristic of a patriarchal society. The women do not own land and other major assets and are vulnerable to economic insecurity and often experience chronic food insecurity as the man often lacks resources to provide for the basic needs of his wives and their children.

The other most underserved communities historically in Ethiopia are the pastoral and agro-pastoral groups that are estimated to be eight to ten million people, 10% of the country's total population that practice pastoralism as their predominant mode of livelihood across the lowlands of Ethiopia. The rangelands where pastoral practices are extensively carried out represent two-third of the total national land area. Pastoralists are mainly living in Somali, Afar, the Borana and Guji in Oromia Region, and the South Omo Zone of the SNNPR. Pastoral and agro-pastoral populations belong to some twenty-nine ethno-linguistic groups. Since the recent past, the herding populations in the lowlands have largely been impoverished and food insecure. The arid climate of the region characterized by frequent cases of drought has been a principal contributory factor to the prevailing conditions. Resource degradation and water scarcity aggravated by steady increases in human and livestock population and the conversion of sizable areas of pastoral territory into dry land agricultural zones have resulted in the reduction of rangelands in terms of both quality and size. Poverty among the pastoral populations extends far beyond food insufficiency. They also have little access to socioeconomic benefits like health and education

services and opportunities to income generating activities outside of the livestock domain. There is a direct correlation between livestock feed shortages and malnutrition in children. Coupled with these challenges among the pastoral communities, the invasion of locusts in huge number would worsen the situation.

The situation of pastoral communities was further compounded by lack of due policy attention by previous government administrations. The needs and interests of pastoral groups were, in previous times, not given the attention they deserved in the design and implementation of development policy interventions, as compared to smallholder agricultural communities in the highlands. As a result, a substantial portion of the development investment was devoted to the promotion of the non-pastoral sector of the economy. In addition to the ecological stress that pastoralists suffered, they also experienced economic and political marginalization as well as food insecurity because they have been seriously affected by recurrent drought and other climate-change related factors. Apart from the above-mentioned disadvantages and vulnerability of the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of Ethiopia, the infestation desert locust is another risk that devastates the livelihood conditions of these sections of the community.

There are several sources of vulnerability in pastoral areas of Ethiopia as stated in various assessments and phone interview with key stakeholders such as deterioration of grazing/range land due to natural and human-made factors, drought, deforestation of rangeland epidemic diseases on human and livestock, market failure, poor socio-economic infrastructures: health, education, and market facilities, and rural road connection, conflict over resource competition; and deterioration of customary institutions. Even at present time, human population increases pressure on natural resources while conflict and insecurity often make these resources inaccessible. Ex-pastoralists are herding groups who were predominantly involved in pastoral pursuits and can be described as well off by local standards of wealth and social differentiation. However, they have over the years lost their livestock wealth to recurrent droughts, veterinary diseases, and inter-group conflicts to the point of being ejected from the pastoral livelihood system. There are also challenges reflected by consulted stakeholders in pastoral communities such as exclusion errors of vulnerable groups in some projects. More to the point, unequal socio-economic dynamics could be resulted due to favoritism or corruption made by kebele leadership or other economically influential community members who can misuse resources to their benefit from projects.

In addition to women and pastoralists, it important to consider the vulnerability of the youth into account as many sources showed the youths have become vulnerable because of unemployment, dependence on the family, landlessness and the shortage of cash to start their own productive ventures. Due to the primary focus of the project on threat of the locust control and livelihood support, it is important that EDLRP make sure these groups are not left behind. Instead, measures should be taken to target youths as beneficiaries of economic and social empowerment initiatives of the project. In general, as observed in the Social Assessment, there are risks that underserved peoples, ethnic minorities in the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities, which are regarded as historically underserved regions and culturally distinct groups, may be left out and/or not be duly included in the project because of their peculiar resource management system. Thus, the EDLRP should give due attention to these vulnerable or disadvantaged sections of the

community during its implementation mainly from component 2 of the project that intended to provide livelihood support.

3.2. Socioeconomic Characteristics of Historically Underserved Regions and Communities in the Project Implementation Areas

Ethiopia is a country where many nation, nationalities and people are living with diverse geographies, languages, and cultures. The country was divided into nine regions and two city administrations. The Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project will be implemented in all of the nine regions and Dire Dawa City Administration except Addis Ababa City Administration. The SA requires consideration of ESS7 that deals with Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (SSAHUTLC). In Ethiopia, the regions and communities considered as historically underserved are Somali, Afar, Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz and Parts of Oromia and SNNP. Thus, a clear description of these regions about the locations, livelihood activities, ethnic and religious compositions of the people will be reviewed. These helps to recognize the beneficiary profile, which are quite diverse comprising a number of sub-groups identifiable on the basis of their differential endowment, gender, ethnicity, different economic groups and other regional features. It is also imperative to give special attention to the poor and socially vulnerable groups during the design and development of mitigation measures for the social risks and challenges that may be encountered during the implementation of the project in the regions.

3.2.1. Somali Region

Somali Regional State is the second largest region in Ethiopia next to Oromia region, covering 350,000 km², situated in the southeastern part of the country. It is situated between latitude 4° and 11' N, and longitude 40° and 48' E. The area is arid, and mostly hot (18-45°C), largely plain with its altitude ranging from 400-1600 meters above sea level. The average annual precipitation ranges from 150mm-650 mm and has bimodal precipitation. The area has perennial rivers such as Wabi Shebelle, Genale, Dawa and Weyib, and seasonal rivers such as Erer, Daketa and Fafen. Therefore, the area has irrigated and rain-fed potential for localized farming. However, the key constraints are low rainfall, high temperature, lack of infrastructure. The creation of irrigated farming in fertile areas of the above river basins and the exploitation of perennial springs, seasonal floods and rainwater harvesting elsewhere in the region for the production of irrigated crops and pastures maybe taken into consideration. The use of drought-resistant crop varieties in the rain-fed areas along with soil and water conservation techniques will increase farm production.

Somali region has a population of 5.3 million with average household size of 6.6 according to CSA projection (CSA 2013). The zone consists of 11 zonal administration, 93 districts, 6 city administrations and 1,224 Kebeles. The people rely primarily on pastoralism. In the region, livestock is both considered a social reputation and a means of accumulating wealth. Therefore, the area has a livestock population of 30,536,000 million animals, including cattle (24%), goats (36.5%), horse (32.2%), camel (7.2%) and (1%) equine (CSA, 2014). The region has 17 rural livelihood zones, generally classified as pastoral, agro-pastoral, riverine, and sedentary farming. Livestock is the main livelihood pillar in the Somali region that supports around 86 per cent of

the population. It provides home-consuming milk and meat, and live animals for sale. Two woredas were selected as a sample to demonstrate the characteristics of the region as follows.

a. Gursum Woreda

Gursum Woreda is one of the Woredas in the Somali Regional states of Ethiopia and part of Fafen zone that cover a total area of 937 square Kilometer. Babelle borders the Woreda to the south to the west by Oromia Region, to the north by Ajersagoro, to the east by Jijiga as well as to the southeast by Kebri Beyah. According to CSA (2007), the total population of the Woreda was 27,510, of whom 14,815 are men and 12,695 women. Almost all (98.79%) of the population was followers of Islamic religion. Obbo (akisho) and gadabuursi ethnic groups primarily inhabit the Woreda. The livelihoods of the community in the woreda depend on pastoralism, agro-pastoralism, farming and urban residents are making a living from formal and informal employment. Its latitudinal location is 9°19'60.00" North and longitudinally on 42°34'59.99" East.

b. Kebribeyah woreda

The total population of the woreda is 198, 062 of whom 107, 340 (54.2%) are male and 90, 722 (45.8%) are female. The majority of them follow Muslim religion. Polygamy tends to be more common in better-off households. The main livelihood system is pastoralism. The communities that live in Kebribeyah woreda are different from other wider population because they are among the most underserved groups due to their characteristics in terms of the various forms of shocks, seasonality and trends affecting the lives and livelihoods of people. They experience frequent water shortages, drought, shortage of grass/fodder, outbreak of human disease, malaria and livestock disease. The community has strong social capital based on traditional relationships within the community that entirely depend on kinship ties, marriage relationship and other social obligations. Since subproject activities are initiated to address the core problems mentioned above, the two projects will have positive impacts in improving the livelihoods of the communities. The clan and religion leaders are responsible for resolving conflicts through norms and traditional laws. The clan based customary system will be helpful in mobilizing the communities for their own development, including supporting social inclusions in both participation and benefit sharing, and has the potential to ensure sustainability and ownership of the projects.

3.2.2. Afar Region

Afar regional state is situated in the northeastern part of Ethiopia with an area of around 150,000 km² that stretches into the lowlands covering the Awash valley and the Dankil depression. Geographically, the region is situated longitudinally between 39°34' and 42°28' East and Latitudinal between 8°49' and 14°30' North. The region is bordered to the northwest by Tigray region, to the southwest by Amhara region, to the south by Oromia region and to the southeast by the Somali region of Ethiopia. It is also bordered to the east by Djibouti and to the northeast by Eritrea. Administratively, the region is divided into 5 zones, 32 *Woredas* and 401 *Kebeles*. Afar people belong to the Cushitic-speaking language groups in Ethiopia and the society is structured into clans and sub-clans.

Afar regional state is characterized by an arid and semi-arid climate with low and erratic rainfall that has frequently been affected by drought. The northeastern part of the region is chronically water insecure due to a lack of perennial rivers, leaving the people of Afar largely dependent on

ponds and traditional wells for their water supply. To illustrate the region, two sample woredas are discussed as follows.

a) Afambo Woreda

Afambo Woreda is found in Zone 1 of Afar Regional State. As part of this administrative zone, Afambo is situated in the eastern part of the region sharing international boundaries with Djibouti in the East and regional boundaries with Dubti Woreda in the West, Asaita Woreda in the North, and Ethiopian Somali region in the South. The woreda has seven administrative Kebeles, of which pure pastoralists inhabit four Kebeles, and the remaining three are predominantly populated with agro-pastoralists. With a total area of 1,258.97 km², the Woreda is covered mainly with sand and black loom soil. The Altitude of the woreda ranges from 270 – 300 meters above sea level. Its annual rainfall is 200 – 250 ml. The average annual temperature of the Woreda is 35°C. Awash River is the main gift of the Woreda and its final destination is this Woreda. It serves as the main water source for the people and their livestock.

According to CSA (2007), the Woreda has a total population of 24,153, of which 13,312 are men and 10,841 women. In Afambo, 99.96% of the population were followers of Islamic religion. Some segments of the population, which account about 27% of the total population, reside in scattered settlements. The Woreda is endowed with many wild animals and natural resources, which are potentially great tourist attractions. The wild animals found in the Woreda are crocodiles, monkeys, foxes, hyenas, wild hogs, gazelles, wild asses etc. There are three lakes, namely Gemeri Lake, Afambo Lake, and Abe Lake, which serve as tourist attractions. In Afambo woreda, the Afar ethnic group is dominant. However, in the town, there are other ethnic groups like Tigray, Amhara, etc, living mainly as government workers and petty traders.

b) Chifra woreda

Chifra is one of the woredas in the Afar Region of Ethiopia. Part of the Administrative Zone 1, Chifra is located near the base of the eastern escarpment of the Ethiopian highlands and bordered on the south by Mille, on the west by the Amhara Region, on the north by the Administrative Zone 4, and on the east by Dubti; the Logiya River defines part of the boundary with Zone 4. The administrative center of Chifra is Chifra. Based on the 2007 Census conducted by the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia (CSA), this woreda has a total population of 91,080, of whom 50,861 are men and 40,219 women; with an area of 1,519.32 square kilometers, Chifra has a population density of 59.95. While 9,132 or 10.03% are urban inhabitants, a further 38,234 or 41.98% are pastoralists. The woreda has a total of 14,518 households, which results in an average of 6.3 persons to a household, and 14,937 housing units. In terms of religion, 98.88% of the population were Muslim, and 1.09% were Orthodox Christians.

The average elevation in this woreda is 825 meters above sea level; the highest peak is Mount Groppo (900 meters). Rivers include the Mille. There are two roads in Chifra, connecting its administrative center to other towns. One runs from Chifra to Mille, which is 105 kilometers in length; it was constructed in two segments between February 1999 and February 2001 by SUR Construction. The other goes south to Garsa Gita where it joins the all-weather road to Bati. As of 2008, about 22.33% of the total population of Chifra has access to drinking water. Education

in this woreda is in three forms: formal, non-formal, and Koranic. Formal education goes to Grade eight and the Afar Pastoralist Development Association is implemented non-formal education in four kebeles. The non-formal education is in the Afar language and includes mathematics; 843 students have achieved literacy.

3.2.3. Benishangul Gumuz Region

The Benishangul-Gumuz region is located in the Western part of Ethiopia. The Amhara, Oromia and Gambella Regional States are bordering the region in the north, east and south respectively. According to the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia (CSA 2007), the region has a total population of 784,345, consisting of 398,655 men and 385,690 women. The rural parts of the region are inhabited by 93.22% of the population. With an estimated area of 50,380 square kilometers, the region has an estimated density of 15.91 people per square kilometer. For the entire region, 174,445 households were counted which results in an average for the region of 4.5 persons to a household, with urban households having on average 3.6 and rural households 4.7 people. The underserved population of Benishangul-Gumuz consists of five ethnic groups: Berta (25.9%), Gumuz (21.1%), Shinasha (7.5%), Mao (1.8%) and Komo (0.96%). Other groups include Amhara (21.3%), Oromo (13.3%), and Agaw-Awi (4.2%). Main languages spoken in the region are the Berta (25.1%), Amharic (22.46%), Gumuz (20.59%), Oromo (17.69%), Shinasha (4.58%) and Awngi (4.01%). Concerning religion, 45.4% of the population were Muslim, 33.3% were Orthodox Christians, 13.53% were Protestant, Catholic Christian (0.6%) and 7.09% practiced traditional beliefs. Berta is spoken in the Sherkole Woreda; Gumuz is spoken along the western boundary of Guba and Dangur Woredas and in the Sirba Abbay woreda.

More than 60 percent of this region is covered by forests, including bamboo, eucalyptus and rubber trees, forests of incense and gum. However, these natural resources of the region have faced widespread degradation due to an increased population. The region is sub-divided into 3 administrative zones, (Asosa, Kamashi and Metekel), eighteen Woredas and two Special Woreda (Mao and Komo and Pawe Special Woredas). The region is endowed with rich natural resources, which include fertile land, water, forest, minerals, and fish. Abay River and most of its major tributaries flow across the region that can be used for irrigation. Temperature in the region is generally suitable for crop production, but agricultural production remains below subsistence level due mainly to lack of human resource and infrastructure.

a. Wombera Woreda

Wombera Woreda is bounded by Bulan in the east, Sadal and Sharkole in the west, Yasona and Agalometi in the south, Guba and Dangur in the north. The administrative seat of the Woreda is Debrezeit. Wombera Woreda has 33 kebeles, and the total area is 736,425 hectares (49,512.5 hectares cultivated, 175,465.25 uncultivated, 125,192.25 forest, 195,152.63 bush and forest, and 106,781.63 grazing land). Geographically, plain and some mountainous areas characterize the woreda, and its altitude ranges from 1,900 to 2,380 meter above sea level. The agro-climatic condition of the woreda is daga (14.3%), woinadega (35.7%) and kolla (50%). The annual rainfall and temperature range from 900 mm to 1,400 mm and 20⁰c to 35⁰c respectively. The 2007 census indicates that the total population of the Woreda is 76,006 (male 37,015, female 38,991). The information obtained from the Regional Agriculture Bureau shows the number of male-headed households to be 10,698, whereas female-headed household are 474.

The major livelihood of the people of the Woreda depends on agriculture. The Woreda has vast and virgin tracts of land, which is suitable for agriculture. There are also several year-round flowing rivers such as Bales, Nagar, Dura, Shar and Tishina in the Woreda. These rivers have high potential for irrigation and can be used for fishery. Crops and fruits types that can be produced in the woreda include coffee, sesame, Nueg, chickpea, soybeans, sorghum, millets, maize, barely, wheat, beans, pea, teff, and potato.

The Amhara, Agaw and Oromo who are said to be late comers that inhabit the highland parts of the Woreda. The Gumz occupy the lowland parts of the Woreda. The Shinasha, who live in both the lowlands and highlands, are the second dominant group in the Woreda.

b. The Shinasha

The Shinasha are Omotic language speaking group who are living in Metekel Administrative Zone of Benishangul-Gumz region. They are part of the Gonga population, which in earlier years used to live on both sides of the Abay River. Historically, pressure from the Christian kingdom and the Oromo expansion forced many Shinasha of the current administrative zones of Gojjam and Wollega to move to the lowland parts of Metekel in general and Wombera in particular.

The Shinasha have been called by different names of Boro, Dangabo, Sinicho and Gonga. Shinasha is their widely known name mainly by outsiders, and it is a non-derogatory Amharic designation. Nevertheless, the people prefer to call themselves Baro, which is a recent usage. They have their own cultural identity and language called Borenona'a. The Borenona'a is widely spoken by those Shinasha who inhabit the lowland part and those who have less interaction with others. In Wombera, since there are strong historical relations and cultural adaptations with the Oromo, they practice the gada system and mostly speak Afan Oromo language. They have also adopted many cultural traits from both the Amhara and the Agaw. They intermarry with others, mainly with the Oromo and the Amhara.

The main economic activity of the Shinasha is agriculture. They produce crops like sorghum, millet, corn, pumpkins, and cotton. In addition, they rear various animals (cattle, sheep and goats) to satisfy their food requirements and for market purpose. A small number of the Shinasha supplement their diet by hunting wild animals and gathering fruits and roots. They overcome hardship by consuming root crops such as godarre, anchote and dinicha, which are deliberately left to stay in the soil even after their maturation time to be used in times of depletion of cereal crops at home.

The Shinasha have indigenous land and resource-based dispute handling institution called Nemo, which has four hierarchical structures. The lowest level is Bura at which one elder handle minor case. The next is Nemma, two elders deal with new cases or appeal cases from Bura. The third is Terra/Tsera, a setting chaired by three elders dealing particularly appeal cases from other lower levels of the Nemo. The last, which has the highest authority in Nemo judicial structure, is Falla. Appeal cases from the lower, three levels of Nemo serious cases such as homicide are dealt with at Falla to get final solution.

3.2.4. Gambella Region

Gambella Regional State (GRS) is one of the hottest regions in Ethiopia, which is located in the western parts and far from the national capital, Addis Ababa, about 780 kilometers. It is bordered with South Sudan in the west and southwest, SNNPR in the southeast, and Oromia region in the east and north east (GRS, Bureau of Finance and Economic Development, 2008). The region occupies an area of 25,294 km and 500 meters above sea level. Gambella region is divided into three zones (Anuak, Nuwer and Majangir), 13 woredas (one special woreda) and Gambella Town Administration. According to CSA (2007), the total population of Gambella region was 307,097, of which women account for 52% while men 48%. The region is a home to five native people, namely, Nuwer, Anyuak, Majangir, Komo and Oppo ethnic groups. The main ethnic groups living in the region include Nuwer (46.7%), Anuak (21.2%), Amhara (8.4%), Kaficho (5%), Oromo (4.8%), and Majangir (4%). Baro, Gilo, Alwero and Akobo are the four main rivers that travel from east to west across the Gambella region. Irrigated cultivation can be enhanced in the large fertile areas of the river basins of Baro, Gilo and Akobo and in the well spread streams and seasonal flooding. Hence, the region has irrigated and rain-fed agricultural potential suitable for grain, livestock, forest, wildlife and fish production as well as for the growth of wildlife and tourism. The use of improved varieties along with modern farming techniques will bring surprising development achievements in rain-fed agriculture.

The livelihood of the region depends on mixed farming (the Anyawa and Mejengir) and agropastoral among the Nuer people. The region has poor transportation network among the *Woredas* and telecommunication coverage is very low. Most of the potentially rich agricultural land is untapped since the farming practice is mostly monoculture, and as a result, the region is affected by recurring food shortage. The health, water, sanitation and hygiene coverage are very low. The mean annual rainfall in the region varies from Woreda to Woreda and ranges from 900-1500 mm in the lowland area and 1900-2100 mm in midland Woreda. The annual rainfall has uni-modal occurrence and erratic distribution. The main rainy season in the region is from mid-May to October. Moreover, the mean annual temperature varies from 17.3° C in the mountains to 28.3° C in the plains and the absolute temperature reaches up to 45-47° C in mid-March (GRS, Bureau of Finance and Economic Development, 2008).

a) Itang Special Woreda

Itang is a special Woreda in the region, an administrative subdivision that is similar to an autonomous area. It is bordered to the south and southeast by the Anyawa zone, to the west by the Nuer zone, to the northwest by South Sudan, and to the north by the Oromia region. The Nuer and Anyawa communities inhabit Itang Woreda. The altitude of the Woreda ranges from 350 to 480 meters above sea level. There are several rivers in the woreda in which Alwero is a tributary to Baro River and around 10% of the Woreda is forest. A notable landmark is the Gambella National Park, which embraces the Woreda south of the Baro. The economy of Itang is predominantly agricultural. The Woreda has a total population of 35,686, of whom 17,955 are men and 17,731 women with an area of 2,188.34 square kilometers. Flooding is a serious problem in the Woreda (CSA, 2007).

In Itang Woreda, the major ethnic groups found are the Nuer (63.96%), Anyawa (25.17%), and foreigners from Sudan (4.62%), Shita (2.66%), and all other ethnic groups 3.59%. The major languages spoken in this Woreda include Nuer (68.72%) and Anyawa (25.75%). Most of the

population (81.63%) in the Woreda were followers of protestant religion followed by traditional beliefs (7.54%), Orthodox Christian (6.27%), and Catholic (2.62%).

b) Lare Woreda

Lare is one of the Woredas in Gambella regional state of Ethiopia and included under Nuer zone. It is bordered to the south and east by the Anyuak zone, to the west by the Baro River and to the north by Jikawo River, which separates it from South Sudan and to the west by Itang special Woreda. The land of Lare comprises of marshes and grasslands. The Woreda annual average range of rainfall is from 1,900–2,100 millimeters and its elevations range from 410 to 430 meters above sea level. Part of Gambella National Park is located in Lare Woreda, which occupies part of the area south of the Baro River. According to CSA (2007), Lare Woreda has 24 Kebeles with a total population of 31,406 (16,145 men and 15,261 women) and the total area covers 685.17 square kilometers. Majority of the inhabitants (86.81%) were followers of protestant religion followed by traditional believers (7.48%), Catholic (2.69%) and Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity (1.79%). The main livelihood activities of the Woreda community are pastoralism and agro-pastoralism. Opportunities for petty trading such as selling grains, stationaries and foods have also expanded with the shift to settlement, which the influx of highlanders has also helped. The main crops that are grown in Lare are corn, maize, sweet potato, sesame and peanuts, which are produced in two farming seasons, using rain-fed and flood-receding farming schemes. An estimated 90 percent of the land is flat and suitable for farming. The Nuer keep mixed herds of cattle, sheep and goats. There are no camels in the region.

3.2.5. Parts of Oromia Region

The regional state of Oromia is the largest region in Ethiopia, with a total land area of about 353,000 km². It borders on all regions of the country except Tigray; to the east, it borders on the Somali region; to the north, it borders on the Amhara region, the Afar region and the Benishangul-Gumuz region; to the west, it borders on South Sudan, the Gambella region and on Southern Nations, nationalities and peoples. According to National population projection data from 2014-2017, the region has an estimated population of 32, 815,995 (CSA 2013). Non-Oromo ethnic groups (Amhara, Hadiya, Sidama, etc.) accounted for 12 per cent of the population in the region. Forty-eight percent of the region's population is Islamic followers, led by 30 percent Orthodox Christians, 18 percent Protestants, 3 percent traditional believers, 0.5 percent Catholics, and others 1 percent. Oromia Regional State's economy is dependent on agriculture, which contributes about 66 percent of regional GDP and provides more than 89 percent of the regional population with an opportunity for jobs. The mixed agriculture dominates the region's livelihood. Oromia accounts for 51.2 percent of crop production, 45.1 per cent of temporary crop area and 44 per cent of Ethiopia's total livestock population. The coffee, wheat, barley, teff, sorghum and oil seeds are the main crops grown in the area. Coffee is the main cash crop in the region. Administratively, the Region is divided into 18 administrative zones, 304 woredas (out of which 39 are towns and 265 rural woredas). Among these woredas, two pastoralist woredas were selected as a sample to illustrate parts of historically disadvantaged areas in oromia region.

a) Teltelle Woreda

Teltelle Woreda is found in Borena zone of Oromia regional state. South Omo in the West, Yaballo Woreda in East, Konso in North, and Kenya in South border the Woreda. The Woreda has twenty-three administrative Kebeles, of which pure pastoralists inhabit twelve and the remaining thirty are dominated by agro-pastoralists. The total area of the Woreda is about 1,999.3 square kilometers, which is covered mainly with sand and black loam soil. It has 28,882 hectares of cultivable land and 459.5 hectares of forestland.

According to the data obtained from Teltelle Woreda Pastoral Office, the total population of the Woreda is 72,476. Of this total population, males are about 36,495, and the remaining 35981 are females. The agro-climatic zone of Teltelle Woreda is dominantly 'kolla'. The annual rainfall is between 400–600 mm. The temperature of the Woreda ranges between 17°C–34°C. Thus, the main economic pillars of Teltelle Woreda community are livestock husbandry and crop production. Livestock rearing has been challenged severely by recurrent drought particularly since 2009/10. The scarcity of water and pasture has caused neighboring ethnic groups to compete for these inadequate resources (i.e. water and pasture). Ethnically, Borena Oromos are the major and dominant group in the Teltelle district of Borena zone. The Woreda also has a few other ethnic groups like Konso, Garba, and others.

The Woreda has several natural resources including wild animals like Zebra, hyena, rabbits, dik dik, gazelle, etc. Though they are under threat, there are also different types of forests mainly acacia and bush trees which serve as habitats for wild animals. According to government officials, there are minerals that are not yet well studied and categorized.

b) Liban woreda

The woreda has 164,054 population comprising 82,876 men and 81,178 women. The Guji's are also followers of Islam and *waaqeffanna* with rising number of protestant (Christianity). In the Liban woreda, the Gujii clan is a potential beneficiary of the project and their main livelihood strategy is agro-pastoralist. They are underserved because of their historical disadvantaged status due to policies of the past regime, which resulted in the lack of access to basic services for many years. A large proportion of school age children have no access to education, lack of access to health services, and water borne diseases are rampant due to lack of access to safe drinking water etc. Frequent drought, food insecurity and poverty are features that differentiate them from other communities.

The *Gadaa* is a social and political institution in Liban. It is a system of administration or leadership succeeds each other every eight years in assuming political, military, judicial, legislative and ritual responsibilities. It guides the customary practice of the Guji-Borana society to demarcate dry and wet season grazing with a set of specific rules and regulations. For sustainable use of grazing land and water resources, the Boranas divide the animals into two major classes (the *Warra* and *Fooraa*) and grazing lands into seasons. The primary purpose of the *warra-fooraa* system is to distribute animals away from the home area during times of limited availability of forage. The composition and size of *warra* and *fooraa* herds is dynamic across seasons and average rainfall in dry or drought years. They graze on enclosures protected during the wet season and are left behind with women, elderly and children in permanent

encampments. Such cyclical grazing and range management is compatible to the requirements of range ecology, keeps equilibrium of vegetation dynamics by minimizing overgrazing and depletion of water.

As indicated above, the grazing land and water points have their own utilization and management procedures. Grazing land is managed by the *abbaa dheedaa*, a person who administers over 15 *ollaas* and monitors the utilization of large grazing areas. He demarcates the dry and wet season grazing areas, communal and individual enclosures, and plans in consultation with the heads of *Ollas* the cyclical grazing and migration schedule. This system contributes to the productivity of the rangeland and animals and reduces the negative impact of drought and conflict. This approach is instituted in these customary laws not only to protect the natural environment and eco system but also to reduce conflicts that may arise over utilization and rapid depletion of resources. In addition to this, the community has customary social security, which is the main coping strategy for resilience from shocks. There are three forms of mutual help as *Buuss*, *Gonnofaa*, and *Dabbaree* in the Guji Oromos. These are systems of mutual help for households that have lost their belongings through different shocks.

3.2.6. Parts of Southern Nation Nationalities and People Region

SNNPR is one of the nine Ethiopian regional states bordered by Kenya in the south, Gambella in the northwest, Oromia in the north and east, and Sudan in the southwest. It is located approximately between latitude 4°.43'-8°.58' in the north and longitude 34°.88'-39°.14' in the east. According to the official Websites of the region, the region is divided into 13 zones based on the ethnic and linguistic identities. These are sub-divided into 126 *Weredas* (districts), 8 special *Weredas* and 3678 rural *kebeles*. The total area of the region is 113,539 square kilometers. It enjoys ecological variation and cultural diversity. The lowland areas have arid and semi-arid characteristics, while the highlands have cool temperate climate and high rainfall. Eighty per cent of the populations in the region live in the highlands while 20 per cent live in arid and semi-arid areas (Yohannes, et al 2005). According to SNNPR's Official Website, the region comprises of 56 ethnic groups with diverse and distinct languages, geographies, traditions, personalities, survival mechanisms and socio-political histories. The SNNPR population was 15, 042,531 in 2007 (CSA 2007). Two woredas that are historically underserved were selected as a demonstration for the pastoral areas of the region and briefly discussed as follows.

a) Hammar Woreda

Hammar is one of the six pastoral and agro-pastoral Woredas found in South Omo zone. The total area of the Woreda is estimated to be 731,565 hectares of land. Of this total area, 9,095 hectares of land is cultivated; 250,709 is covered with bushes; 225,434 is grazing land; 10,000 is covered with forests; 99,260 is irrigable land; and the remaining 137,067 hectares of land is under residential development or construction of office blocks. The altitude of the Woreda falls between 371–2084 above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 764 mm. The agroecology of the Woreda includes 80% semi-dry (woyina dega), 37.5% partial dry (kolla), 54% dry (kolla), and the remaining 0.5% is desert (bereha). The highest rainfall in the Woreda is recorded between mid-marches to mid-May. Average annual temperature of the Woreda ranges from 30oC to 35oC (Woreda Agriculture Office, 2012/13).

Hammar Woreda shares its geographical boundaries with Bena Tsmay in the North, Dassench South West, Nyagatom in the North West, Kenya in the South, and Borena and Konso in the East. The data obtained from Woreda Pastoral Development Office (2013/14) indicates that the total population of the Woreda is estimated to be 71,489, of which 49.9% are males and the remaining 50.1% are females. The main crops produced and consumed in the Woreda are maize, Sorghum, and pea. The community also produced some fruit crops like mango and banana. The Woreda has also rich natural resources like wild animals and forests. The wild animals include Monkey, Ape, Oryx, Greater Kudu, Bush Duck, Cheetah, Dikdik, Fox, Zebra, etc. Forests Contain Acacia, ardia, and other different types of bushes and shrubs. The main river in the Woreda is Omo River.

The Woreda is divided into 35 administrative Kebeles. Of these, pure pastoralists inhabited 11 Kebeles while agro-pastoralists inhabited 21 Kebeles and permanently settled farmers occupy the remaining 3 Kebeles. The main ethnic groups in the woreda are Hamar, Arebore, and Kara. There are also non pastoral ethnic groups such as Amhara in a woreda town called Demeka and other towns such as Turmi who are petty traders, working as government employee, and tourist guides.

b) Nyagatom Woreda

Nyagatom Woreda is one of the Woredas found in South Omo zone of SNNPR, located in the southern part of the region. The Woreda has a total area of 205,482 hectares of land. Out of which, 60,680 is cultivable land, 71,816 is grazing land, 36,439 is covered with shrubs and bushes, 6,277 is covered with forests and the remaining 4,594 hectares is not favorable for cultivation. The type of soil in the Woreda is loam sand soil. The Woreda is bordered by Selemago Woreda in North, Bench Maji Woreda in North West, Dassench Woreda in South, Kenya in South West, South Sudan in West, and Hammer in Eastern part. The average annual temperature of the Woreda is 34°C with annual rainfall ranging from 400–500 ml.

The total population in the Woreda, according to the 2013/14 Woreda Finance Office Report, is 21,424. In terms of gender, 11,045 are females and 10,378 are males. Hence, there are a slightly larger number of females than males.

The Woreda is endowed with natural resources. There are wild animals in the area, which are particularly found in national parks and wild animal reserve areas. In the Woreda there were two national parks namely Omo and Mago National parks. The wild animal reserve area is Murule Wildlife Reserve. The parks and animal reserve areas are away from residence areas and less likely to be affected by RPLRP. In case where RPLRP has the tendency to impact these areas, environmental impact assessment (EIA) should be conducted before the implementation of the project. The main types of wild animals include Tiang, gazelle, elephant, giraffe, monkey, zebra, buffalo, wild hog and rabbit. The natural forests are acacia and other local trees, which are not yet clearly identified, according to a key informant. The Woreda has also some minerals like gold and mineral water, which the local people call ‘mercury water’. There are hot springs in Nyagatom, locally named as Okulan and Naruse.

Nyagatom Woreda has 21 administrative Kebeles. There is only one urban Kebele named Kangatin. The remaining 20 kebeles are rural. There are three ethnic groups residing in Nyagatom Woreda. These are Nyagatom, Murule and Kowegu ethnic groups. Historically these ethnic groups have had strong bonds and relationships. As key informants indicated, it is believed that Murule ethnic group came from South Sudan, where as Kowegu and Nyagatom ethnic groups moved to Ethiopia from Uganda and Tanzania; Tosa in Tazania and Turkana in Kenya are parts of the Nyagatom ethnic groups in Ethiopia, according to informants. In addition to these three ethnic groups there are few ethnic groups like Amhara, Konso, etc, who live in the town called Kangatine (the center of Nyagatom woreda) who are mainly government workers and others are involved in shop keeping, hotel sector, etc.

3.3. Key Social Issues

The social assessment helped in the identification of key social development issues. It is also helpful to assess impacts of the project. This led to drawing necessary measures that the project is expected to take up to ensure inclusion and addressing equity in accessing project benefits, strengthening decentralized governance system. The following subsections deal with the analysis of institutions, conflicts, social diversity, gender, vulnerable groups, livelihood activities, stakeholders, social risks and impacts as well as their mitigation measures related to EDLRP.

3.3.1. Institutions

As like other countries, Ethiopia has formal government structures starting from federal to *Kebele* level. In addition, there is community institutions, which are mechanisms of social order that govern the behavior of a set of individuals within a given community, which promote cultural, social, political and economic aspects of local communities. During this social assessment, in the study areas, commonly, there are *local/informal* and *formal* forms of institutions. *Local/informal* community institutions rely on local communities' cultures that have distinctive structures or forms. They play important role in shaping the capacities of communities to respond to changes in natural and social systems. Thus, it is imperative to see how local community institutions facilitate or enable interaction between the local communities and external actors. *Formal* community institutions depend on written laws by government or other bodies. The two forms of local institutions were existent in the selected study areas and are discussed in the sections below.

A. Formal Institutions

The government of Ethiopia has different institutions having structure starting from federal to *Kebele* level. Participants selected for the assessment indicated that in the areas where the project will be implemented, concurrent with formal government structure, the community uses the traditional administration system. Besides government structure, there are several formal organizations such as Community Based Organization (CBO) in all regions included in this Social Assessment.

Some of the CBOs that are commonly mentioned by informants and established by the government up to the *Kebele* levels in the study areas are like Youth and Women Associations. In various social assessments, it was found that people complained these associations due to the

reasons they are not working properly and maximize their personal interests than for what they stand for although some women mentioned the benefits they got from engaging in associations. However, they stated the danger of elite capture for the upcoming project as there have been cases where only few women or people who have intimate relationship with the elite or facilitators of the project and may take the supports provided by projects several times. Therefore, during implementation of the upcoming project, there should be strengthening of women and partake female to benefit and other vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of the community.

B. Informal Institutions

Pastoral and agro-pastoral communities have their own local institutions that are very strong and enable them ease their daily activities. The *Balabat* system is an informal institution found in all pastoral and agropastoral communities in South Omo, for example, in Hamar, Kara, Bashada and Benna ethnic groups where all members of the group are loyal to their respective *Bittas/balabat*. The *Bittas/balabats* perform all traditional rituals and religious practices for their members. The community acknowledges them as they are being endowed with some kind of supernatural power. Hence, all of their commands and decisions are accepted without hesitation.

The social assessment highlights important customary institutions in all societies that are involved in dispute resolution and/or providing support for the vulnerable. These are particularly strong in pastoralist societies and religious institutions provide charity. There is much discussion of different types of customary institutions and their positive role-played in all the social assessments done so far.

Support from customary institutions involve gifts or loans/credit of food (grain or among pastoralist groups milk), livestock (usually lactating cows, oxen to plough with, lactating camels or donkeys for transport), or cash at times of hardship, (famine, loss of livestock, death of oxen) for weddings or funerals. The support may be provided to clan members, kin, family, children, friends, or to poor people, widows and orphans, with traditional fostering called *guddifacha* in Oromo society. Some forms of support may be expected or mandatory with sanctions for not providing it, and others may be voluntary at the discretion of individuals.

There are also common forms of labor sharing, often during planting, weeding or harvesting (*debo, jige, wofera* - SLMP-SA, LFSDP-SA) and sometimes for house building that are either reciprocal, usually between two individuals or households, or festive, in exchange for food and drink, often called by wealthier households. Some of these are forms of religiously prescribed charity, as in the case of Zakat or Fidri gifts at the end of Ramadan in Islam, or gifts during Saints days in the Orthodox Christian tradition. Some local institutions have specific purpose, notably credit and saving (*eqqub*), pooling resources in turn (women's butter or spinning groups), or for burial (*iddir/kire/sera*), which may also play a role of support for the vulnerable.

Many of the customary institutions are led by clan leaders and/or elders and are involved primarily in customary justice with different names and rules in different cultures (AGP-SA, DRDIP-SA, WaSH-SA). There are also customary institutions involved in natural resource management of land, particularly in pastoralist areas for pastureland, water for irrigation, water

wells (notably in Borana), forest land, etc (SLMP-SA). Some of these institutions are said to have been weakened in part due to more “frequent natural hazards that deplete the social and physical assets of the community” (PCDP-SA). The relationship of customary institutions with government structures is complex with elements of competition and cooperation, especially with the recent expansion of government institutions to lower levels below the Kebele, notably the development teams (SLMP-SA). This kind of relationship may be more affected by the expansion of desert locust infestation and its damage following it. Some informants in the pastoralist and agro-pastoralists areas indicated the seriousness of the infestation on the pasture of their livestock and consequences effects that leads pastoralists into conflicts.

Customary leaders and institutions notably clan structures were found to play an important role in ‘targeting’. However, from the project’s point of view, this was seen as resulting in the inclusion of people who were not eligible and others who deserved to be included were not, with women often faring badly (PSNP4-SA). Moreover, among the pastoralist groups a strong sharing ethnic often means that aid and PSNP transfers are widely shared. From a project point of view this is seen as ‘diluting’ the benefits when ‘beneficiaries share their kinsmen who are not included in the program and hence for whom the resources were not intended” thereby endangering effectiveness (PSNP4-SA). This raises the question of how customary institutions that have the support of the communities can best work with formal institutions in improving the effectiveness of social support and social protection, and how they can be reformed to take account of women’s and children’s rights.

In Afar community, for example, co-operation is based on the local community structure of clan, sub-clan, family, etc. Each clan or sub-clan is highly organized and cohesive. Clan leaders play a key role in maintaining social order, coordinating social activities, and managing common property resources such as pasture and water. Collective action is embedded in Afar culture and they have a longstanding and well established local community institution administered through traditional system. The administration of their traditional system is classified hierarchically. Accordingly, the higher units are clan (*mela*) and the level below it is the local community (*kaidoh*), and the next lower level is the extended family (*dahla*), followed by the household (*burra*). For that reason, the sultanates are clan leaders, *Firma* or *Balabat* are community leaders, and household heads that reflect their daily socio-cultural aspects. Within the local community, elders arbitrate disputes, and the overall problems are dealt with the committee members of the grazing associations.

The Somali have also mentioned their own local traditional institution named as *Ugas* System. The *Ugas* has the supreme power in making decision in the Somali ethnic group and all ethnic groups inevitably recognize it. This is because the *Ugas* is believed to be educated person and has regular interaction and discussion with each of the clan leaders, especially on issues such as peace and security that harm the community. Every clan has their own representative that takes messages from the *Ugas* and passes down to their respective community members.

In Gambella, the native inhabitants are the Nuer, Anyauk, Mejenger, Oppo and Komo. The ethnic groups included in the study *Woredas* of this SA were Nuer and Anyawa and they have their traditional institutions. For example, the Anyawa uses *Juatut* traditional conflict redress mechanism while the Nuer practices *Ruach*. In both Anyawa and Nuer, the composition of members is male and female elders that are recognized by their respective community. Whenever the problem is beyond the traditional redress mechanism, they follow the formal structure of the government from *Kebele* to the highest-level judiciary to solve the prevailing issue.

As it has been known, the Oromo people have their own unique traditional institution named the *Gada* system, which is based on an age-set system that crosscuts kinship organization. Elderly participants in various previous community consultation forwarded *Jarsumma*/elders institution plays significant role in mediating various problems encountering the community including solving conflicts within their clans and inter-clans as well as with other ethnic groups like the Somali. In the following subsections, discussion will be made on what are the causes of conflicts among different sections particularly the lowland pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of Ethiopia and how the aforementioned institutions play role in resolving the conflicts in a formal or traditional ways or system.

3.3.2. Conflicts and their Resolution Mechanism

- *Sources of Conflicts*

Various social assessments and informants consulted listed various reasons for the presence of conflicts in the pastoral, agro-pastoral and farming communities of Ethiopia. It is therefore important to know the sources of conflicts during the implementation of the project in the areas it covers. The main sources of conflicts mentioned during consultation with stakeholders and review from previous social assessments include livelihoods, rangeland or pasture, the situation of the youth being unemployed and underemployed, information and misinformation, to mention a few and discussed as follows.

A. Livelihood System Based Conflict

In Ethiopia, pastoralist livelihood systems are becoming increasingly vulnerable to various forms of conflict. Human population is rising, the climate is changing and international markets are setting ever-high barriers for access. Infrastructure is poorly developed, education and literacy levels remain very low and competition for scarce resources is increasing. Overall, livelihood system has increasingly become a source of conflict in all regions that hosts pastoral and agro-pastoral communities. Conflicts and tensions in the Somali region is for example complex, and are centered on competition over resources as mobile pastoral communities struggle for access to, and ownership of, increasingly scarce resources such as water and pasture. The formation of the Somali Regional state left borders in key areas undefined, for example, the Shinile border with Afar, contributing to conflicts between the pastoral Issa and Afar, as well as between Issa and the Agro-Pastoral Hawiya. Thus, it challenges the pastoralist livelihood (caused by change increasing frequency of drought and the adoption of more sedentary forms of agro-pastoralist communities have heightened these tensions. These would make it dangerous when it is combined with the damage of the desert locust infestation on the pasture of their livestock and the pesticides sprayed to destroy the swarms of the locust would also affects the livestock and their pasture. This aggravates the conflicts within and outside their territory.

B. Rangeland Based Conflict

The pastoral and agro-pastoral communities understood the ability of rangeland to replenish itself from soil seed bank reserves and they used to exercise careful timing of grazing of safeguard plants during seed production. However, due to the aggravating pressure on the rangelands, currently they are unable to apply this. In principle, the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities are culturally alien to cutting of trees that serves as browse and source of edible fruits for humans. Animals are an essential source of food, nutrition and financial security and the herders take great pride in their animals and when they face challenges or shortages of pasture for their livestock in their territory they may migrate longer distance in search of grazing for their animals. What makes worsening is the invasion of locusts devastate crops and destroy grazing lands could lead to competition over scarce resources resulting into conflicts. This aggravates existing traditional conflicts over water and pasture. This in turn would affect the food security and increases poverty in the areas where the locusts' infestation covers and the impacts is a great crisis for the country too.

C. The Situation of the Youth being Unemployed and Underemployed

Youth are a conflict resource in the sense that they can be a restless, frustrated, easily mobilized group eager for opportunity and advancement but often disadvantaged. One of the consequences of the ongoing livelihood transition in any region is increased rural-urban migration, especially among youth. Even after their sub-clan settles in a particular place, many youth – especially boys – are leaving their rural communities for the (relatively) urban towns of their respective regional states, both of which have grown substantially in recent years. They come to towns in search of economic opportunity, as drought and other factors diminish the feasibility and appeal of pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihoods.

Consequently, there exists a large pool of unemployed and underemployed youth in the urban areas that are susceptible to recruitment to various causes and inducement to violence. They come looking for economic opportunities. With the time they have on their hands, youth increasingly engage in activities that generally negatively affect their outlook on life, such as whittling away the day chewing *khat* and joining groups watching violent and sometimes pornographic videos at night. Recognizing this, extremist elements often prey on youth vulnerability in various parts of the world. These target regions are a strong candidate for such predatory activity. The principal risk is that “a deprived, frustrated or traumatized youth cohort, if left without help, can continue to foment violent conflict for decades”. The problem of the youth coupled with the damage created by the desert invasion on the pasturelands and crops, which in turn devastation of livelihoods in the region could bring great challenges and conflicts among the local people, mainly the youth.

Moreover, in the highland areas where the basic livelihoods depends on agriculture, the youth who are unemployed or underemployed are vulnerable especially where land scarcity and fragmentation are severe problems, so that they have minimal land holdings (AGPII-SA). Youth in the highland areas are vulnerable because of unemployment, dependence on the family, landlessness and shortage of cash to start their own productive ventures. This in turn also leads to conflicts and discontent. Thus, during the implementation of the project the vulnerability of the youth should be taken into account.

D. Information and Misinformation

Pastoral and agro-pastoral communities are remarkable consumers of information. They have an impressive knowledge of comprehending about the worldviews but limited exposure to news. There is almost no access to newspapers beyond some towns, no radio stations other than the Ethiopian based radios, and no television beyond Ethiopian state television (satellite dishes are the exclusive province of the elite, the UN and NGOs). This creates an information vacuum. That vacuum is filled, to some extent, by the highly social and oral nature of pastoral and agro-pastoral society – men spend hours every day drinking coffee or chewing *khat* while in long, winding conversations, frequently leaning in close to one another to whisper. Women surely maintain similar levels of conversation in other, less public venues. Inevitably, much of the information traded is rumor, half-truths and blatant falsehoods, all of which can contribute to conflict. The dearth of media means that there is virtually no way to verify the accuracy of things heard through conversation, so there is a tendency for information acquired through word of mouth to be accepted as accurate.

Combined with the almost automatic responses to certain actions prescribed by the clan system, rumors and falsehoods can quickly lead to conflict. Exacerbating the situation is limited or no information about the opposing side in a conflict; the participant cites an instance of inter-clan conflict in which “either side never knew about the condition of the other hand, as result, conflict ensued.” This information vacuum is not a primary driver of conflict, but it aggravates the situation and increases the likelihood of both conflict being triggered and violence quickly escalating.

Available Conflict Resolution Mechanism

As the project is going to be implemented in both farming and pastoral communities, it is important to take into account their modes of livelihood activities that pass through significant dynamism due to ecological, social and political pressures and the resultant decline in their economy. Such changes have had an impact on the pattern of their relationships of the communities living in the project implementation regions. It further affects the relationships among Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral clans on one hand and between the Pastoral and agro-pastoralists and non-pastoral neighboring communities on the other hand.

Sedentary life and the decline in livestock size together with institutional changes in the pastoral and agro-pastoral regions set a limit to the extent of Pastoral and Agro-pastoral mobility, which in turn reduced the frequency of inter-community conflict with highlanders. Sedentary life also gave the Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral community more opportunities to diversify their income for sustainable livelihoods. Conflict is an inherent part of the social structure. Thus, conflict, be it within the Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral or involving neighboring cultural groups, will continue to occur in the future too. However, crosscutting ties and growing economic interdependence among people in the regions enables them to contain conflict through non-violent means. The local institutions, together with formal legal system, provide the mechanism for redressing conflict although high-level participatory government and NGO interventions are still needed in order to establish sustainable peace and post-conflict reconstruction.

Cooperation among the Afar people is based on the local community structure of clan, sub-clan, family, etc. Each clan or sub-clan is highly organized and cohesive. Clan leaders play a key role in maintaining social order, coordinating social activities, and managing common property

resources such as pasture and water. Collective action is embedded in Afar culture. In Afar ethnic group, there is also a conflict resolution system known as *Makboon*. They have developed this longstanding traditional conflict resolution system though the name given to such a longstanding local institution varies across clans in Afar. The tradition of *Makabon* is helpful in resolving most of the disputes in the Afar community. Through this traditional law, resource conflict, divorce and theft cases are handled. If this traditional law fails to resolve the conflict, the community leaders and the *Woreda* administrative bodies will handle it together, for example, the issue of sexual abuse of women and any type of death.

In Gambella like in Afar, there are conflicts: internal (Anyawa and Nuer) and external (Ethio-South Sudan border). Conflict can be resulted due to cattle theft, unarranged or unapproved marriage and murder crimes. In both circumstances, the role of customary conflict resolution mechanism is essential. Nevertheless, there are instances whereby the formal litigation process is sought to solve the conflict. Among the Somali pastoralists and agro-pastoralists, the traditional conflict resolution system is known as '*odiyash deganka*'. According to this system, when conflict happens, the community informs the clan leader. Clan leaders manage inter-clan and intra-clan conflicts through *Ola* system by bringing together the two foes in order to reconcile and stopover their enmity. The time of settling conflict depends on the criticality of the conflict. The perpetrator is expected to pay compensation that varies from clan to clan. However, if the conflict was with other non-Somali ethnic groups, it is handled and settled by the *Ugas*. *Ugas* is the leader of clans in Somali ethnic groups. The *Ugas* together with clan leaders are responsible to resolve inter-ethnic conflict. The Oromo in general uses Gada system as a socio-political organization. Parallel to resolving issues through the *Gada* system, more specifically *Jarsuma*, conflicts in the area are resolved through the formal government structures from *Kebele* to higher judiciary system whenever the issue is beyond *Jarsuma*. In Amhara, SNNPR, Diredawa, Benishangul Gumuz, Tigray and Harari, there are many ethnic groups residing having different forms of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms that have solved with the interventions of elderly people who have respect and courage. The involvement of the elderly is not limited to solve individual cases but also group cases.

From the discussion and review of social assessment, lessons were learnt how to proceed in the process of conflict management. First, clear understanding about the root causes and magnitude of the conflict. Second, discuss the ways to resolve the conflict with group leaders, elders, and regular members. In this case, it is advised that, be as inclusive as possible and make sure you have not omitted anyone who is directly or indirectly part of the conflict. Third, identify members having extremely negative positions and work with them individually. Fourth, stress repeatedly that group members must be immune from bias in the process of managing conflict and that the common enemy is poverty, not each other. Fifth, give a chance for group members to resolve the conflict themselves using their own problem solving mechanisms. If this fails, then outside mediators can become involved. Sixth, change anything linked with religion or culture as it needs a slower process, but progress can be achieved. In this respect, the support of community leaders must be sought at the start. Lastly, in some cases, conflicts cannot be resolved and some people may have to leave their groups. Such a process needs to be formalized and include recovery of outstanding resources and other property that belongs to the group.

3.3.3. Grievance Redress Mechanism during Project Implementation

Grievance redress mechanism is commonly used to receive and act on grievances, complaints reported by affected groups, or concerned stakeholders to enable them get prompt actions from program implementers on issues of concern or unaddressed impacts and risks. Grievances can take the form of specific complaints for damages/injury, concerns about routine program activities, or perceived incidents or impacts. Identifying and responding to grievances supports the development of affirmative relationships between project and affected groups/communities, and other stakeholders. According to World Bank Grievance Redress, communities and individuals who believe they are adversely affected by a Bank-supported project may submit complaints to existing project-level grievance redress mechanisms or the Bank's Grievance Redress Service (GRS). The GRS ensures that complaints received are promptly reviewed to address project-related concerns and impacts. Project affected communities and individuals may submit their complaint to the Bank's Independent Inspection Panel, which determines whether harm occurred, or could occur, because of the Bank's noncompliance with its policies and procedures. Complaints may be submitted at any time after concerns have been brought directly to the Bank's attention and Bank Management has been given an opportunity to respond. For information on how to submit complaints to the Bank's corporate GRS, see <http://www.worldbank.org/GRS>, and Bank's Inspection Panel, see www.inspectionpanel.org

In the implementation process of the EDLRP, there should be a grievance redress mechanism established to allow the communities, project beneficiaries and stakeholders to complain/request about any decision of activities regarding inclusion in the livelihood support and combat towards the invasion of locust. It is also good to consider context dependent forms of traditional conflict redress mechanism for the project implementation regions. The traditional forms of managing issues can even be recognized and used by the government structures. Previous community consultation in various regions confirmed the relevance of using traditional conflict resolution mechanism parallel to the formal structure such as the *denb* system in SNNPR, *odiyash deganka* in Somali region, *Jarsuma*, *Aadaa*, *Safuu*, *Seera* and *Sinqee* relate to *Gada* system in Oromia region, *Makaboon* in Afar, *Wilok* in Nuer and *Carlok* in Anyawa in Gambella region. These traditional institutions were often used as a common customary practice to solve particularly interethnic conflict, mainly caused by grazing and water resource. Thus, selected communities for the implementation of EDLRP need to have constant awareness creation in a culturally sensible form about the GRM and project implementation. They should also take trainings on the design and deliberation process of the project. Besides, it is necessary to consider national, regional, zonal, and Woreda levels discussions to strengthen their solidarity and integrity. The MOA should do this from the Federal down to the *Woreda* levels.

A GRM is oriented toward providing solutions and incorporates the principles of transparency, accessibility, due diligence, and responsiveness. The locust response project will use the RPSNP project grievance mechanism in a transparent ways having a kind of trainings and in areas where RPSNP is not available, the project will use the public grievance hearing mechanism. The project will recognize customary and/or traditional conflict resolution mechanisms. It will provide resources to ensure the functioning of the GRM system. Grievance information will be recorded and reported in the regular implementation progress reports. The project will equally ensure that grievances related to GBV are recognized and referred to respective service providers based on a survivor-centered approach (that is always based on the demands of survivors and ensuring confidentiality). Such grievances shall not be handled according to standard GRM procedures

but by the Woreda Women and Children Affairs Office or female GBV focal points to be selected and trained to provide basic referrals. Monitoring of and reporting on issues related to GBV issues and reported to the program GRM. MoLSA will be part of the federal taskforce and collaborating with WCYD on GBV issues.

Key Considerations for EDLRP GRM Procedure

No.	Key considerations	Detail about the GRM procedure
1	Disclosure of the GRM	GRM uptake location (RPSNP, assign focal person for Non PSNP target areas) need to be established at Regional and Woreda levels and Kebele Appeals Committee (KAC). The existence and condition of access to register (how, where, and when) shall be widely disseminated within the Project implementation areas.
2	Expectation When Grievances Arise	Affected or concerned persons expect to be heard and taken seriously. Thus, the MOA and other respective regional, <i>Woreda</i> , and Kebele Appeals Committee (KAC) levels implementing agencies and stakeholders need to provide adequate information to people that they can voice grievances and work to resolve without fear of retaliation.
3	Grievance Submission Method	Complaints can be submitted formally and informally through telephone (hotline), e-mail, MoA websites, program staff, text message (SMS) or in person. However, once the complaint is received, it will have to be documented in writing using a standard format containing detailed timeline for resolving conflict/complaint.
4	Registration of Grievances	Complaints will be recorded in a log using standard format, examined, investigated and remedial actions will be taken.
5	Management of Reported Grievances	<p>The procedure for managing grievances should be as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The affected or concerned person files his/her grievance, relating to any issue associated with the EDLRP in writing or phone to the focal person. Where it is written, the grievance note should be signed and dated by the aggrieved person. In addition, where it is phone, the receiver should document every detail. 2) Where the affected or concerned person is unable to write, the focal persons will write the note on the aggrieved person's behalf. 3) Assigned/focal staffs at Regional and Woredas PIUs will collaborate with <i>Kebele</i> administrators by giving them awareness training on how to document and report grievance.
6	Grievance Log and Response Time	<p>The process of grievance redress will start with registration that should contain a record of the person responsible for an individual complaint, and records of date for the complaint reported; date the Grievance Logged; date information on proposed corrective action sent to complainant (if appropriate), the date the complaint was closed out and the date response was sent to complainant.</p> <p>Kebele Appeals Committee (KAC), Woredas and regions should keep compliant lodger recording all grievances, date and results</p>

		of the closure with all supporting documents available (completed compliant logging forms, decision minutes, emails, etc.) and ensure that each complaint has an individual reference number, and is appropriately tracked and recorded actions are completed. The response time will depend on the issue to be addressed but the grievance at different levels should be addressed in 25 working days.
7	Grievances Reporting Mechanism	The focal person at Woredas and Regions will be responsible for compiling submitted and processed complaints/grievances on regular basis and report to relevant stakeholders every quarter. The Woreda should report the complaints registered and addressed to regions every month. The regions will report quarterly to MOA safeguard experts. The Kebele Appeals Committee (KAC) should report the complaints registered and addressed to woreda. Review unresolved appeals from KAC and forward them to the Woreda Council and the Woreda Food Security Desk every quarter. Forward the list of grievances, their resolution and any unresolved cases to the Woreda Council.

3.3.4. Social Diversity and Gender

In the project implementation regions as stated earlier, the people regard their social diversity and gender relations in several forms. They organized into different social groupings based on various forms of ethnic identities as clearly described in the socioeconomic and context of the population in the project implementation areas. Within the same ethnic group, there are clan and sub-clan divisions mainly in the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of Afar, Somali, Nuer, Aywak, South Omo ethnic groups, Borena, to mention a few. Various languages spoken in Ethiopia, which is based on locality, also characterize social diversity. It is also important to mention the need to consider the interaction of diverse groups within various contexts social and power relationships. The relationships created through social and power perspective in turn would bring access, capabilities and opportunities.

It is also imperative to highlight societal and gender relations in many communities of Ethiopia that women in male headed and female-headed households have been the most vulnerable groups, particularly in the pastoralists and agro-pastoralist communities. They become vulnerable because of lack of education, gender bias, tradition and culture, and their reproductive and productive roles. The status of Ethiopian women can be seen in terms of societal attitudes towards women; their socio-economic status; their educational status; women's awareness of their rights; their productive and reproductive roles, to mention a few. More specifically, societal attitudes towards women (e.g., they are meant to care for the domestic affairs, namely childcare, preparation of food, etc.); their socioeconomic status (e.g., limited property ownership rights); no/little education (with all its ramifications such as low awareness of their rights both at micro and macro level); and their roles and statuses in the family (e.g., in polygamous unions, female-headed households) deserve closer examination during the implementation of the project.

3.3.5. Livelihood Activities

The main livelihood activities of lowland communities in the study areas depend on livestock production and a limited level of crop production. Livestock production is the principal means of livelihood for pastoralists. This is to mean that there is a practice of traditional and extensive livestock rearing system (cattle, camels, goats and sheep). The agro-pastoralists also make their livelihood out of mixed agriculture, mainly those households residing along the permanent rivers. However, there have been vulnerabilities due to recurrent drought, chronic water shortages, conflicts, market shocks (livestock and cereals price fluctuations), animal and human diseases. The livestock herd size per household is reducing radically because of shortage of pasture. Massive livestock death and reduced animal fertility rates have also become common trends in the study areas.

There are different forms of pastoral livelihoods that were addressed by previous social assessments of World Bank. Accordingly, they are listed as follows:

- 1) **Livestock-based livelihoods** are households that rely on rearing camels, cattle, sheep and goats. The survival, quantity and condition of these livestock determine a household's wealth and ability to continue their traditional livelihood patterns. Mobility and the ability to access natural resources, such as pasture and water, are fundamental to the continuation of this livelihood and often called as 'pure' pastoralists;
- 2) **Agro-pastoral livelihoods** combine extensive livestock rearing and rain-fed cereal production (typically sorghum, wheat, and barley) for household consumption. The area under agricultural cultivation is mainly restricted by the availability of labour within the household. Mobility remains important for these households.
- 3) **Sedentary farmers** practice mixed farming, cultivating food crops (sorghum, wheat or other cereals) along with modest flocks of sheep and goats. Wealth is determined by land holdings and oxen ownership.
- 4) **Ex-pastoralists** are households who have lost their livestock and now depend largely on the 'sale' of family labour. Ex-pastoralists are settled on the periphery of major urban centers and in internally displaced person camps. The majority remain on the margins performing low-skilled labour intensive activities value activities such as casual labour and the collection and sale of bush products.

The above-mentioned pastoral livelihoods and farming livelihood communities of Ethiopia can be affected by the desert locust infestations that have been prevailing since recent time. Thus, this project is aimed at combating the spread of the locust infestations and to provide support for highly vulnerable groups or communities in the country in relations to the effects of the outbreak of the infestation of the locust. The livelihood support mechanisms are clearly stated under component 2 of the project, which will be further treated under the social development plan.

3.3.6. Stakeholders Consultation and Engagement

Stakeholder consultation is an integral part of the social assessment (SA) and provides inputs for the preparation of Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The overall objective of such consultations was to document the concerns of the stakeholders with specific reference to the project planned interventions. The consultation meetings were organized basically for two important purposes, i.e., (1) to share project objectives and proposed project interventions with the identified stakeholder groups and (2) to consult with the stakeholders and document their concern, with

particular reference to social and environmental impacts of the proposed project interventions. See Annex 1 See summary of stakeholders consultation at federal, regional and woreda levels).

3.3.6.1. Community Consultation on Desert Locust Response Project

Community consultation is a method used to ensure a broad participation of the local communities. The usual community consultation was not satisfactorily done due to COVID 19 crisis and the restrictions made following that by the government of Ethiopia on the April 9, 2020 State of Emergency on gathering not more than four people at a time. Hence, the consultation for this Social assessment has limited to the consultation of the stakeholders working in relation to desert locust control at different levels. This has been substantiated by extensive community consultations assessed so far for various related aspects and concerns. However, officials and experts at the targeted regions has been consulted and provided sufficient information on the communities included in the project area. More specifically, the public consultation was targeted to informing stakeholders engaged in the project activities and provide adequate information on the project, its components and activities to the disadvantaged and vulnerable; to understand their needs, concerns, challenges and suggestions based on the idea from the disadvantaged and vulnerable as well as to understand and the disproportionate vulnerability of disadvantaged and vulnerable community to pesticide spraying and concerns, challenges and recommendations.

The summary of the stakeholders' consultation meets the requirements of World Bank ESS7 of the ESF and to achieve this, in each of the target Regions, selected government bodies linked with the issues were consulted on the potential positive and adverse effects of the project, their views and concerns towards the project. Accordingly, they pinpointed that the project might more affects or risks vulnerable or disadvantaged groups as these sections of the communities have not been accessed to opportunities relative to other social groups in the country. Moreover, rapid mobilization for emergency response under the government requires rapid decision-making that does not always have time and space for adequate consultation of other stakeholders. This can lead to discontent, especially if compounded by mis-targeting of critical interventions for locust control and livelihood protection due to inadequate consultations. In the following section, summaries of consultations with key informant stakeholders as follows as per components of the project.

Component 1: Surveillance and Control Measures (US\$ 43.10 million)

Regarding this component, stakeholders consulted in all project targeted regions through telephone interview conducted agreed on the importance of the intervention by the local government and the community, particularly in low land, arid and semi-arid areas where the majority of the communities are engaged in pastoralism and agro-pastoralism and the desert locust infestation is worsening the already serious food security of the people. Besides, the pastoral communities have already disproportionately affected by the shortage of pasture.

The other point is that the historically disadvantaged and vulnerable groups like Women's, elders and people with disability are disproportionately vulnerable as they due to their lower education levels, lower participation in the community awareness session due to social norms. Hence, this group of the community are less likely to get information on the purpose of the project, benefit and risks and impacts of the project and the precautionary measures need to be

taken before, during and post pesticide spray campaign. The fact that treatment of the Desert locust is made by pesticide could result in the contamination of natural resources (pasture, water, crops in disadvantaged and vulnerable community as they are solely based on these natural resources to feed their livestock. During the consultation, experts explained that due to the bleak of grazing land for camels, goats, sheep, pastoralists and their livestock travel long distance to look for pasture. In addition, while traveling in search of pasture to remote area, their livestock might have also poisoned or susceptible to pesticide used for desert locust infestation.

Moreover, given their mobile nature of the pastoralists, it makes difficult to create awareness on the project purpose, the impact and precautionary measures they need to take. This makes pastoral and agro-pastoralist group more vulnerable as they might not have enough information on the intervention through spraying of vast area with insecticide. It is also a threat to health of livestock and human, which can be the case in pastoral and agro-pastoralist areas of Afar, Somali, northeastern Oromia and SNNP. Besides, the fact that they are mobile because of the impact will also affects the plan to mobilize community and support the government effort to locate and control the Desert locust. The failure to reach the locust will also affect the project as they have indigenous knowledge of the rangelands and difficult to reach areas where could be the source of the Desert locust. The Desert locusts are likely to disrupt pasture regeneration and growth and undermine the recovery of pastoral communities. Furthermore, the areas are long dry spell in pastoral areas. Moreover, the time lapse between the report and the response has significantly contributed to the destruction and caused by the Desert Locust on rangeland and their rapid spread. This calls for continuous awareness creation and the need to customize appropriate cultural consultation and information sharing.

Through telephone interview, the use of broadcasting media and telephone among the historically disadvantaged and vulnerable group is minimal. Hence, these make them vulnerable in accessing information shared through radio. The other risk under this component is that grazing lands may be used immediately after treatment if the communities in the area are not adequately informed and involved in preventive control.

The low status of women, preexisting high prevalence of GBV, acceptability of GBV (e.g. early/forced marriage, intimate partner violence) and high levels of poverty, are likely to heighten the community's vulnerability to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)/GBV. In addition, women might use fetching water for household consumption or both men and women might use empty pesticide container to fetch water for their animals, which might result in poisoning. Trends of such kind show that preventive control is rarely completely successful, partly because of the difficulty in monitoring the remote and sparsely populated areas where locusts often breed, lack of secure land tenure (in the form of property titles) means that land cannot be used as a useful collateral for loans. However, current land reform measures may improve this situation for poor farmers. In most instances, whenever such infestation happens, regional and woreda staffs can responsibility act in most cases and it is often the women who are responsibility act to keep away themselves from such risks in the fields.

Component 2: Livelihoods Protection and Rehabilitation (US\$ 18.00 million).

Key informant interview with regional expert indicated, "The Desert locust infestation has added to already existing food insecurity among pastoralists and agro-pastoralists. He goes on

saying that the infestation has damaged pastoral lands and crops resulting in crop loss among pastoralists and agro-pastoralists. These further forces those to move in search of pasture for their livestock which might cause potential conflict and tension over resource mainly pastoral land among pastoralists which increases their vulnerability.” Another key informant also explained that the Desert Locust invasion is significantly affecting pastoralists as they are suffering from drop in milk production, pasture regeneration and growth, which in turn result in emaciation and might result in death of livestock and pastoralists, might end up with nothing to rely on for their livelihood.

The mobile nature of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists, elders, women might resorted to other coping strategy which is not feasible like forced migration due to not knowing the availability of, (i) farmer packages to get food and fodder production re-started as soon as possible after the impact of locust swarms has been assessed and the scope of the damage is determined; and, (ii) provision of forage to the affected pastoral households to sustain their livestock life. In addition, they might not have information on availability of pasture rehabilitation, which will cover an estimated area of 118,115 hectares. This will include rehabilitating pastureland through the procurement and distribution of fodder seed (depending on the local grass/forage varieties) in different agro-ecological conditions; and ii) bailing support for pastoralist to improve forage availability from pastures.

Moreover, participants in the interview stated that affected persons might not have information on the availability of compensation for the unintended spraying of pesticide beyond the buffer zone and its impacts on crop, pasture, livestock and human. Besides, eligibility for compensation can either be individually or collectively based or be a combination of both. They suggested that in time, compensation occurs on a collective basis, as far as practicable mechanisms that promote the effective distribution of compensation to all eligible members, or collective use of compensation in a manner that benefits all members of the group, will be defined and implemented. Communal ownership of pasture among the pastoral and agro-pastoral community is very common. However, compensation paid for damage inflicted by either Desert locust on pasture and crop or the health of their cattle or for the impacts due to unintended spraying of pesticide beyond the buffer zone might be given to individual or a certain group including women, elderly, people with disability. This could in turn be a cause for conflict.

For projects that have a regional or national scope, the meaningful consultation may be carried out with disadvantaged and vulnerable organizations or representatives at the relevant regional levels or woreda level. In such instances the consultation processes is sensitive to such dynamics and allow sufficient time for internal decision-making processes to reach conclusions that are considered legitimate by the majority of the concerned participants. It is found out that communicator who is an aware of this might cause problem to the project. More to the point, internal decision-making processes are generally but not always collective in nature. There may be internal dissent, and some in the community may challenge decisions.

The Federal Project Implementation Unit (FPIU) senior expert from PSNP IV which is proposed to coordinate the project and stated that the arid conditions and drought coupled with the invasions of desert locusts have aggravated the poverty in the areas of pastoral and agro-pastoral areas where the project will be implemented. He further stated that the impact inflicted by the

Desert locust is higher than WHO estimation. More to the point, he listed that “in regions such as Afar, Tigray, Amhara, Eastern Oromia, Dire Dawa and Somalia where repeated Desert infestation has been observed have resulted in damage of 86,479 quintals of crop. Likewise, the Desert locust has also had inflicted damage on 8362.5 hectares of pasture and 20,722 hectares of different types of plants.” Regional and woreda key informants also confirmed this data. The expert also added that based on weekly and monthly information received on the desert locust from FAO/DLIS the necessary preparation, which include training, has been provided and awareness creation was done among surveillance scouts, elders, religious leaders, kebele officials and experts in Afar, Somali and other target areas. Besides, information has been disclosed through monthly magazines to communicate the reality of the country to WHO/DLIS.

Lastly, it also important to mention that Ethiopia has the largest pastoralist population in the East Africa, which is found predominantly in the Somali, Afar, Borana zone of Oromia Region and in SNNP regions. Although pastoralist men and women make up nearly 15% of the Ethiopian population, use 63% of its land, and contribute about 40% of the agricultural gross domestic product pastoralists. However, pastoralists are the poorest and most vulnerable sections of the rural population in the country and remain at the margins of national, economic, social, and political life. Thus, due attention should be done during the implementation of EDLRP.

Component 3: Coordination and Early Warning Preparedness

According to a Senior FPIU and regional official technical expert working as operational staff stated that they can accomplish their mission in a better way given that the necessary equipment are provided timely and adequately. They added that based on weekly and monthly information received on the desert locust infestation from FAO/DLIS, the necessary preparation, including resource and human mobilization should be done. With regard to capacity building, training has been provided and awareness creation among surveillance scouts, elders, religious, kebele local officials and experts in Afar, Somali and other target areas was done. Besides, coordination and engagement of development partners, (WHO.DLIS), community representatives from historically disadvantaged and vulnerable groups such as elders, religious leaders, and government officials and experts from region to kebele levels officials was done.

Component 4: Project Management

The fact that the pasture and crops of pastoralist and agro-pastoralist have affected and damaged by the locusts might force them migrate in search of pasture. This nature might increase their vulnerability and they may miss the opportunity the project could provide them.

3.3.7. Potential Social Risks and Impacts and their Mitigation Measures

In this section, discussions are made on the positive and negative social risks/impacts likely to occur because of the project. In respect of the negative social impacts or risks, related issues/challenges are identified and correspondingly mitigation measures are drawn.

Potential Social Risks and Impacts

A. Positive Social Impacts and Opportunities

The project has four components and will have a positive impact for the vulnerable sections of the community and for the government structures at different levels in various ways. The positive impacts of the project will be seen based on project components. Accordingly, the project will adopt two pronged approaches for locust monitoring and control by direct support to improving surveillance and assessment of locusts' situation, habitat conditions and geographic exposure as well as targeted aerial and ground spraying and capacity building for relevant national institutions and communities prone to locust breeding and invasion. Support to community-based monitoring and forecasting in both pastoralist and farming communities prone to locust breeding and invasion will also be provided including training of scouts, experts and sensitization campaigns for community/village leaders.

Moreover, the project will provide a seed-fertilizer-pesticide package to selected farmers to ensure planting in the upcoming cropping season and, in pastoralist areas, fodder to guard against further livestock losses and thus loss of their main productive assets. Additionally, the project will provide fodder seed to affected communities to rehabilitate pastures in rangeland areas depleted by the desert locust invasion that will cover an estimated area of 81,000 hectares. The GoE will also trigger emergency food security mechanisms such as the emergency food appeal and contingency funding under PSNP IV that will complement the project's livelihood support initiatives with cash transfers to cover emergency food needs and to protect against distress sales of assets. Further, the project would assist the Ethiopia MoA in establishing an integrated system for locust detection, occurrence projection, early warning and systematic data analysis and comprehension. It also includes capacity building for federal and regional experts using both national and international experts as well as technical assistance through appointing senior plant protection experts to work with regional desert locust control units.

In addition to the above positive impacts, the Project management activities will be carried out in the PSNP IV Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and will benefit from the experience of the Social Safety Net Project financed by the Bank. The capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture as a principal implementing entity including the RPSNP to manage potential environmental and social risks should be enhanced as necessary at different levels of the project implementation since this is a new intervention. Finally, the project will enable the MoA to have better familiarity with World Bank ESF system of social assessment in which projects need to give due attention for vulnerable and historically disadvantaged groups that is set under ESS7. This will help in accessing knowledge and exposure to best international practices.

B. Adverse Social Risks and Impacts

As the project does not require land acquisition, construction and resettlement, its negative impact is negligible. There were social impacts and risks due to the outbreak of desert locust infestation on local people or communities mainly on the food security and livelihoods. As data showed the recent invasion of desert locust has affected 174 districts in the regions including Afar, Somali, Dire Dawa City Administration, Southern Tigray, Eastern Amhara, South eastern Oromia, and

southern districts of SNNPR. Combined with poor rainfall, locust damage contributed to significant crop production losses, while limited feed also led to the early migration of livestock and high levels of tension between transhumance pastoralists and local farmers over resources. The infestation has significantly affected subsistence farmers of 265,500 households by affecting 132,750 hectares land. As a result, it has considerably affected the livelihood of the local populations, through worsening the susceptibility to food insecurity. Moreover, due to livelihoods support or interventions at household level by the project may fuel instances of domestic violence between woman and men or husband and wives in relation to resource use. In the pastoral and agro-pastoral community, it is common practice that men tend to grab resources or properties from women by force to meet their individual needs.

One of the main risks that encounter during the implementation of the project is related to lack of awareness on the effects of pesticides among the local community. This is related to how local communities are aware about the effects of chemicals and in times, they tend to re-use empty containers for food and/or drinking water; the hazardous nature and impact of the pesticides, circulation of empty packing of pesticides towards the community. Besides, the lack of awareness on withholding periods need to be respected after locust control treatments through intensive sensation as there are potential risk that livestock might come and graze, farmers might harvest, and the use of plants for local brush. It is also important to mention the impacts of pesticide residual on humans, crops, livestock (including from grazing area), human and livestock water points.

Lack of awareness and information on availability of livelihood support for Households and compensation for impacts on crops, pasture, animals and human due to unintended areal spray of pesticides beyond the defined buffer zone is the other risk during implementation.

Stakeholders' consultation and review of various social assessments indicated the importance of considering the various risks that might be manifested during the implementation of EDLRP. Some of the identified risks and challenges are related to risk of involving one clan that is more dominant over others during targeting process mainly among lowland communities. Another risk is related to delays in the release of finance support that may lead to increased risk of asset depletion and other negative coping strategies. In addition, because of the local customs, women may not be targeted for livelihoods support activities and there might be lack of support for beneficiaries to successfully engage in livelihoods activities, which may mainly due to low capacity at woreda and kebele levels and coordination gaps between sector offices including technical capacity limitation on the part of implementing offices. More to the point, there is a risk of not benefiting female from the project in equal degree with male, particularly female household heads, as they will have double burden with domestic responsibilities and project-related role in the treatment. Besides, risk of elite capture and/or different interest groups including traditional authority structures in influencing community's prioritization and manipulation of support provided to vulnerable or disadvantaged groups of the community.

The social risks associated with the project are related to community and workers health through proximity to locust control measures as well as potential livelihood impacts through control measures affecting livestock and crops. In addition, labor influx associated with these control measures may impact upon the community through sexual exploitation and abuse of vulnerable communities or spreading disease (including COVID-19). The social risks under livelihood support include the risks of exclusion of vulnerable people and groups most in need of assistance,

risk of exacerbating social tension through pastoralist migrations to avoid the impacts of locust swarms on forage, presence of IDPs or refugees and/or labor risks associated with cash for works projects.

The locust invasion in the affected regions may further expose women/girls to insecurity. The low status of women in many communities, preexisting high prevalence of GBV, and high levels of poverty, are all likely to be exacerbated by the locust infestation resulting in heightened vulnerability to GBV for the community. With the possible deployment of external personnel, including agricultural extension workers, military personnel, contracted workers, and/or paramilitary cadets, to conduct ground spraying in these areas, communities may be exposed to increased risks of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by project workers. Moreover, gender-based violence could also result from intra-household conflict over the receipt of cash and/or sexual exploitation of community members who are extorted for sexual favors in exchange for registration or release of funds.

Capacity for implementation represents the most significant challenge to Program effectiveness. Locust outbreaks are one of many hazards facing countries experiencing fragility, conflict, high levels of poverty, and other natural disasters. Many countries have experience in locust control and surveillance and can draw on national and regional technical resources when experiencing outbreaks. However, maintaining crisis-ready institutional response capacity in between events is extremely challenging both in terms of human resources and financing. Generally, the social risks/impacts or challenges related to Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project are summarized as follows and mitigation measures will be developed for each of them in the social development plan as per components of the project:

1. Elite capture and/or different interest groups including traditional authority structures in influencing community's prioritization and manipulation of support provided; lack of transparency during selection of the beneficiaries for the financial and technical assistance and the exclusion of certain groups and individuals from project benefits in particular vulnerable people and the historically disadvantaged regions of Ethiopia;
2. Increase instances of domestic violence between woman and men or husband and wives in relation to livelihoods support or interventions at household level by the project. In the pastoral and agro-pastoral community, it is common practice that men tend to grab resources or properties from women by force to meet their individual needs;
3. Risk of involving one clan that is more dominant over others during targeting process mainly among lowland communities;
4. Lack of occupational health and safety of the labor force and neighboring communities' exposure to health and safety, especially exposure to pesticide and COVID-19 pandemic;
5. The risks of exacerbating gender based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse due to labor influx mostly associated with the cash transfer activities and to a more limited extent with other activities that involve non-local workers;
6. Inadequate prior information for communities in target areas about the project potential livelihoods support and impacts of pesticide use for locust infestation management and the compensation for out of control damages and unintentional overuse/misuse (beyond buffer zone damages) on livestock, crops, fodder or humans;
7. Potential exacerbation of vulnerable livelihoods of IDPs in project areas;

8. Exclusion of people without livestock living in the locust-affected area

Mitigation Measures

The following are some of the mitigation measures and recommendations to address the negative social impacts and risks:

- Community consultations will include targeted consultations with key community representatives for instance, elders and traditional leaders to receive feedback to adapt the actions to local needs, with special attention to vulnerable groups such as the elderly and people with disabilities, who will be supported in sheltering from the impacts of the spraying and targeting and implementation of appropriate livelihood interventions by including culturally appropriate communication means. Grievance redress mechanisms will be effective for affected communities as per the plan;
 - Ensure effective engagement with historically underserved traditional local communities in Ethiopia that includes Afar, Somali, Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz and parts of pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of Oromia and SNNP regions. Thus, as per the requirements of ESS7, culturally appropriate community engagement mechanisms will be included in the SEP to ensure meaningful engagement on locust control measures.
 - The project will include a conflict sensitivity assessment checklist (See annex 2) in the ESMF, also consider sensitivity of local conflict dynamics, and implement in a way to avoid escalating local tensions as the works cover IDP and refugee areas. To minimize social tensions, the community and the local government will put in place appropriate mechanism. Besides, conflicts among the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities and between clans may arise due to the use of common resources and facilities. Therefore, there will be meaningful consultation and full participation of the beneficiary communities during planning, design and implementation phases of the project. Attempt will be made to resolve conflicts using the traditional way and if this fails to resolve the conflict, government institutions will intervene to settle these conflicts. The project will consider the livelihoods and political vulnerability in this areas and craft communication messages in accordance with the local context. The MOA and the PIU should alert the Bank any incidents related to security, conflict and potential sensitivities towards conflict in the project areas.
- Provide public awareness and inform the local population about safety precautions using different approaches (local radio, TV, leaflet with local language, public presentation) and prepare contextualized communication strategy (i.e. in the local language and through communications channels effective for reaching a particular target group). Inhabitants in the treatment's areas will be informed of the operation beforehand, and warned not to come close to it. In all activities of the project, prevention of COVID-19 will be mainstreamed and the necessary protective equipment will be provided to all staffs. Besides, social distancing will be implemented during meetings. All sanitary material helpful for washing and disinfection will be availed. Stringent guideline of WB will be used.
- Monitor changing livelihood dynamics with view to retargeting to include those that may fall into food insecurity, create awareness among traditional authority structures and undertake information campaign to ensure the purpose and principles of EDLRP are understood, including targeting procedures and design targeting structures with careful

consideration to the balance between formal and informal traditional authority structures. It also needs to broaden the representation of community members on targeting committees with greater emphasis on the participation of women and ensure beneficiaries receive transfers on time by addressing capacity gaps and root causes as well as display transfer schedule in kebele. Moreover, it requires ensuring awareness around importance of targeting women for livelihoods support activities and the need to define compensation mechanism for unintended overuse/misuse (beyond buffer zone damages) of pesticides. Control teams will also always make sure that no ecologically and agronomically sensitive areas, person and livestock are present in the area to be sprayed. Besides, during spraying, control staff who will not directly involved in the application will verify that bystanders remain at a safe distance. Furthermore, the staff will make sure withholding periods are respected after locust control treatments through intensive sensation.

3.3.8. Monitoring and Evaluation

In the course of project implementation, there is a need to prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project. These include but not limited to, the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and the grievance mechanism on quarterly and annual basis. Besides, MoA, FPIU will provide to FAO on implementation, monitoring, and reporting provisions made under the Project. Reporting will be done bi-monthly throughout the Project implementation period.

4. Social Development Plan: Potential social risks/impacts, Mitigation measures, Responsible Body and Budget

As stated in the table below, the social development plan will make certain that the Project and its implementing agencies at various levels will respect and meet ESS7 of the World Bank ESF requirements and ensure that people should benefit from Ethiopia Desert Locust Project in a sustainable manner. The plan could be restructured during implementation and further consultations will be undertaken for the historically disadvantaged regions and vulnerable groups to ensure their full participation. The matrix in the following table summarizes potential social risks, impacts and challenges, along with their mitigation measures, responsible bodies and budget of the project.

Components/ Issues	Potential Social Risks, Impacts and challenges	Mitigation Measures	Responsible Body	Budget '000'
1. Locust monitoring and control (US\$ 45.10 million)	- Inadequate prior information for historically underserved communities in target areas about impacts of pesticide use for locust infestation management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry out awareness raising and provide relevant and timely information to local communities on pesticide treatment schedules and potential negative impacts. - Provide public awareness and inform the local population about safety precautions using different approaches (local radio, TV, leaflet with local language, public presentation) and prepare contextualized communication strategy (i.e. in the local language and through communications channels effective for reaching a particular target group). - Inhabitants in the treatment areas will be informed of the operation beforehand and warned not to come close to it. - Control teams will always make sure that no ecologically and agronomically sensitive areas, person and livestock are present in the area to be sprayed. - During spraying, control staff who will not directly involved in the application will verify that bystanders remain at a safe distance. 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV	Core activity of component 1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The staff will make sure withholding periods are respected after locust control treatments through intensive sensation. 		
		-		
	Historically underserved communities' exposure to health and safety, especially exposure to pesticide and COVID-19 pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In all activities of the project, prevention of COVID-19 will be mainstreamed and the necessary protective equipment will be provided to all staffs. Besides, social distancing will be implemented during meetings. - All sanitary material helpful for washing and disinfection will be availed. Stringent guideline of WB will also be used. 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV and MoLSA in monitoring of its implementation	Core activity of component 1
2. Livelihood protection and restoration (US\$ 16.00 million)	Lack of information on the potential project's livelihoods support and compensation for out of control damages and unintentional overuse/misuse (beyond buffer zone damages) on livestock, crops, fodder or humans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor changing livelihood dynamics with view to retargeting to include those that may fall into food insecurity; - Inform and define compensation mechanism for unintended overuse/misuse (beyond buffer zone damages) of pesticides on livestock, crops, fodder or humans. - Ensure awareness around importance of targeting women for livelihoods support activities 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV	Core activity of component 2
	Risk of involving one clan that is more dominant over others during targeting process mainly among lowland communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broaden the representation of community members on targeting committees with greater emphasis on the participation of women; 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV	Core activity of component 2
	Increase instances of domestic violence between women and men or husband and wives in relation to livelihoods support or interventions at household level by the project. In the pastoral and agro-pastoral community, it is common practice that men	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure beneficiaries receive transfers on time by addressing capacity gaps and root causes, display transfer schedule in kebele - Awareness creation among the men that the women are using the support for the whole family and elders or traditional leaders should provide awareness for the community to avoid violence against women 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office	Core activity of component 2

	tend to grab resources or properties from women by force to meet their individual needs			
	Elite capture and/or different interest groups including traditional authority structures in influencing community's prioritization and manipulation of support provided; lack of transparency during selection of the beneficiaries for the financial and technical assistance and the exclusion of certain groups and individuals from project benefits in particular vulnerable people and the historically disadvantages regions of Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparent reporting and information disclosures to avoid the elite capture. In this respect, beneficiaries be realistically selected in consultation with representatives of the community - Create awareness among traditional authority structures and undertake information campaign to ensure the purpose and principles of EDLRP are understood, including targeting procedures and design targeting structures with careful consideration to the balance between formal and informal traditional authority structures and inclusive project target - Transparent reporting on project interventions - Affirmative action will be given for vulnerable people and for the historically disadvantages regions of Ethiopia 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office	Core activity of component 2
	Overlooking of historically underserved regions and vulnerable community in general, and people with disability, children, women in polygamous unions and female headed households in particular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historically underserved regions and vulnerable community will be given special attention during the project implementation. - Vulnerable community will be benefited from the project a certain percent 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office	All activity of component s
	Potential exacerbation of vulnerable livelihoods of IDPs in project areas and worsening of conflicts among the pastoralists due to the damage of the pasture by the locust invasion and during migration to other territories in search of grazing land for their livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project will include a conflict sensitivity assessment checklist in the ESMF (see also annex 2) and also consider sensitivity of local conflict dynamics and implement in a way to avoid escalating local tensions as the works cover IDP and refugee areas. - The community and the local government will put in place appropriate mechanism including meaningful consultation and full participation of the beneficiary communities during planning, design and 	MOA, RBOA PIU for PSNP IV, Pastoral Development Office, Woreda and kebele administrations	Consider in all activities of the component s

		<p>implementation phases of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attempt will be made to resolve conflicts using the traditional way and if this fails to resolve the conflict, government institutions will intervene to settle these conflicts. - In accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), the project will consider the livelihoods and political vulnerability in this areas and craft communication messages in accordance with the local context. - The MOA and the PIU will alert the Bank any incidents related to security, conflict and potential sensitivities towards conflict in the project areas. - Assist discussions between community representatives of clan leaders, <i>Kebele</i> chairpersons and elders to support peaceful inter-clan and inter-ethnic as well as cross-border relations by supporting regular forums and workshops that promote inter-ethnic dialogue. - Use the existing grievance handling experiences 		
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Annex 1. Summary of Stakeholders Interview with Federal, Regional and Woreda Levels

No.	Kind of issues raised	Detail questions	Response
1	General questions	1. What is your view towards the Ethiopian Desert Locust Response project?	<p>According to the Federal Key informant, <i>the project is basic for addressing the problems related to desert locust infestation and the damage caused on the communities' crops and pasture.</i> He said that the magnitude and scale of the infestation is very high and almost covered all regions. The support of the development partners in such project is helpful to swiftly respond to the problem. The regional key informant emphasizes the need of the project to control and prevent the desert locust. Almost all of them agreed that the project will support the regions and the communities' effort in fighting against the desert locust. For instance, Key informant from Tigray emphasizes that,</p> <p><i>As this is an emergency, no prior budget has been allocated for this purpose. As a result, the budget can be of use for the fuel and per diem for the staff. This will definitely impact on the fighting the desert locust. Hence, the project will significantly help in this regard.</i> Key Informant from SNNP in his part explained the importance of the project for prevention and control of desert locust and to support the affected community. Likewise, key informant from Somali added the need for support in the areas of logistic such as cars, motorbike (transportation), shortage of vehicle mount spray; budget issues to effectively carryout the mission. In this regard the project will play immense role.</p> <p>As per the Federal key informant, all plant protection directorates together with regional and other devolving government structure experts and farmers and pastoralists are currently working on the control of desert locust. Such campaign by its very nature needs huge resources of human, financial, and logistics, which could have used for other development activities.</p> <p>According to interviews with the regional key informants, the magnitude and the scale of the impact of the Desert Locust varies from region to region. In this regard, in regions like Somali, Afar, Oromia, SNNP, the Desert locust has infested wider areas of the region and is recurrent. However, in Gambella region, the infestation started three days ago and in Benishangul Gumuz region, no locust has been seen so</p>

		<p>2. How do you evaluate the effects of Desert Locust on the development activities in your area?</p>	<p>far. Key informant from Somali region explained that the region is hotspot for the infestation of desert locust. He goes on saying currently; the desert locust has infested 80 woredas of the region of which above twenty woredas has become breeding site for the locust. Though not official statistics has been produced, the infestation has inflicted series of damage on crop and rangeland of the pastoral and agro-pastoral community. This in turn will affect the food security and livelihood of the community. As resources directed to controlling campaign, it has impacts on the other development activities.</p> <p>Key informant stated that,</p> <p><i>As this is an emergency, no prior budget has been allocated for this purpose as a result the budget which has been planned for other development activities has been shifted to control the desert locust. Furthermore, as it has covered a large area both the local government agricultural bureaus in the developing government has working on this issues as it is emergency and as the campaign needs huge logistic, man power and community mobilization it has impacted on other planned development activities.</i></p>
2	Livelihoods related questions	<p>1. What are livelihoods related challenges faced by the community in your area due to the expansion of desert locust?</p> <p>2. What are the concerns in the process of farmer packages to get food and fodder production?</p> <p>3. What about forage to the affected pastoral households?</p>	<p>The federal key informant confirmed that the desert locust has affected the livelihood of the community through damaging their crops on which they have invested their time, resource and labor. He also mentioned the impact on pastoralist and agro-pastoralist due to the damage inflicted by desert locust on pasture. As the desert locust are covering a wide grazing lands and affected pastoralists, as their cattle are the source of food and livelihood. The key informants from Amhara, Somali, Oromia, Tigray, Dire Dawa, Harari, SNNP Agreed that the impact of the livelihood has been felt by the community. However, all witnessed that so far the magnitude and effect on the livelihood is not well assessed and documented. For instance in Tigray the impact includes loss of yields due to stepping on/walking to chase the locusts has inflicted damage on crops; fear of damage by locust has forced farmers to harvest early before the harvesting time and this has also inflicted and increased the post-harvest loss . He added that, the fact the desert locust has forced the harvesting of immature crop seed meant for crop seed multiplication even worrying.</p> <p>The key informant from SNNP said that the desert locust is polyphagos i.e., they eat everything. However, the assessment is under study with committee established by MoA and regional staffs. The desert locust has damaged the crops and pasturelands of the community. Key informant from Harari reported that, the main damage</p>

			<p>caused by the desert is on the Khat tree and forage.</p> <p>The Federal key informant assumed that their concern could be the likely incidence of desert locust infestation and damage for the second time after re-growing and regeneration of pasturelands. He goes on saying this could lead the farmers to respire. Besides, he mentioned delayed response could be concern for the farmers in provision of packages with the project. The regional Key informants explained that, rather than a concern this will help the farmer and will help to boost their moral if executed as planned and with proper identification. However, if the packages are not properly and timely transferred; it might the communities might lose hope.</p> <p>The key informant from SNNP raised that care should be take not create dependency syndrome among farmers and pastoralist and agro-pastoralists. The key informants also raise the need for proper identification of eligible community members.</p> <p>Regarding the affected pastoral households, the federal key informant explained that the concerns could include early communication and delivery of the forage for pastoralists before the cattle are impacted by the lack of forage. The regional key informants from Somali in his part explicated that, in the pastoral lands like Somali the fact that the desert locust has infested on wide area of the rangeland and bushes causing them a problem and inflicting an impact on the cattle’s of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists causing weight and productivity lose.</p>
3	Awareness or training related questions	1. Are there awareness raising and training on safety and spraying of insecticides on the locusts spraying teams, farmers, scouts, experts and officials at different levels or sensitization campaigns for community/village leaders and what do you think on this?	<p>According to the Federal key informant, training has been provided before or a head of every campaign. So far, capacity building has been provided to Afar, Dire Dawa, Oromia, SNNP, and Somali. The approach is through ToT. In this respect, the Federal train the regions, the regions train or provide capacity building for the Zonal officials and experts, the zonal to the woreda, the woreda to kebele and elders, Development Agents and extension workers and through them to the community. Besides, technical assistance is continuously provided to the region on different areas including resources, technical support on survey and surveillance, identifying, treatment and control.</p> <p>All regional key informants agreed that awareness creation for the community using different communication channels has been made so far. They also emphasized the role of community in the campaign to control and prevent the desert locust infestation. Previously mass mobilization of students, security staffs and the community was done; but currently due to COVID-19 and SOE the approach has</p>

			<p>been changed and is based on the direction of the command post. Accordingly, to reach the farmers and create awareness, the use of communication channels such as community elders, local Radio, devolving government structure from region to kebele and mainly development agents and extension workers in the locality are used. The woredas trained by the regions and zones. After receiving the necessary information or training, the zone will reach all their woredas and the woredas will reach all their kebeles and Gotes. A key informant from Harari reported that committees have been established from regional to kebele level and these committees at all level are responsible for awareness creation for the community.</p> <p>A key informant from Amahara also reported that the agricultural extension workers at the kebele level are providing information keeping their social distance from the audiences. The key informant from SNNP said that community awareness creation is crucial. He said that the community has developed the believe that, “the desert locust is a curse” Besides; it has helped to teach the experts and community about the biology, ecology and behavior of the desert locust. Regarding training on safety and spraying of insecticides on the locusts spraying teams, farmers, scouts, experts and officials at different levels or sensitization campaigns for community/village leaders has been provided. The key informant from Dire Dawa also mentioned women are involved in the training. However, it is not enough.</p>
4	Capacity gaps related question	1. How do you explain the capacity gaps, specifically related to technical assistance?	Regarding capacity gaps, key informant from federal confirmed that the capacity gaps could be observed in the lower administrative level mainly woreda and kebele level. Accordingly, to bridge this gap, ToT trainings have been provided. Currently, the campaign is executed by a group of experts from different level which further helps to bridge the capacity gaps. The regional key informants in their part raised that training cascaded from MoA to Regional, Regional to Zonal, Zonal to Woreda, DAs, and kebele and to the community. In this respect, a key informant from Tigray mentioned that the training should be strengthened and should be based on gap assessment. Whereas Key informant from Oromia reported that, given the campaign covers a wide area of intervention and large number of participants in the campaign, there might be gaps mostly at lower level structures with regard to Biology, ecology, control mechanisms, use of PPE during spray. As a result, training has been provided to Borena and Guji area.
5	Vulnerable or disadvantaged	1. Are women actively engaged on the efforts to control locusts’	Key informant from federal level stated that women engaged in the effort to control desert locust and one of the main actors in all targeted regions. Key informants from

	<p>groups related questions</p>	<p>related activities?</p> <p>2. Are women equally entitled to control benefits related to projects in your area?</p> <p>3. Is there a prevalence of GBV in your area?</p> <p>4. In what ways do you think vulnerable groups can be benefited from the project? (First describe vulnerable sections of the community in your context?)</p> <p>5. Will there be a problem or conflict in the provision of fodder seed by the project to affected communities to rehabilitate pastures in rangeland areas depleted by the desert locust invasion?</p> <p>6. What do you think will be kind of compensation for unintended damages that may result from accidental pesticides spray impacts beyond the defined buffer zone on people, livestock, agricultural produce and livestock feed?</p> <p>7. What will be the effects of workforce deployed to the locust response on GBV?</p>	<p>all regions explained that women are key actors in the control and prevention of desert locust. In this regard, almost all confirmed that women are mainly engaged in the traditional control methods, monitoring, and reporting of the desert locust infestation. Key informants from almost all regions said that, women do not involve in chemical spraying as they are the main one who takes care of children and as they can be disproportionately impacted of the pesticides. The regions key informants confirmed that women are equally entitled to control benefits related to the project especially in women headed household as women will receive similar amount of or size of benefits with men. However, within household where men are believed to be the breadwinner the benefits are controlled by men. The key informants confirmed that though they do not exactly know the occurrence level, they confirmed the presence of GBV. The GBV is also manifested by domestic violence of women and girls and physical and verbal abuses. Regional key informants have listed the poor, with less plot of land, small number of livestock, sick people, and elderly, divorced or widowed women as vulnerable. They also mentioned that they would benefit directly from any available package by the project and from the control of the desert locust. In this regard, the key informants said that in most areas including pastoral communities grazing lands are communal land. Hence, provision of the seeds or the benefits with regard to the affected pastureland without clear knowledge of the community who have right might have an intended outcome.</p> <p>Regarding compensation, the regional and federal key informants listed various compensation methods based on what has been affected. Accordingly, cash, in kind replacement, covering treatment cost. The key informants reported that given the emergency nature and intensive engagement in the morning and even at night to control the desert locust, the occurrence of the GBV is less likely. However, in some instances it could be the case.</p>
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6	Efforts done so far	<p>1. What are the efforts done in community-based monitoring and forecasting in both pastoralist and farming communities prone to locust breeding and invasion</p> <p>2. Were there mechanisms you have been using to control desert locust in your area (traditional</p>	<p>The federal key informant claimed that technical assistance is provided to the regions and devolving government structure and awareness creation among the community on different areas including survey and surveillance, identifying, treatment and control, provision of information etc. He went on saying, on the other apart, from the community, there is communication with regions and between regions. Accordingly, information has been exchanged about the desert locust and provision of early warnings that have been done. They also made regular communications with regions in terms of surveillance and control. The communications channel used include email, Elocust software, RAMSAS, and telephone. The key informants from participant regions emphasized that the role of the community in monitoring and forecasting is very crucial and helpful and that they are making a good use of it. As per the key informant from Dire Dawa, the pastoral community has very good awareness of the potential and real impact of the desert locust. The pastoralists including youth and women are reporting to the nearest government structure and experts. The key informants from Amhara, Harari, Oromia, SNNP, Somali, and Tigray confirmed that the community plays a great role in monitoring and reporting. This is because the communities are getting used to the desert locusts.</p> <p>The federal key informant reported that both traditional and modern control methods are used. The modern method is surveillance using technologies and taking the GPS coordinate and spraying pesticides with aircraft whereas various cultural methods made use to control desert locust. For instance, when the locust lay their eggs, the area is ploughed so that to crush their eggs (this is done during the egg stage before hatching). The other practice is hitting with stick (locusts are cold-blooded insects; as a result, they are inactive from min-night to the sunrise. They feel the hot after 1-2 hours and their body relaxes, as their limb is full of fat. Hence, they start moving after their body relaxed with the sun, mainly their limb). This makes it simple for hitting with stick, as they cannot escape during this time). The other method is collecting with suck and kill and digging hole and bury them).</p> <p>The regional key informants confirmed that both methods are used based on the scale of the infestation. The modern method is using pesticides to control the desert locust. Whereas traditional method is one of the most used method. The key informants from Harari and Benishangul Gumuz confirmed that so far only cultural methods are utilized whereas regions such as Afar, Amhara, Dire Dawa, Oromia and Tigray confirmed that they are using the traditional method and modern method using pesticides. Among the traditional method mentioned by key informants, include</p>
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		and/or modern)?	creation of noise using different material and disturbing the locusts, plough areas when eggs are laid to crush the eggs before hatching, smoking, digging hole and covering with soil, smoke etc. Key informants from SNNP in his part listed traditional methods, which said that in addition to hitting with branches he also mentioned cultivating the area, which they laid eggs exposing for the sun and birds.
7	Social Impacts/risks and mitigation measures related questions	<p>1. What are the impacts of locust swarms on the community?</p> <p>2. What do you think are the social impacts or risks during the implementation of Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project in your area?</p> <p>3. Are there Conflict or tensions, internally displaced people and refugee settlements</p>	The key informant from federal listed social impacts of locust swarms include crop damage, pasture and bushes damage, economic losses, and movement of pastoralists in search of grazing land and related potential conflict over pasture-land use. Regional key informants in their part claimed that, the impacts include loss of yield, loss of means of their livelihood and food insecurity, migration of family including women and children in search of pasture for their livestock and employment away from home, and potential conflict on resources such as water and pasture mainly among pastoralists and agro-pastoralists. Key informant from Oromia also added the potential for family disintegration. Key informant from Amhara also raised the psychological impact of the infestation. Whereas key informant from Tigray in his part added the increase in labor cost to harvesting as a result of demand raise and urgency to harvest to escape the damage by desert locust. Completion for resource could result in conflict mainly among pastoralists, psychological impact, food insecurity and loss of yield, loss of means of their livelihood and food insecurity, migration of family including women and children in search of pasture for their livestock and employment away from home, change of livelihood, use empty container, spray on human, crops, water and human. All regional key informants said that they have no-any information. However, some of the key informant said that they do not expect conflict and tension given the country is under SOE.
8	Opportunities and Challenges	<p>1. What are the existing opportunities and major challenges related to agriculture, livestock and other services in the area due to desert locust expansion?</p> <p>2. What are livelihoods related challenges faced by the community in your area due to the expansion of desert locust?</p>	The key informants both from federal and regions reported that the major opportunities mentioned is government commitment. The fact that MoA is coordinating the regions by supporting with logistics such as aircraft and trained human power for the campaign though not enough. Development partners such as FAO are providing technical and material support; the communities has learned about the desert locust and the fact that they report to nearby agricultural experts; provision of training and awareness creation; presence of plant protection experts, animal clinics and experts. Whereas the challenges mentioned by the informants include favorable/conducive condition i.e, temperature and presence green vegetation, rain for desert locust; limited number of plant protection and animal health experts are among the challenges identified. Regarding the challenge, the key

			informant from SNNP said the fact that the desert locust is polyphagos (eating all). Loss of yield due to early harvesting, damage of yield by desert locust, focus on control of locust could affect their means of livelihood; the key informants mention likelihood of movement in search of employment and pasture for the cattle, potential loss of livelihood.
9	Stakeholders Engagement	<p>1. Are there community or stakeholders consultation in the efforts to control the invasion of locusts in your area?</p> <p>2. If so, who are the participants and what were the concerns raised?</p> <p>3. what measures to be taken in the future during the implementation of the project</p>	<p>The key informants from both federal and regions confirmed that key stakeholders including communities have been consulted. In this regard, they reported that previously wide consultation have been conducted in regions, but currently due to COVID-19 and SOE the approach have been changed and is based on the direction of the command post. Accordingly, to reach the farmers and create awareness the use of communication channels such as community elderly, local Radio, devolving government structure from region to kebele and mainly development agents and extension workers in the locality are used.</p> <p>According to the federal and regional key informants, the key stakeholders consulted include community representatives (elders), DAs, officials and experts in the government structure, extension workers. Concerns raised by key informants during interview include the desert locust could damage all their crops and pasture, might not get anything to feed their family, might be exposed to famine, death of their domestic animals. Budget and logistic(cars/transportation, motor bike,) related challenges; favorable/conducive condition i.e., temperature and presence green vegetation, rain for desert locust; limited spraying apparatus compared with the scale of invasion ;Climate change(which has made conducive environment for the locust); the Covid-19 pandemic; lack of spraying machine which fits to the topography of the country(e.g. Drone) in areas difficult for the air craft and human; PPE compared to the massive force engaged in the campaign; pesticide impact on the health of operational staffs and community ; and 100% substitution of all pesticides with ULV might affect the campaign; lack of e-locust are among the concerns mentioned by key informants;</p> <p>The key informant interview participants mainly in affected areas suggested that a support from the government to reduce the impact it might have on the community. The key informants provided the following recommendations. These include</p> <p>Allocation of sufficient budget; ongoing information provision, awareness creation and sensitization for all parties with different means; provision of appropriate quality and number of PPE for the operational staffs; use of drones for topographic areas</p>

			<p>difficult to use air craft and traditional methods; making available vehicle, vehicle mount sprays, motor bikes; extensive media coverage with different language about the desert locust infestation and scale and magnitude of damage; Information linkage between regions, zones and woredas and provision of latest information from WHO/DLCO; provision of training based on gap and need assessment for experts, scouts and DA and extension workers;</p>
10	Additional Information	1. You are cordially invited to suggest if there is any additional information	<p>Concerns</p> <p>The fact that the locust can travel 42km²/hour, the desert locusts are beyond the controlling capacity of the regions. Budget and logistic (cars/transportation, motor bike,) related challenges; favorable/conducive condition i.e, temperature and presence green vegetation, rain for desert locust; it could inflict further damage on crop and pasture; limited praying apparatus compared with the scale of invasion; Climate change (which has made conducive environment for the locust); the Covid-19 pandemic; lack pre- campaign medical examination for operational staffs who are in contact with pesticides; lack of spraying machine which fits to the topography of the country (e.g. Drone) in areas difficult for the aircraft; PPE compared to the massive force engaged in the campaign, pesticide impact on the health of operational staffs and community. Are among the concerns mentioned by key informants; 100% substitution of all pesticides with ULV might affect the campaign; lack of elocust</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>The key informants provided the following recommendations that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continuous support to regions from federal; allocation of sufficient budget, ongoing information provision; ✓ Awareness creation and sensitization for all parties with different means; and provision of appropriate quality and number of PPE; ✓ Use of drones for topographic areas difficult to use aircraft and traditional methods; making available vehicle, vehicle mount sprays, motor bikes; ✓ Extensive media coverage with different language about the desert locust infestation scale and magnitude of damage; ✓ Information linkage between regions, zones and woredas and provision of latest information from WHO/DLCO; provision of training based gap and need assessment for experts, scouts and DA and extension workers.

Annex 2. Conflict Sensitive Checklists

Use this checklist to help ensure that your actions and activities are ‘conflict sensitive’. It is best to go through this checklist as you plan your project, but it will also be useful to ask the questions once your project has begun. Where you answer no to a question, think about how you might reduce this risk.

Question	Yes/No
1. Have we carried out a conflict analysis that provides us with: an understanding of what makes tensions worse (the conflict drivers), what brings communities and groups together (the connectors), who the main people or groups of people are (the conflict actors), and their motivations and agenda? See Tool C2: Conflict analysis for more information.	
2. Have we carried out a conflict sensitivity assessment to understand how our proposed action/activity will affect these conflict drivers, connectors, actors, motivations and agendas? See Tool C2: Conflict sensitivity assessment for more information.	
3. Did a broad enough group of people take part in these discussions? Were there people of different ages present? Were different ethnicities represented? Did both men and women take part? This is important to ensure that the perspectives of all groups have been taken into account. It may be helpful to use Tool A2: Understanding the people affected by conflict and the relationships between them (Stakeholder matrix)	
4. Is this analysis being regularly reviewed and updated?	
Programme design	
5. Does the way that our project is designed take account of what the analysis and assessment found? Have the drivers, connectors, actors, motivations and agenda identified in our analysis impacted the way the project is planned and will be (or is being) carried out?	
6. In our project/action are we supporting or assisting certain groups? Are we ensuring that this selection will not make existing differences or tensions between groups worse?	
7. Are we making sure that our project/action does not make tensions over access to resources (such as land or water) or services (such as education or healthcare) worse?	
8. Does our project/action take account of any threats or opportunities that might arise from any social, cultural, political or religious events and festivals?	
9. Does our project/action take into account seasonal changes or patterns of behavior such as planting, harvest, dry or rainy seasons?	
10. Are we putting measures in place to prevent any of the factions or key conflict actors taking control of our project to further their own political or security agendas?	
11. When the project ends have we thought about how its closure might create a gap in the provision of a service or increase tensions?	
12. Does the way in which we are collecting data to help monitor or demonstrate our progress reopen painful memories, create tensions or raise areas of conflict?	
Communication and accountability	
13. Have we communicated our project goals, our approach and our reasons for doing the project to all groups involved in or affected by the project?	
14. Are certain people selected to benefit from our project? Is the way in which we select these people understood by all groups involved in, or affected by, the project?	
15. How are we perceived? Do we know? Can we ask different types of people in different parts of the community and nearby communities so that we have a good understanding of whether our role and intentions are understood and well received? Should we meet with people to clarify any of this?	

16. Will any changes to the project be communicated to groups involved in, or affected by, the project in a timely manner?	
17. Will this information be communicated at regular intervals throughout the life of the project?	
18. Do we have a process for reporting, recording and following up on requests and complaints connected to the project? Is this process being used, and are those raising issues being told about the outcome of their question?	
Behavior and procedures	
19. Do our actions and ways of behaving suggest that we judge different groups or factions in the same way regardless of who they may be? Are we consistent in how we respond to different groups?	
20. If we are buying resources for the project, does the way in which we decide who to buy from have a positive or neutral impact on local markets? Have we made sure that we are not undercutting local suppliers or depending too heavily on people who are aligned with one of the conflict factions or groups?	
21. If we are engaging with government officials, does the way this is done reflect and reinforce their accountability, legitimacy and transparency?	

Annex 3: List Informants Participated for Ethiopia Desert Locust Response Project

Name	Organization and Title	Mobile number
Mr. Tamiru Kebede	MoA, Plant Protection Director (Delegated)	09200229951
Mr. Abebe Anegaw	Amahara Region, Crop Protection Expert	0918710715
Mr. Ketema Zeleke	Dire Dawa, Senior Pest Management Expert	0935649122
Mr. Amare	Benishangul Gumuz, Plant Protection Directorate Director	0917857831
Mr. Welega	Gambella, Crop Protection and Productive Directorate, Director	0922950982
Mr. Mulugeta Adugna	Harari Plant protection and Extension Directorate Director	0986336417
Mr. Mengistu Oli,	Oromia Region Expert	0991077207
Mr Abdi Adem	Somali Region PPD Director	0915769696
Mr. Mulualem Mersha	SNNPR, Arbaminche Plant Health Clinic	0911855240
Mr. Zenebe Keberet	Tigray Region, Pest Control Expert	0914749304
Dr.Mohammed Nure	Afar Region, Plant protection Head	0913080959
Mr. Mohamed Nure	Afar Region, Expert	0910660961