

Food Sustainability in Famine Affected Areas

Country: Ethiopia

Category: Development and Relief

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Update from Projects Manager, Fekadu Reda, May 2009.

This project offers practical assistance in eight districts regularly affected by food shortages due to drought. Three separate studies helped identify the most vulnerable communities and their critical needs. The key project strategy focuses on providing water for irrigation of traditional and other crops to improve food and income security. Other strategies focus on sanitation, health, basic education and livestock management for these communities.

To solve the problem of famine it is not enough to simply provide food. Famine can only be beaten when solutions to address the underlying causes are discovered.

In the face of environmental degradation caused by poor environmental management, 22 Tufa farmers are seeking to learn and develop new skills by focusing on tree planting, water management and proper land use. These farmers are learning valuable new skills to more effectively serve their communities and feed their families. As a result of this training farmers have seen the need to establish their own "Water use committee."

The community in Tufa, especially children, suffer from lack of a balanced diet. Our training has helped the community understand how to prepare

balanced meals from the available food crops, vegetables, and fruits, and improve the nutritional status of their families.

Fifty farmers were supplied with a variety of vegetable seeds to plant in their back yards. Two demonstration plots were prepared for practical training in vegetable gardening. Fifty households also received training on the importance of girl child education as one of the strategies to advance the overall development of society.



Water supply to demonstration plots



aid that gets there

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