



# FNS-REPRO Sensemaking workshop report Somaliland

Report of a sensemaking workshop held on 5-6 June 2022 with FNS-REPRO and key partners and stakeholders

Kusters, C.S.L., Boerema, E., Idle, A., Kamau, D., Yusuf, A., Kivuva, N., Joosten, K.L., Nyawira, K., Hussein, M., Ndungu, J., Idris M., Abdi J., Mbugua E., Ahmed M.



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3 Food and Agriculture Organisation Somalia (FAO)

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This report provides insights and lessons generated from different (internal and external) sources and critically reflected upon during a sensemaking workshop in Somaliland in June 2022. This workshop is part of a series of sensemaking workshops, that aim to support evidence-based and adaptive programming for the Food and Nutrition Security Resilience Program (FNS-REPRO) in Somaliland, Sudan and South Sudan. This program aims to contribute to food and nutrition security and resilient livelihoods in protracted crises, by paying attention to natural resource management (NRM), value chain development (fodder in Somaliland, gum Arabic in Sudan, and seed in South Sudan), and production and consumption of nutritious food. Key partners in the program are FAO and WUR.

Keywords: conflict, drought, FAO, food security, food system resilience, feed, FNS-REPRO, fodder, livestock, Natural Resource Management (NRM), nutrition, pastoralism, theory of change (ToC), resilience, Somaliland, value chain (VC), WUR.

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Cecile Kusters and Eelke Boerema





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# List of abbreviations and acronyms

APFS	Agro-Pastoral Field School
CoP	Community of Practice
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FNS	Food and Nutrition Security
FNS-REPRO	Food and Nutrition Security Resilience Program (by FAO & WUR)
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
HH	Household
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IGP	Improved Grazing Practices
IP	Implementing Partner
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification <sup>1</sup>
KII	Key informant interview
LAFP	Learning Agenda Focal Points
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MoLFD	Ministry of Livestock and Fishery Development
NRM	Natural Resource Management
RIMA	Resilience Index Measurement and Analysis
RTEA	Resilience Team for Eastern Africa (FAO)
RVCA	Rapid Value Chain Assessment
SIRA	Somali Information and Resilience Building Action Programme
ToC	Theory of Change
VSL	Village Savings and Loans
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WCDI	Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen University & Research
WUR	Wageningen University & Research

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-website/ipc-overview-and-classification-system/en/>



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# 1 Executive Summary

On 5 and 6 June 2022, the annual programme sensemaking event was conducted in Hargeisa, Somaliland. The event was organized and facilitated by WUR, in partnership with FAO Somalia, FAO RTEA and FNS-REPRO programme partners. This event is part of the FNS-REPRO's evidence-based and adaptive programming cycle. The aim of the sensemaking event is to reflect on all information generated under FNS-REPRO in Somaliland, identifying key challenges, issues and gaps that need to be addressed in order to achieve the intended impacts. Critical reflection with key stakeholders was facilitated on the key findings from the various studies and publications, and what gaps could be identified in the different outputs and approaches of the FNS-REPRO programme outputs. This then led to suggestions to improve the programme. The sensemaking event, focusing on the 'why' and the 'what' of FNS-REPRO, was organized back-to-back with FAO's annual review and planning meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June which focused on reviewing not only what has been achieved so far but also on how suggested improvements could be integrated in the next and final (2022-2023) annual plan. The planning meeting also culminated into a brief report with action points to be addressed for the final annual plan.

The sensemaking workshop has successfully generated additional insights on how to sharpen specific activities under the three main outputs of the programme, being: 1) improved management of and access to natural resources, 2) improved income opportunities along selected (fodder) value chains and, 3) nutrition sensitive livelihoods support. Furthermore key challenges were identified to which suggestions to address those have been formulated, including the Horn of Africa drought emergency response, generating evidence for MEAL and learning and improving the nutrition and healthy diets component of FNS-REPRO.

## 1.1 Overall progress and key areas that need attention

Whilst overall the program is relatively on track in relation to planned activities, the prolonged drought is seriously affecting food security with a risk of famine for certain parts of the country. This has a serious effect on program progress and outcome: fodder production is low due to the drought and families and livestock struggle to survive. This calls for restructuring of the program in relation to dealing with the effects of the drought on target beneficiaries and the program outcomes. Also there is some delay in some areas whilst other areas need more attention. Key actions include:

- Develop a **drought response plan** to deal with the effects of the prolonged drought;
- Enhance **access to water** and related infrastructure;
- Continue with and further strengthen **capacity development** of targeted communities, key actors in the fodder value chain (e.g. traders), implementing partners and ministries;
- Strengthen **linkages along the fodder value chain**, from community level up to government level (policies), and with active engagement of the private sector;
- Improve **linkages and complementarity with other programs and initiatives** along the HDP nexus;
- Strengthen **conflict mitigation**;
- **Improve implementation**: enhance not only knowledge & skills but also practice; complete storage facilities; improve on inputs (e.g. seeds), tools and equipment (e.g. harvesting, gloves); address locust, etc.;
- Strengthen attention to **nutrition and healthier diets**;
- Develop a **sustainability and exit strategy**;
- Improve **monitoring, evaluation and learning** for evidence-based and adaptive programming;
- Improve **communication, consultation and active engagement** of partners and beneficiaries;
- Improve **visibility** of the program.

"We received fodder seeds from the NGO and tractor hours of 2 hours and 20 minutes per household. We planted the seeds, but due to no rains and the drought situation, nothing has grown yet", according to a female FGD respondent in Waadamago village, Caynabo District.

These issues are further elaborated below and in the next chapters. The input is used for developing the final annual plan of FNS-REPRO.

### 1.1.1 Suggestions to address the Horn of Africa drought emergency

As the FAO Somalia team already had developed a draft drought response plan for FNS-REPRO during the February mid-year sensemaking event, and recent developments have been taken onboard now, an updated drought response plan has been finalized directly after this sensemaking event in June 2022 and will be undertaken as part of FNS-REPRO's adaptive and flexible programming approach across July-December 2022. The drought response plan is included in annex 2.

### 1.1.2 General suggestions for improvement

**Enhance training and capacity building:** the beneficiaries are appreciative of the trainings and capacity building, highlighting it as one of the key benefits brought by the project. They however request and recommend continuous and more practical training especially on GAP, cooperative management, financial education, diverse crop production, Community Animal Health Workers, water harvesting and management.

**Strengthen groups/associations:** there is need to continue improving the formed groups/associations to consolidate and maximize the gains already being experienced. This can be done by tailored capacity building on key areas of interest like group management, financial education, VSLA's and conflict management.

**Strengthen market linkages:** the beneficiary local traders have links and contacts with the main fodder traders and also the fodder middle men. The project should take advantage of the already existing market networks and improve on the gaps that may exist to ensure maximum benefits for the producers.

**Provide tools, machines and equipment:** there was a request for transportation equipment from all FGD participants across the board. The main equipment recommended was donkey cart for transporting harvested fodder to the fodder processing shed. Wheelbarrow was recommended for carrying manure and aggregating harvested fodder in the farm. Other tools mentioned were jembe, shovel, hoe, and spraying machine.

**Improve complementarity and adaptation:** the project needs to be adaptive to changes and emerging issues for it to be more impactful and successful. One way this can be achieved is through complementing project activities with other FAO activities especially emergency interventions in the project areas or with other stakeholders like Government, UN-agencies and NGO's.

**Continuous communication and consultations:** there is need for continuous, timely, accurate and clear communication and consultations with the community leadership and beneficiaries on project activities and plans. This will ensure relevance and sustainability is achieved in the long-run through community buy in.

**Improve visibility:** signage are an important communication and visibility channel that needs to be better utilized. It helps to create awareness of an intervention and presence of an implementing organization which is important for brand awareness and recognition. The signage needs to be uniform with consultation on what is to be communicated, in what location and what language.

**Ensure sustainability & exit strategy:** there is need to start deliberate planning for a closure (exit strategy) that will support sustainability in the long-run. Informing stakeholders and especially beneficiaries that the project will end at some point is crucial for action and planning towards sustainability.

### 1.1.3 Additional suggestions to improve output 1 (improved NRM)

Output 1 focuses on establishing:

- a. More sustainable community grazing systems, including improved protection of rangeland
- b. More grazing reserves established in communal areas.

**Specific suggestions** from workshop participants for output 1 include:

- **Link with Ministry of Environment & Climate Change and Ministry of livestock and fishery development** on their ambition to revive enclosures for rangeland for pastoralists (but managed by government).
- **Training of Ministry on NRM & rangeland restoration** (4 big grazing reserves).
- **Enhance water infrastructure:** drought and lack of water was mentioned as the main challenge the target community faced during implementation of the project. Therefore, the issue of water is not a matter of 'if' but 'how' we can assist in tackling it. Key recommendations include; rehabilitation/construction of water catchment e.g. berkhads, contour bands at strategic points, large capacity water storage tanks at the fodder sheds, provision of collapsible water bladder digging wells and training on water harvesting and management.

### 1.1.4 Additional suggestions to improve output 2 (fodder production)

**Specific suggestions** from workshop participants for output 2 include:

- Create synergy with SIRA on enabling environment: draft national feed policy to Ministry of Livestock & Fisheries is submitted. Stakeholder consultation is needed for validation & launching of policy & implementation. Need to collaborate with SIRA on this.

Below some key gaps are described as derived from the discussions during the rapid value chain assessments and stories of change, and particularly relevant to the fodder value chain.

**Key suggestions for improvement include:**

- Deal with (the effects of) the drought: emergency response and water catchment
- Strengthen capacities of trader groups
- Improve dealing with locust
- Improve dealing with conflict
- Improve implementation: enhancing not only knowledge & skills but also practice; complete storage facilities; improve on tools and equipment (e.g. harvesting, gloves).

#### **Existing gaps in preproduction 2022 after FNS-REPRO interventions**

- **Irrigation system is not adequate:** rain is the main determinant factor for production. Suggestion to include water catchment and create awareness on water conservation awareness.
- **Seed:** the beneficiaries are still sensitive to obtain seeds from the externals, NGOs and aid agencies. Suggestion to introduce good/relevant seeds gradually and to ensure that seed input suppliers and universities play a leading role in this.
- **Some inputs /equipment are not yet provided,** such as sickles, sisal twine, shovels, hay folks, safety hand gloves, scissors, plastic bags. Suggestion to provide these in the appropriate time (when production is expected, otherwise wasting can occur).

#### **Existing gap in fodder production 2022 after FNS-REPRO interventions**

- Water is still a challenge. Water catchment mechanisms need to be put in place.
- Locust: a potential threat to fodder production.
- Recurring drought; drought has a huge impact on fodder production and has also demotivated the project beneficiaries.

#### **Existing gaps in harvesting 2022 after the interventions of FNS-REPRO**

- Hand gloves to reduce human diseases;
- Harvesting equipment not yet received;
- Chopper machines not yet provided all the targeted villages;
- Skills and knowledge are enhanced but no practice (to observe trial and error);
- Completion of the storage facilities.

**Existing gaps in the market after the FNS-REPRO interventions**

- The cooperatives trader teams have not yet received trainings (capacity building/ trainings should be received by the trader groups in order to maximize the profit of the fodder producers);
- Unbalanced supply of fodder and demand in the market (need to scale up fodder production);
- Transportation.

**Existing Gaps in the enabling environment 2022 after FNS-REPRO interventions**

- Rain water: recurrent droughts has a huge impact on fodder and pasture;
- Locust: potential threat;
- Conflict: adequate conflict resolution mechanism;
- Conflict resolution committee;
- Lack of agro-investment.

### 1.1.5 Suggestions to improve evidence generation, MEAL and learning

- Across the three outputs at country level, and specifically under output 2, there is a lack of consistent data collection and evidence generation. This is crucial for better understanding progress and effectiveness of interventions that are placed to improve fodder value chain performance to improve incomes and FNS.
- To better understand and influence the effectiveness and relevance of interventions across natural resource management (output 1), fodder production and fodder value chain strengthening (output 2) and nutrition and healthy diets (output 3), monitoring tools need to be developed and applied across the FNS-REPRO programming areas.
- FNS-REPRO implementing partners may have collected data and evidence on their own behalf. FAO Somalia is suggested to compile this in line with new monitoring tools that are being developed.
- Develop appropriate assumptions in the last column of the log frame and ensure that assumptions are monitored and responded to.
- Develop *processes and templates for qualitative and quantitative data collection*, through record keeping at beneficiary/household level for informed decision-making at household level, group level and program level.
- Agree on the data to be collected, when to start, frequency and standardization of measures needed to generate evidence of fodder produced, harvested, used and sold. Make use of electronic data collection tools such as KoboToolbox to capture project data.
- Qualitative data collection and documentation of stories of change can be done in collaboration with the LAFPs. Qualitative and quantitative data is critical to show evidence of intended FNS-REPRO impact and successfulness of its approach (improving fodder value chain performance to improve FNS) but also to explain challenges and suggestions for improvement. Qualitative data can help to explain the 'why' behind numbers. This is a fundamental component to test and validate the FNS-REPRO approach. Note: the LAFPs can only capture a few stories of change, but will also focus on capturing stories of change through KIIs with IPs so as to get the overview of what is happening on the ground.

### 1.1.6 Suggestions improve output 3 (nutrition and healthy diets)

**Nutrition education**

Whilst poor access (including affordability) to and availability of food is a major problem to consume healthy diets is key, there is also an element of lack of knowledge on what healthy diets are.

Therefore, nutrition education needs to be integrated in this program. However, this has not yet been implemented, partly due to lack of knowledge and capacity by the implementing partners (IPs). During the sense-making workshop a range of ideas were discussed to move this issue further.

**Key topics**

There are a range of topics to be covered under nutrition education. These include the following:

- Nutrition-sensitive agriculture. This includes a.o. encouraging people to grow nutrient-dense food (e.g. beans and dark green leafy vegetables for iron) that can easily be grown locally, and crop diversification for diverse diets.
- What are healthy diets?

- Nutrition for children under-five, pregnant and lactating women, and the elderly.
- Food loss and waste, food handling and food safety.
- Food processing (e.. preservation).
- Cooking food (with minimal loss of micro-nutrients).
- Since the program focuses on fodder production and many people in the project area are (agro) pastoralists, information on the importance of nutritious feed for healthy livestock & milk can also be included as this ultimately can also contribute to a healthy diet.
- Survival feeding, how to portion available food over time etc.

### **Who to target with nutrition education**

Whilst women have a major role to play in caring for the family, including nutrition, also men need to be targeted so that at household level shared decision making can take place in terms of what food is produced (nutritious food), how it is used and by who (men often get the most nutritious food), how income is used (women tend to spend their income more on food for the family than men). So both men and women need to be targeted, and even community leaders can support the decision making on growing and using nutritious crops for healthy diets.

### **How to increase awareness and knowledge on nutrition**

A mix of methods to create awareness and improve knowledge and skills on healthy diets needs to be used to reach people. Apart from mass media campaigns like using radio and tv (which is also expensive), posters etc, more direct engagement through training, workshops, community based awareness activities can often be more effective in influencing behaviour change.

### **Who can undertake the nutrition education?**

Whilst a clear plan still needs to be developed, both Sanaag and Nugaal University can be engaged in this as they have extensive experience in nutrition. Sanaag University for example has a well-established nutrition department, and Nugaal University trains MCH clinics that could easily be coming in to do the nutrition education on the ground. There already is a national curriculum available that can be made use of. Furthermore, the FAO nutritionist can come in to support this as she is linked to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. Furthermore RTEA will look into nutrition support where needed.

### **Livelihood diversification with attention to healthy diets**

Many people in the project area depend on livestock for their livelihood. The current drought and related food insecurity shows that dependency on livestock cannot be sustainable. Therefore, the program wishes to integrate alternative income generating activities (IGAs) that also focus on nutrition. Three options have been proposed:

- *Kitchen gardens*: since lack of water is a key issue, this can be done in the demonstration gardens (54 in total), that are established close to a water source. A part of these demo gardens can be set aside for growing locally available nutritious vegetables (e.g. spinach) and fruits (e.g. papaya). Access to water is critical and if needed water tanks for storing water and pipes (irrigation) can be provided. Sanaag and Nugaal University can support this. Sanaag University is engaged in a horticulture project funded by Nuffic. Access to seed will need to be discussed. The demo plot can stimulate people to also grow vegetables and fruits on their own land, provided land is available.
- *Poultry*: these can easily be kept for home consumption as well as income. IPs can do the training.
- *Bee keeping*: this can be done where there is access to water.

For the above it needs to be looked into how exactly this can be done and by who. Certainly the universities in collaboration with the FAO Somaliland nutritionist can think through a detailed plan.

Note: RTEA will also support this nutrition component by engaging a nutrition consultant.

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## 2 Introduction

### 2.1 Introduction to FNS-REPRO

The Netherlands-funded Food and Nutrition Security Resilience Programme (hereinafter: FNS-REPRO) is the first programme in Eastern Africa specifically designed to foster peace and food security at scale, through a livelihood and resilience-based approach, in some of the least stable regions, where interventions are normally of humanitarian programming nature exclusively<sup>2</sup>. Its design allows FAO and partners to set examples of building food system resilience in protracted crises. The four-year programme (2019-2023) is implemented in South-Sudan, Sudan and Somaliland. FNS-REPRO adopted a food system resilience approach and focusses on strengthening strategic value chains at country level. In Somaliland, the focus is on strengthening the fodder value chain in Sool and Sanaag<sup>3</sup>.

### 2.2 Introduction to the evidence-based and adaptive programming cycle

One of the FNS-REPRO key principles is flexible and adaptive programming. This means that the programme can change over time to increase fit with day-to-day and longer-term realities faced by communities on the ground. Given the complex and protracted crisis context of the programme's target areas, there is a need to be able to identify emerging issues and adapt to changes and negative impacts that affect beneficiaries and the FNS-REPRO outcome and objectives. This makes FNS-REPRO more effective, efficient, and relevant for its beneficiaries, and it is closely monitored by the donor.

With the above in mind, FAO and its project partner Wageningen University & Research (WUR), designed the programme-specific adaptive programming cycle. The cycle is facilitated by the organization of sensemaking events (critical reflection on information generated along the course of the programme – organized by WUR) and annual review & planning meetings (strategic programme management based on sensemaking events to inform the next FNS-REPRO's annual plan – by FAO country offices), taking place in June and July every year. In addition to this, mid-year sensemaking events are organised by WUR in February to focus on key issues in the context that call for program adaptation.

Information and knowledge generated by FNS-REPRO (RIMA's, context analyses, food system resilience assessments, learning journeys in Communities of Practice (CoPs), special studies, learning events) and review of other relevant literature review and publications (e.g. IPC info) are reflected upon during the sense-making events and critical insights generated thereby will feed directly into the review & planning meeting, informing the next annual plan.

In June 2022, the adaptive programming meetings were held for the third time. All three events took place face-to-face, for the first time, in their respective country capitals Hargeisa, Juba and Khartoum, as COVID-19 travel restrictions had been lifted.

#### **Somaliland**

- 5-6 June: Sensemaking event
- 7 June: Annual Review & Planning meeting

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<sup>2</sup> To read more about FNS-REPRO, visit the following web pages: <https://fns-repro.com/what-is-fns-repro/> and <https://www.wur.nl/en/research-results/research-institutes/centre-for-development-innovation/show-cdi/fns-repro-building-food-system-resilience-in-protracted-crises.htm>

<sup>3</sup> To read more about FNS-REPRO in Somaliland: <https://fns-repro.com/what-is-fns-repro/somaliland/>



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## South-Sudan

- 22-23 June: Sensemaking event
- 24 June: Annual Review & Planning meeting

## Sudan

- 28-29 June: Sensemaking event
- 30 June: Annual Review & Planning meeting

The suggestions for improvement for each country program, as generated during the sensemaking event organised and facilitated by WUR, are provided in this report. These suggestions have been validated during the subsequent annual review and planning meeting organised by the FAO country teams.

## 2.3 Background to the Somaliland Sensemaking Event

On 5 and 6 June 2022, the annual programme sensemaking event was conducted in Hargeisa, Somaliland. The event was organized and facilitated by WUR, in partnership with FAO Somalia, FAO RTEA and FNS-REPRO programme partners. This event is part of the FNS-REPRO's evidence-based and adaptive programming cycle. The aim of the sensemaking event is to reflect on all information generated under FNS-REPRO in Somaliland, identifying key challenges, issues and gaps that need to be addressed in order to achieve the intended impacts. Critical reflection with key stakeholders was facilitated on the key findings from the various studies and publications, and what gaps could be identified in the different outputs and approaches of the FNS-REPRO programme outputs. This then led to suggestions to improve the programme. The sensemaking event, focusing on the 'why' and the 'what' of FNS-REPRO, was organized back-to-back with FAO's annual review and planning meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June which focused on reviewing not only what has been achieved so far but also on how suggested improvements could be integrated in the next and final (2022-2023) annual plan. The planning meeting also culminated into a brief report with action points to be addressed for the final annual plan.

As the evidence-based and adaptive programming cycle in 2021 took a comprehensive approach to understand progress, key challenges, issues, gaps and trends across all the components of the programme, the 2022 cycle took a more detailed approach to assess remaining key issues and trends and suggest pathways to address these. It also looked more closely into what was happening on the ground, by sharing more detailed MEAL information, but also findings from a rapid fodder chain assessment and stories of change. Moreover, the event in June build upon the February 2022 mid-year sensemaking event which had a predominant focus on understanding key shocks and stressors and suggesting crises-modifiers to mitigate its negative effects. For Somaliland's mid-year sensemaking event, the main focus was on the ongoing drought which is impacting the Horn of Africa in an unprecedented way.

This report provides a summary of the key findings as well as suggestions for improvement of the FNS-REPRO program in Somaliland. The report follows the structure of the event itself, being the following components: introduction to key concepts, a brief context update focussing on emerging issues and trends, the revised Theory of Change for FNS-REPRO in Somaliland, a FNS-REPRO (MEAL) progress update for the 2021-2022 annual programming cycle, key findings of a rapid fodder value chain assessment, stories of change, key issues for discussion and finally key suggestions for the final annual plan.

A detailed report that includes a description of the context, a literature review on the fodder value chain, key findings of a rapid fodder value chain assessment and stories of change is shared separately.

A separate report on the annual review and planning meeting, building on the key findings and suggestions generated in the sensemaking events, is written by the FAO FNS-REPRO team in Somaliland. Another separate document containing all suggestions for the final annual plan will be provided to the FAO team for inserting their responses.



**Figure 1**     *The sensemaking event workshop banner*

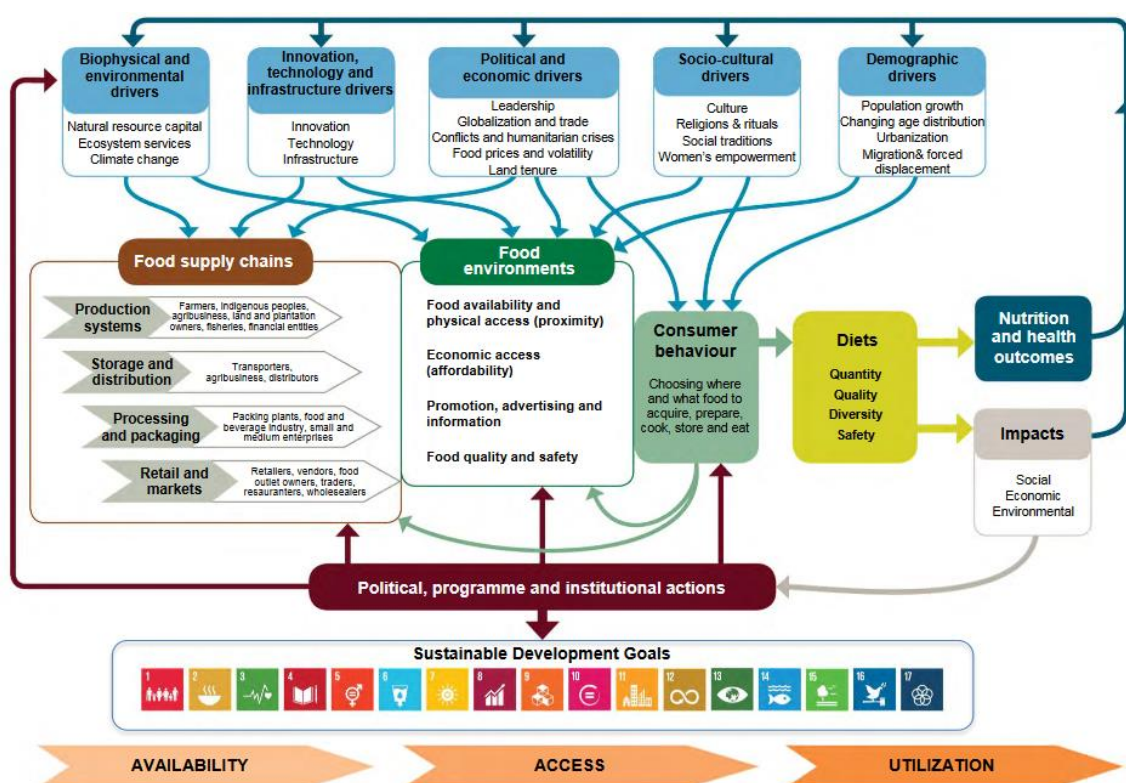
# 3 Day 1 – Intro; concepts; context; ToC & MEAL

## 3.1 Key concepts

During the sensemaking workshop a brief introduction was given to key concepts, especially in relation to food systems and food systems resilience, which is at the heart of FNS-REPRO. Some of this was also shared in the sensemaking event in June 2021 but shared again this time to refresh ourselves and as new participants have joined the workshop.

### 3.1.1 Food systems framework

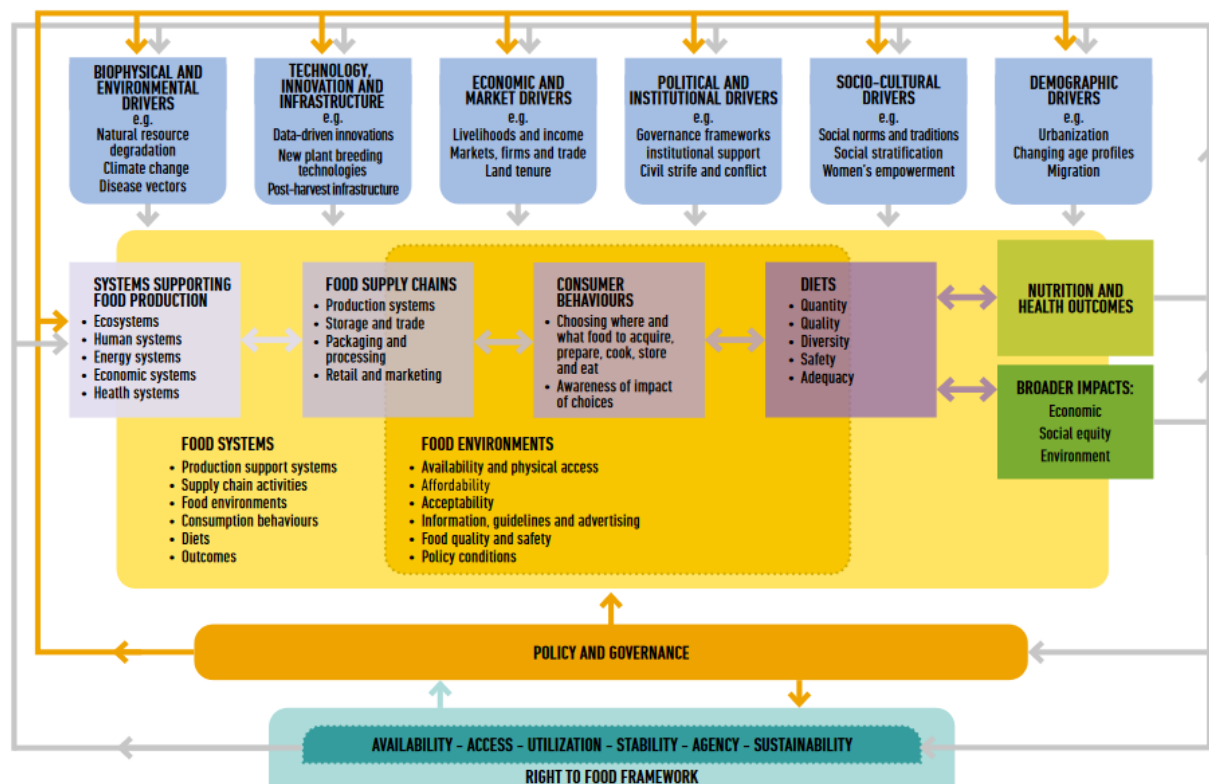
The concept of food systems has been stressed during the recent UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) in 2021. There are many concepts and frameworks that can help to understand food systems. For example the one developed by the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Nutrition<sup>4</sup>. This framework puts particular emphasis on the aspect of **(healthier) diets**.



**Figure 2** Conceptual framework of food systems for diets and nutrition

This framework has been adapted in the latest HLPE report #15 (see the figure below). Here the emphasis is on **sustainable food systems**. "According to FAO (2018a), food systems are sustainable when they "deliver food security and nutrition for all in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases to generate food security and nutrition for future generations are not compromised." .... When food systems embody these qualities in an integrated, holistic way, they are more likely to support the realization of the right to food and to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda, especially SDG 2." (HLPE, 2020).

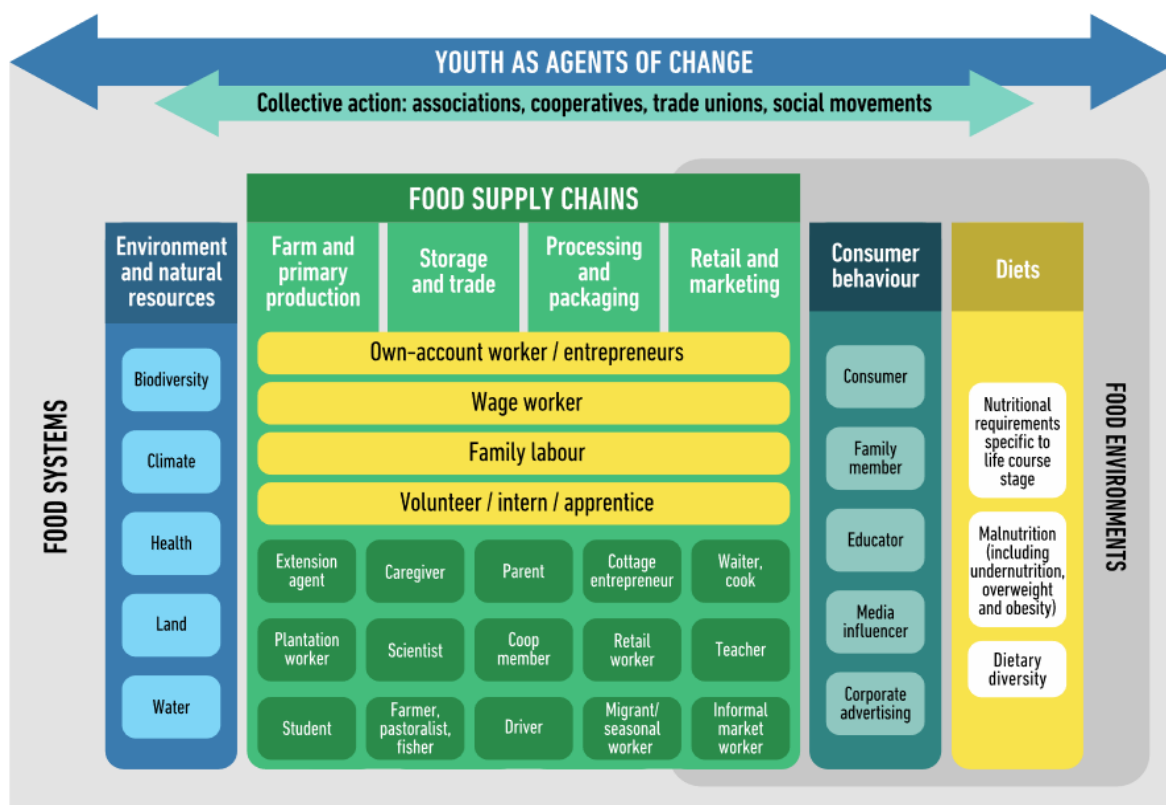
<sup>4</sup> See HLPE report 12: <https://www.fao.org/3/i7846e/i7846e.pdf>



**Figure 3** Sustainable Food System Framework

Source: Adapted from HLPE 12, 2017.

The latest HLPE report (2021) positions **youth as agents of change** in a sustainable food systems framework (Wittman et al., 2021).



**Figure 4** Roles and spaces for youth engagement and employment in food systems

Source: Elaborated by authors based on HLPE 2017, 2020a.

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### 3.1.2 Resilient food systems

Drawing on the UN Common Guidance on Helping Build Resilient Societies, **agrifood systems' resilience** can be defined as "the capacity over time of agrifood systems, in the face of any disruption, to sustainably ensure availability of and access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for all, and sustain the livelihoods of agrifood systems' actors". The authors indicate that "agrifood systems have three main components: (i) primary production; (ii) food distribution, linking production to consumption through food supply chains and transport networks; and (iii) household consumption, including intra-household food distribution. Key actors are: primary producers; those providing input supply, post-harvest, storage, transport and food processing services; food distributors, wholesalers and retailers; and households and individuals as final consumers." In terms of resilient food systems the authors indicate that "Truly resilient agrifood systems must have a robust capacity to prevent, anticipate, absorb, adapt and transform in the face of any disruption, with the functional goal of ensuring food security and nutrition for all and decent livelihoods and incomes for agrifood systems' actors. Such resilience addresses all dimensions of food security, but focuses specifically on stability of access and sustainability, which ensure food security in both the short and the long term. Another dimension of food security – agency – is deeply connected to human rights, including the right to food, and underscores the need for inclusiveness in systems." (FAO, 2021)

They furthermore indicate that "Shocks have immediate impact, while stresses gradually undermine systems' coping capacity". In particular the **role of climate change** is important: "Compared to other economic sectors, agriculture is disproportionately exposed and vulnerable to adverse natural hazards, especially those climate related. Climate change drives short-term shocks, such as extreme weather events, and generates slow-onset stresses, such as higher temperatures and loss of biodiversity. Shocks have immediate impact, while stresses are slow processes that gradually undermine the capacity of systems to cope with change and which render them more vulnerable. Agrifood systems' components and actors are exposed to shocks and stresses of various types and intensity and, because components are interlinked, disruption in any of them can spread quickly throughout systems. The same shock or stress may have different impacts on different systems' components and actors. Among producers, shocks are most likely to affect the livelihoods of low-income, small-scale operators; among food consumers, the poorest will be the most affected by rising food prices." (FAO, 2021)

The authors also indicate that building resilience is **more than risk management**. "Risk management strategies that reduce exposure and vulnerability to a known, specific shock – such as drought preparedness – help build agrifood systems' resilience. However, the COVID-19 crisis has shown that some shocks are unpredictable in terms of timing and extent. Agrifood systems must have the capacity to continue functioning in the presence of shocks that are not foreseeable. Building resilience is, therefore, more than risk management: resilient agrifood systems are a strategic component of the world's response to ongoing and future challenges." (FAO, 2021)

## 3.2 Key issues - Worsening drought leading to increased risk of famine in Somalia

Looking at the context of Somaliland, it is of particular importance to help build resilient food systems as the current context is critical. This was presented and discussed before going into the specifics of the program in Somaliland so as to set the scene and also stress the importance of in particular the worsening food security situation linked to the worsening drought.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) information that was published on June 6 2022 shows that "Worsening drought is putting some areas in central and southern Somalia at an increased Risk of Famine (IPC 5) through at least September 2022 if the current Gu season crop and livestock production fails, food prices continue to rise sharply and humanitarian assistance is not scaled up to reach those most in need." Although the program areas Sool and Sanaag are not (yet) in famine stage (IPC 5), but the situation in these areas has also worsened as can be seen in the figures below, indicating a projected emergency situation (IPC 4) for Sool and Sanaag. Some 7.1 million people in Somalia are expected to experience high levels of food insecurity (IPC 3 or above) between June and September. The weather forecasts are also not



promising: “Moreover, available long-range forecasts indicate that a record fifth below-average rainy season is likely across Somalia during the forthcoming October and December 2022 Deyr season. Therefore, humanitarian needs are expected to worsen and remain high nationally well into 2023”<sup>5</sup>.

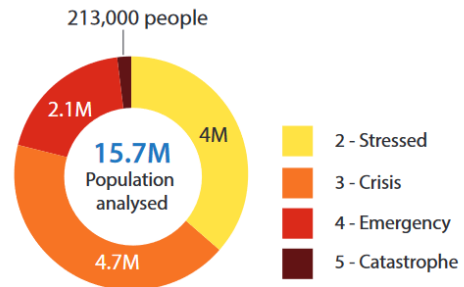
## Second Projection Key Figures | June - September 2022



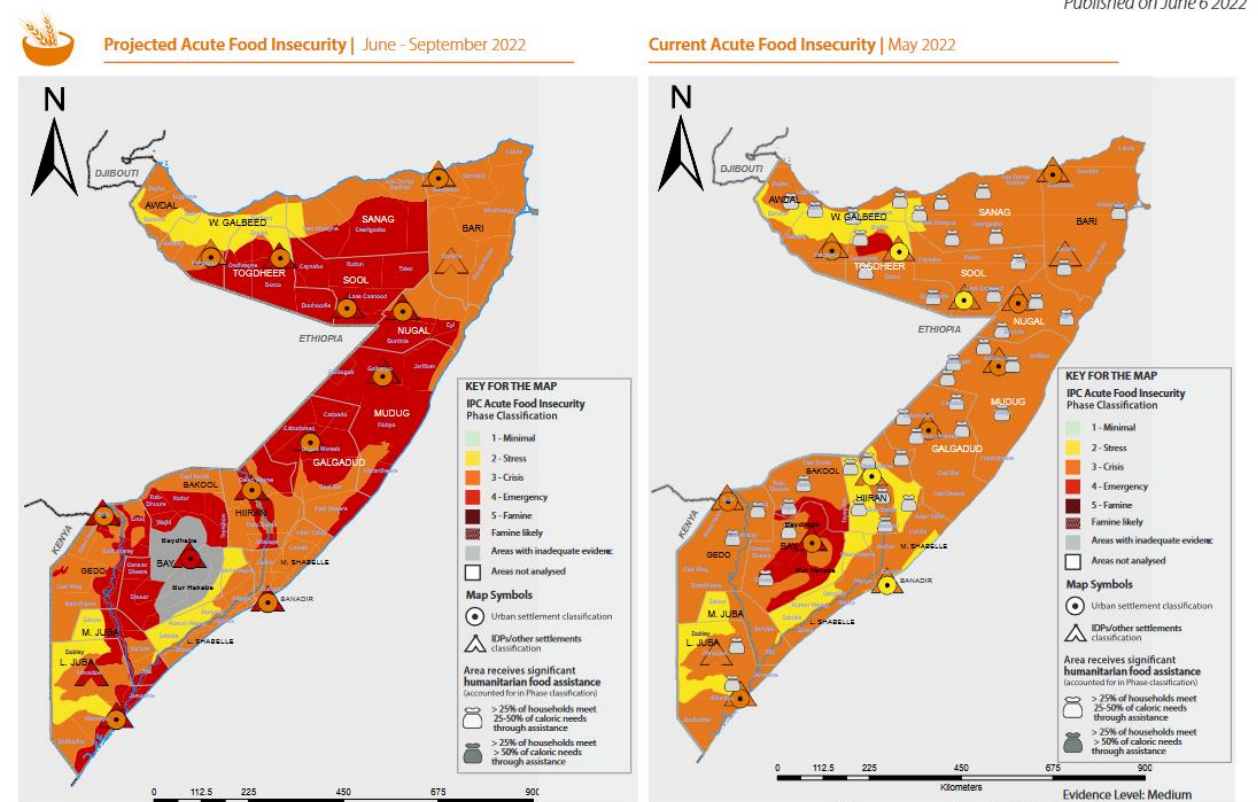
Approximately 7.1 million people across Somalia will likely experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between June and September 2022, **including 4.7 million facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3), 2.1 million people facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and more than 213,000 facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).**



Approximately 7.1 million people out of the analysed population of 15.7 million is likely experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above).



**Figure 5** IPC projections for June-September 2022



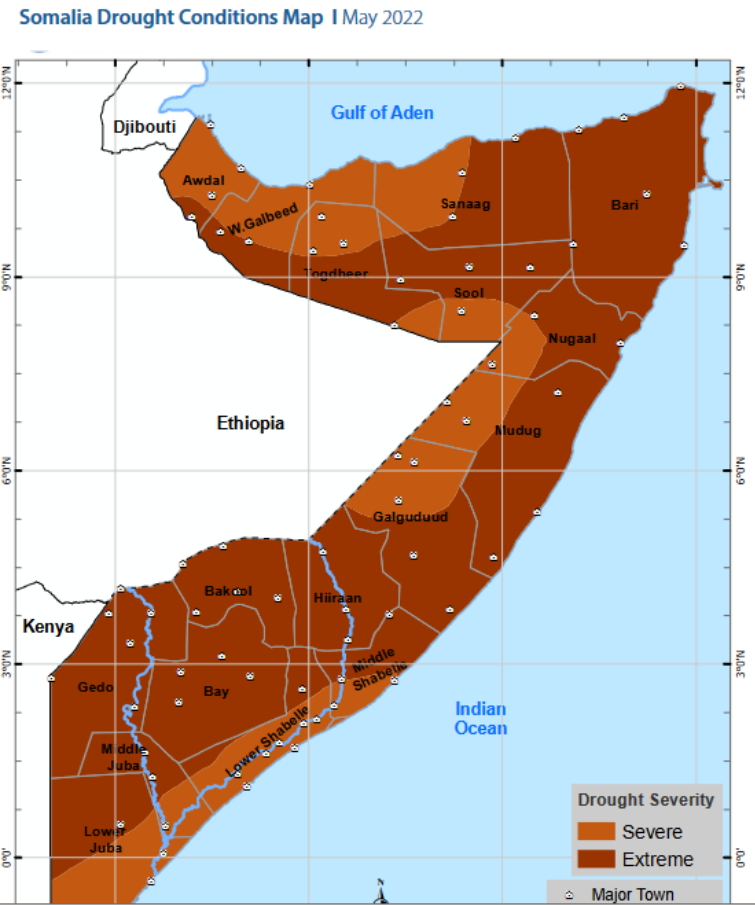
**Figure 6** Projected food insecurity map for Somalia June-September 2022

There is an **increased risk of famine** if “(1) there is widespread crop and livestock production failure, (2) food prices continue to rise sharply and (3) humanitarian assistance is not scaled up to reach the country’s most vulnerable population”. When looking at the figure below one can understand that the

<sup>5</sup> See also: [https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC\\_Somalia\\_AFI\\_AMN\\_Snapshot%20Update%20RoF\\_May%202022%20Final.pdf](https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Somalia_AFI_AMN_Snapshot%20Update%20RoF_May%202022%20Final.pdf).

resilience of the food system in Somalia, including Somaliland is at risk, and closely related to the prolonged drought, conflict and insecurity (and related migration), increasing food prices and the Ukraine war with related increased food and fuel prices.

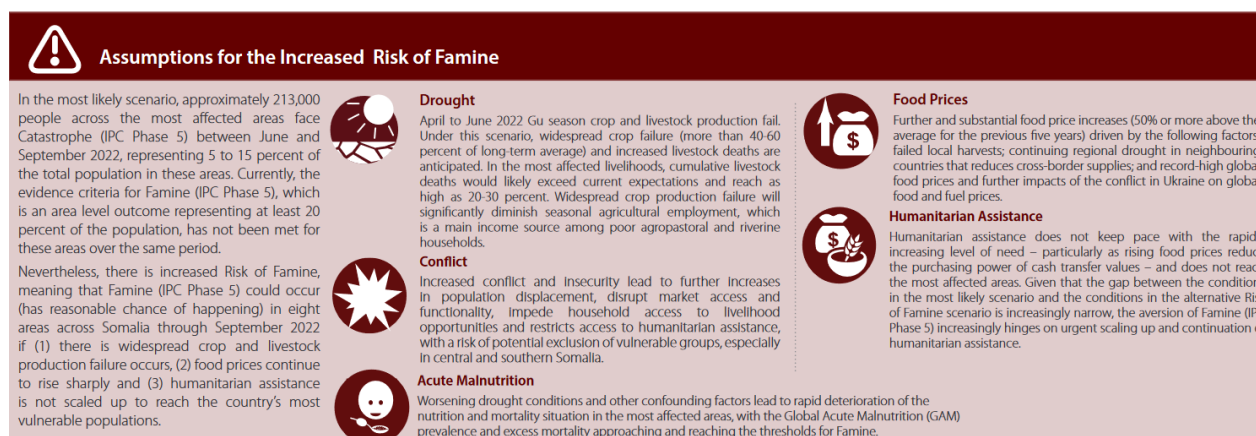
The role of the **prolonged drought** is immense as it influences livestock health and death affecting (agro-) pastoral communities; crop failure and related high food prices (staple crops); lack of water for food production and consumption by animals and humans; increased conflict over natural resources; and displacement. For more information see the figure 'How drought drives food insecurity in Somalia'.



**Figure 7** Somalia drought conditions map for May 2022



**Figure 8** How drought drives acute food insecurity in Somalia



**Figure 9** Assumptions for the increased risk of famine

### 3.3 The Theory of Change (ToC) for Somaliland

The Theory of Change (ToC) for FNS-REPRO in Somaliland was discussed so as to get clarity among participants on what the program aims to do in the program areas (Sool and Sanaag) and to get initial thinking on what areas of improvement may be needed for the final annual plan. A ToC explains the assumptions that people have about how change happens or is expected to happen. Prior to the



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sensemaking event discussions were held with the program manager and MEAL manager to further detail the visualization of the ToC based on the annual plan October 2021-September 2022.

The result can be seen in the figure on the next page. Basically in order to contribute to improved human nutrition and improved livelihoods, FNS-REPRO in Somaliland aims to improve three areas: Natural resource management (NRM), fodder value chain (from production, harvesting, conservation, storage and marketing), and production and consumption of nutritious food.

1. **Improved NRM.** This involves rangeland restoration and improving water conservation. Both are expected to contribute to 'increased uptake and production of fodder on communal land', which influences 'reduced livestock mortality and higher milk & meat production'. This is important as the Somaliland people, and in particular the targeted population by FNS-REPRO, mainly depend on livestock for their livelihoods. As such ultimately it contributes to 'Improved human nutrition & more resilient livelihoods'. The program contributes to improved access and better management of the rangelands, mainly through development and adoption of village driven NRM plans. This is done in the following ways:
  - a. More sustainable community grazing systems, including improved protection of rangeland. This involves:
    - i. Developing *NRM plans for the whole village*. This is done by:
      1. *Establishing and strengthening NRM committees* that develop and implement the NRM plans so that community grazing systems in the future can better accommodate, grazing, fodder harvesting and storage, proper stocking, and application of range management principles, are established;
      2. *Strengthening the NRM capacity* of implementing partners (IPs) and government extension staff, so that IPs undertake analysis of current rangeland management system (formal and informal);
      3. Implementing partners (IPs), in close coordination with the (local) government, support the development and implementation of 7 community NRM plans covering the seven villages (i.e. one in each village).
    - ii. *Adoption of Improved Grazing Practices (IGP)*. This involves strengthening the capacity of the IPs so that IPs & FAO are able to train households (HHs) in improved grazing and rangeland management on improved Grazing Practices (IGP) including natural rangeland pasture reseeding, fodder seed production and harvesting.
    - iii. *Increasing project ownership and prevention of potential conflict* within the communities on fodder harvesting. This is done through 'Sensitization and consultation with communities on the economic benefit of fodder production and the importance of NRM.
    - iv. The targeted communities in Sool and Sanaag develop *clear agreements* including division of roles, who benefits, the vulnerable among them whether to fence or not and use of communal land for fodder production with support from FAO.
    - v. *Sensitization & consensus* among the key stakeholders (government at regional, central level; pastoralists, community elders, imams & sheiks, community influencers, other NGOs) *on fodder production on communal land* covering 450 hectares. This also influences project ownership and helps to prevent potential conflict. It also involves *piloting fencing of communal land* among willing households / communities.
    - vi. *Enhanced peace and reduced conflict around natural resources*. This is important as many conflicts arise around natural resources, particularly with increased climate change. It involves strengthening communities' capacity to promote peace and mitigate conflict; developing NRM capacity of traditional conflict management structures developed in NRM; identifying and training peace (community) champions (50% youth) from villages on how to facilitate dialogue processes for the resolution of emerging resource based disputes; and training on leadership advocacy and promotion of peace. The training of stakeholders on conflict prevention and management involves: training NRM committees on conflict prevention and management of resource-based conflicts; organising community awareness raising meetings on the prevention and management of resource-based conflicts; and strengthening capacity of traditional and local leaders on conflict resolution and mitigation.
    - vii. More grazing reserves established in communal areas. These are important (back-up) reserves for challenging times (e.g. prolonged droughts). This is done by conducting exchange visits to

existing grazing reserves leading to enhanced awareness of pastoralists on the benefits of establishing a grazing reserve.

- b. Improved water conservation are new activities that are being proposed. There is need to ensure there is 'improved access to & protection of water sources for communal use' as water also can create conflicts and is needed for the support of animals, humans and food production. This is not part of FNS-REPRO but rather expected to come from emergency support programming of FAO Somalia. It includes 'creating synergies with existing FAO programs to support implementation of 2 NRM action plans on rehabilitation of 2 water pans and construction of contour bands in two villages.'

Comments, suggestions and additions by workshop participants included (see pink cards on the visual below):

- Link with Ministry of Environment & Climate Change and Ministry of livestock and fishery development on their ambition to revive enclosures for rangeland for pastoralists (but managed by government).
- Training of Ministry on NRM & rangeland restoration (4 big grazing reserves).

2. **Improved fodder value chain.** Improved fodder production and reducing fodder wastage is expected to reduce livestock mortality and lead to higher milk & meat production and as such contribute to improved human nutrition & more resilient livelihoods, as there is a high dependency on livestock. Improved fodder production, processing, and marketing is also expected to lead to increased trade in fodder and as such contribute to increased income along the fodder value chain. This also is expected to contribute to improved human nutrition & more resilient livelihoods.

**Improving food production and productivity** is done by establishing groups & cooperatives that are willing to and capable of producing, storing, processing & marketing quality fodder as a business. This involves:

- a. Strengthening the capacity of fodder producer groups and cooperatives (mixed & women fodder groups) through trainings on group dynamics, risk management strategies, marketing, financial and business management;
- b. Capacity building and awareness creation on the benefit of (commercial) fodder production;
- c. Provision of locally adapted fodder seeds and explore use of forage seeds;
- d. Provision of basic fodder processing and baling tools, inputs and technologies to the fodder hubs;
- e. Training of fodder producers and lead farmers on good agricultural practices (GAP);
- f. Conducting exchange visits to fodder production sites;

**Improving the fodder value chain** involves:

- a. Establishment and rehabilitation of fodder processing & storage hubs;
- b. Through capacity development establish demonstration farms as the innovation and knowledge sharing platforms on knowledge and practices on fodder and rangeland rehabilitation;
- c. Identification and possible engagement with the private sector to enhance linkages with markets. This would improve access to the market, to inputs, and to business development services. This includes establishing linkages between the cooperatives/fodder producers with large livestock and fodder traders and livestock export facilities to enhance market access;
- d. Facilitating business-to-business forums between fodder cooperatives and micro-finance institutions to establish linkages for affordable access to credit and other financial services. This includes establishing a micro-finance fund and developing strong modalities for disbursement of loans targeting fodder groups and cooperatives;
- e. Facilitating artisanal training of the local manufacturers/artisans on the local fabrication/manufacturing of less costly, locally available fodder processing and value-adding machines and tools and the repairing of agricultural machinery.

Comments, suggestions and additions by workshop participants included (see pink cards on the visual below):

- Create synergies with the Somali Information and Resilience Building Action Programme (SIRA) on the enabling environment: draft national feed policy to Ministry of Livestock & Fisheries is submitted. Stakeholder consultation is needed for validation & launching of policy & implementation. Need to collaborate with SIRA on this.

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3. Improved attention for the **production and consumption of nutritious food**. Since people in the target areas do not eat healthy diets, more attention is needed to enhance the consumption of diverse diets. This is done by ensuring additional food production (vegetables & cereals) & additional income, as well as increasing awareness on the importance of nutrition & healthier diets.
- a. Additional food production (vegetables & cereals) & additional income. This involves ensuring more income diversification from livestock and fodder production by reducing dependency on livestock and related vulnerabilities, through for example kitchen gardens, bee keeping, and poultry. It involves:
- i. *Livelihood diversification*:
    1. *Discussion with communities and beneficiaries* about on- and off-farm income diversification throughout the year and on the direct and indirect contributions of the selected value chain products to food system resilience in the targeted areas;
    2. *Organizing workshops on income and livelihood diversification options* (from livestock and fodder production) with representatives from the target areas, including lead farmers.
  - ii. *Increased capacity on nutrition-sensitive agriculture*. This involves:
    1. *Training & raising awareness on nutrition sensitive agriculture* (GAP, extension services, fodder production, agronomy, livestock feeding, rangeland and NRM management, nutrition & healthy diets, kitchen gardens);
    2. *Empowering the existing lead Farmers and establish Agro-Pastoral Field School (APFS) networks* to manage and sustain knowledge delivery on best practices to farmers as well as strengthen provision of extension services at community level;
    3. *Maximizing support to agro-pastoral field schools facilitators (APFS) and lead farmers* to help bring knowledge & skills (GAP, extension services, fodder production, agronomy, livestock feeding, rangeland and NRM management, nutrition & healthy diets, kitchen gardens) to scale within the communities.
- b. Increasing awareness on the importance of nutrition & healthier diets. This involves:
- i. *Improving knowledge/awareness of local conditions and nutrition*. General seasonal information on current situation in a village (fodder production, market prices, food prices, impact of Covid, drought etc on people's livelihoods and the role of fodder in this) is needed to address gaps, and provide information on link between fodder production, milk production & nutrition, targeting etc. This is done by conducting *reviews* of seasonal livestock marketing and fodder production calendars and seasonality of incomes from these livelihood components, and their implications on nutrition;
  - ii. *Raising awareness and understanding of the importance of healthy diets and nutritious food intake* to contribute towards healthier diets and nutritious food production (including attention to income expenditure for nutrition, & using milk for home consumption). This includes developing targeted advocacy and awareness campaigns on nutrition and healthy diets; designing messages around consumption of nutritious healthy diets and importance of women involvement in decision making for healthy diets; developing and disseminating information/leaflets on nutrition and healthy diets during FNS-REPRO activities; and identifying and training community nutrition champions for awareness raising of healthy diets and production of nutritious foods.



**Figure 10** *The sensemaking event workshop venue*



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## 3.4 MEAL update

The FAO Somalia team presented a progress update for FNS-REPRO in Somaliland focussing on the current 2021-2022 annual programming cycle, and they also presented key findings from the latest progress monitoring mission. Summaries of these presentations are provided below.

### 3.4.1 FNS-REPRO progress update per output

#### Output 1 - Improved inclusive access to and management of natural resources

SN	Activity	Progress
1	Facilitate establishment of community grazing systems that accommodate fodder harvesting and storage, proper stocking, and application of range management principles. This includes development of natural resource management plans.	Seven community sensitization and awareness sessions on importance of NRM with the focus of improved community grazing systems are held in seven villages. Training of 18 government extension staff and implementing partners (IPs) (7 from IPs and 8 government extension staff). 7 Natural resource management action plans developed. NRM committees have been formed. Membership 30% are women; 40% youth
2	Improvement of conflict prevention and mitigation measures	Not started but planned to happen in June. 6 NRM committees trained on conflict prevention and management of resource-based conflicts. Strengthening capacity of traditional and local leaders on conflict resolution and mitigation (2 training sessions by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies) at the University of Hargeisa.
3	Conduct 2 Exchange visits	Not started but planned to happen in June. Activity planned for last week of June, the project beneficiaries to visit Aroori grazing reserve area.

Generally most activities have been conducted or are planned to be conducted before the end of this program cycle.

## Output 2. Improved livelihood and income opportunities along the fodder value chain

SN	Activity	Progress																										
1	Strengthen the capacity of fodder producer groups and cooperatives.	4 cooperatives and 54 fodder groups are supported with continued mentoring. 2160 fodder producer members trained on group dynamics, fodder production, marketing and financial management. Capacity building and awareness creation on the benefit of (commercial) fodder production (18 sessions at the village level (10 in Erigabo;4 in Ainabo;4 in Lasanood).																										
2	Provision of locally adapted fodder seeds and explore use of forage seeds.	7MT distributed to fodder producers (3 MT in Sool; 4 MT in Sanaag),while 3 tonnes distributed to pastoralists (1.5MT per region).																										
3	Provision of basic fodder processing and baling tools, inputs and technologies.	Basic tools are distributed in Erigabo district about below tools. <table><tr><th>Description</th><th>Quantity</th></tr><tr><td>Sickles</td><td>70</td></tr><tr><td>Sisal twine</td><td>260</td></tr><tr><td>Shovels</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>Hay forks</td><td>90</td></tr><tr><td>Collapsible Manual Baler</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>Tarpaulin bags</td><td>166</td></tr><tr><td>Tarpaulin sheets</td><td>42</td></tr><tr><td>Safety leather gloves</td><td>42</td></tr><tr><td>Plastic Silage tube</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>Secateurs</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>Gunny bags</td><td>410</td></tr><tr><td>Smallholder hammermill/chaffcutter</td><td>4</td></tr></table>  The same amount was planned to be distributed in Las Anod ('Laascaanood') and Aynaba ('Caynaba') districts.	Description	Quantity	Sickles	70	Sisal twine	260	Shovels	40	Hay forks	90	Collapsible Manual Baler	30	Tarpaulin bags	166	Tarpaulin sheets	42	Safety leather gloves	42	Plastic Silage tube	8	Secateurs	14	Gunny bags	410	Smallholder hammermill/chaffcutter	4
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Smallholder hammermill/chaffcutter	4																											
4	Training of fodder producers on good agricultural practices (GAP).	2160 fodder producers trained on GAP (fodder production, harvesting and storage, reseeding).																										
5	Establishment and rehabilitation of fodder storage and processing infrastructure.	17 fodder infrastructures are under construction – to be completed by end of July.																										
6	Support establishment, through capacity development, of innovation and knowledge sharing platforms.	54 demonstration farms established in 18 villages.																										
7	Identification of and engagement with the private sector.	Eight private sector actors engaged at the regional and national level to improve linkage of fodder producers to private sector.																										
8	Facilitate business-to-business forums between fodder cooperatives and microfinance institutions	Activity has not been done. The foundation activities are in progress including the legal registration of fodder groups.																										
9	Facilitate artisanal training of the local manufacturers on the local fabrication of less costly, locally available fodder processing and value-adding machines and tools.	Planned for August 2022.																										
10	Conduct exchange visits with other Fodder value chain projects.	2 representatives recently attended the fodder exhibition in Borama (SIRA).																										

Generally most activities have been conducted or are planned to be conducted before the end of this program cycle.

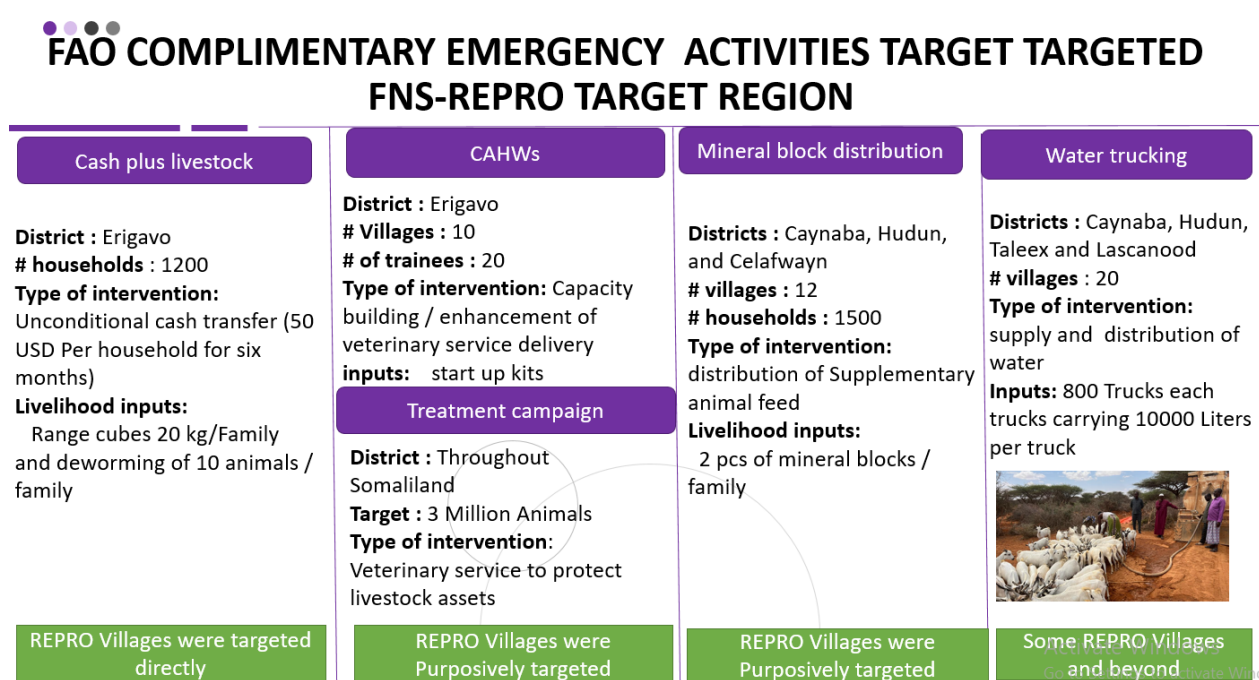
## Output 3. Enhanced knowledge, skills and capacity of local communities around nutrition

SN	Activity	Progress
1	Review of seasonal livestock marketing and fodder production calendars and seasonality of incomes from these livelihood components, and their implications on nutrition (2 studies in Sool & 2 in Sanaag).	4 seasonal review studies undertaken.
2	Discussion with communities and beneficiaries about on- and off-farm income diversification throughout the year and on the direct and indirect contributions of the selected value chain products to food system resilience in the targeted areas.	Discussions held at the village level during training sessions and fodder producer groups meetings.
3	Empowering the existing lead Farmers and establish Agro Pastoral Field School (APFS) networks to manage and sustain knowledge delivery on best practices to farmers as well as strengthen provision of extension services at community level.	24 APFS facilitators trained by the project who have cascaded training to 2160 fodder producers at village level on establishment of demonstration farms and growing and consumption of food crops.
4	Developing targeted advocacy and awareness campaigns on nutrition and healthy diets.	Activity not undertaken, planned for August.

Generally most activities have been conducted or are planned to be conducted before the end of this program cycle.

### Complimentary activities

Complimentary activities that have been planned as a result of the drought emergency situation and adaptive programming mechanisms facilitated by the sensemaking events include: cash-based interventions, livestock treatment, Community Animal Health workers training, feed supplement distribution and water trucking. These activities have been carried out within FNS-REPRO villages. The details of these activities and their target districts are presented in the figure below.



**Figure 12** Overview of proposed emergency activities by FNS-REPRO in Somaliland

### 3.4.2 Findings of the 2nd project progress monitoring mission

A summary of the latest FAO Somalia progress monitoring mission conducted by its MEAL team for FNS-REPRO is provided below. These mainly relate to output 1 (NRM) and output 2 (fodder production). No



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specific mention was made in relation to output 3. Discussions during the sensemaking event revealed that this third output on nutrition is weak.

#### **3.4.2.1 Natural resource management interventions**

- Natural resource management (NRM) action plans are developed and adopted.
- NRM committees are formed and consist of 10 members in total (6 Male and 4 Female).
- The district mayor, councilors and local authorities have been involved closely in the implementation of the project.
- Conflict prevention and peace building training for the selected project participants.
- Generally the program is on track with planned NRM related activities.

#### **3.4.2.2 Fodder production interventions**

Communities reported that the concept of fodder production as a source of income and livelihood is new to them. Moreover, they indicated the project is relevant as the community consists of largely pastoralists, and fodder is key to the survival of their livestock. The Governor Ahmed Osman of Sanaag region explained this *"...the project is very relevant as the main livelihood of this area is livestock keeping. We see it as a long-term project to help in behavioral change and income diversification, through fodder production and sale of surplus, which has potential but not been fully utilized..."*

##### **i. Establishment of fodder producer groups and cooperatives**

Beneficiaries have been organized in groups, i.e. producer groups and trader groups:

- The groups have a structure of chairperson, vice chairperson, treasurer and secretary;
- The leadership of the groups is mixed with also women being part;
- The groups are either mixed (men and women) or exclusively women.

Through the groups they have received training on:

- Group dynamics, / bylaws i.e. laws that govern the groups, self-help savings;
- Financial education;
- Book keeping;
- Group leadership and governance.

##### **ii. Fodder inputs and training**

- The beneficiaries have received fodder seeds (maize, sorghum and local natural grass seeds) and 2 hours and 20 minutes tractor hours per household. Furthermore they received fodder production training both in theory and onsite, whilst others got theory only.
- The beneficiaries also acknowledged that FAO provided water trucking to the whole community at the height of the drought.
- FAO provided emergency livestock treatment for the whole community.

##### **iii. Enhanced skills and capacity of communities around nutrition**

- None of the beneficiaries has received any nutrition training or activities related to the same.

##### **iv. Impact of drought**

The communities explained how the current drought situation is hindering their progress. "We received fodder seeds from the NGO and tractor hours of 2 hours and 20 minutes per household. We planted the seeds, but due to no rains and the drought situation, nothing has grown yet", according to a female FGD respondent in Waadamago village, Caynabo District.

Communities acknowledge that FAO complementary emergency activities have supported them to go through during the difficult time. *"...FAO also gave us cash at \$50 for 6 months, however that money was disbursed as lumpsum of \$300. That was very helpful as it enabled us to buy food, water trucking and paid debt, FAO should continue doing that..."*, according to a female FGD respondent in Booca village, Erigavo District.

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#### **v. Fodder processing and storage units/sheds**

All the visited fodder processing and storage units are at different points of the finishing stages i.e. painting, installing the floor, cabro blocks laying and doors etc. The communities shared that they grasp the roles of these centers *"...the constructed building will be where our fodder will be processed by the machines FAO is providing. We will also be storing the processed fodder and hold cooperative meetings there..."*, according to a male FGD respondent in Jaleelo village, Caynabo District.

The fodder processing unit is one of the project highlights for the beneficiaries. They indicate it will be of great impact to them and the whole community. *"We were trained and given a manual on group bylaws by HAVOYOCO. Combined together with our traditional rules that we had come-up with, we will be able to plan and manage how to share the machines and storage space for each established group..."*, according to a male FGD respondent in Dagaar village, Erigavo ('Ceerigabo') District.

#### **vi. Fodder Market**

There is ready and high demand for fodder in the target areas. Markets are both local and regional i.e. there are local traders and also regional traders with main markets being in Berbera, Bossaso and Burco. *"...the demand and market for fodder is there, we get calls from traders at Burco asking for our fodder which is of quality, they already know of the project here..."*, according to a male FGD participant, Jaleelo Village, Caynaba District.

#### **3.4.2.3 Communication and Consultations**

Project communication from the implementing partners is mainly done through the local elders and the group focal points. Additionally, information is passed through active members of the group, who are able to further spread the same. As explained, *"...in case we want any information or to give feedback we do so through Adam from Unique Vision. We don't know about the FAO hotline as it was only shared in the initial stages of the project and we have forgotten about it..."* Female FGD participants, Waadamago Village, Caynaba.

#### **3.4.2.4 Areas for Improvement**

The monitoring mission generated the following key areas that need further improvement: delay in implementation; timing; complementarity; collective efforts; and visibility and communication. These are further explained below.

**Delay in implementation** of planned activities (mainly linked to fodder construction) which the project has experienced, not only disrupts the workflow and timelines but also deflates the trust and optimism of beneficiaries.

**Timing:** inadequate timing of key project activities without contingency plans led to undesirable results, case in point demonstration farms and fodder production during the drought period.

**Complementarity** needs to be intentional and 'self-serving' to the beneficiaries as logical and practical as possible.

**Collective efforts** are needed for beneficiaries and the implementing partners to achieve the best results, for example in terms of funding of the demo farms.

**Visibility and communication:** most of the project sites / locations don't have signage about the project and where those that have this, the information is not standardized.

#### **3.4.2.5 Lessons learned**

- **Stakeholder engagement:**
  - The involvement and consultation of district and local authorities in project activities and especially with community resources is crucial for success;
  - Involving the target community in other project activities to complement their efforts is key to building trust and sustainability of the project.

- **Relevance:** Relevance of the project to the target community and the community understanding of project objectives i.e. that you working to ensure their future, helps build trust, ensure project success and sustainability.
- **Functioning association/groups** contribute to diverse positive impacts to beneficiaries.
  - Community cohesion and cooperation;
  - Social safety nets;
  - Conflict resolution channel;
  - Networking and knowledge sharing.
- **Uniformly complementing** the project with other short-term/emergency activities is pivotal in boosting the project efforts, goodness and overall success.
  - Cash transfers\*\*\*;
  - Livestock treatment;
  - Range cubes / mineral blocks;
  - Water trucking.

#### 3.4.2.6 Recommendations

A range of recommendations were provided based on the monitoring mission. These recommendations include: enhance water infrastructure; enhance training and capacity building; strengthen groups/associations; strengthen market linkages; provide tools, machines and equipment; improve complementarity and adaptation; continuous communication and consultations, improve visibility, ensure sustainability & exit strategy. For more details please see below.

**Enhance water infrastructure:** drought and lack of water was mentioned as the main challenge the target community faced during implementation of the project. Therefore, the issue of water is not a matter of 'if' but 'how' we can assist in tackling it. Key recommendations include; rehabilitation/construction of water catchment e.g. berkhads, contour bands at strategic points, large capacity water storage tanks at the fodder sheds, provision of collapsible water bladder digging wells and training on water harvesting and management.

**Enhance training and capacity building:** the beneficiaries are appreciative of the trainings and capacity building, highlighting it as one of the key benefits brought by the project. They however request and recommend continuous and more practical training especially on GAP, cooperative management, financial education, diverse crop production, Community Animal Health Workers, water harvesting and management.

**Strengthen groups/associations:** there is need to continue improving the formed groups/associations to consolidate and maximize the gains already being experienced. This can be done by tailored capacity building on key areas of interest like group management, financial education, VSLA's and conflict management.

**Strengthen market linkages:** the beneficiary local traders have links and contacts with the main fodder traders and also the fodder middle men. The project should take advantage of the already existing market networks and improve on the gaps that may exist to ensure maximum benefits for the producers.

**Provide tools, machines and equipment:** there was a request for transportation equipment from all FGD participants across the board. The main equipment recommended was donkey cart for transporting harvested fodder to the fodder processing shed. Wheelbarrow was recommended for carrying manure and aggregating harvested fodder in the farm. Other tools mentioned were jembe, shovel, hoe, and spraying machine.

**Improve complementarity and adaptation:** the project needs to be adaptive to changes and emerging issues for it to be more impactful and successful. One way this can be achieved is through complementing project activities with other FAO activities especially emergency interventions in the project areas or with other stakeholders like Government, UN-agencies and NGO's.

**Continuous communication and consultations:** there is need for continuous, timely, accurate and clear communication and consultations with the community leadership and beneficiaries on project activities and plans. This will ensure relevance and sustainability is achieved in the long-run through community buy in.

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**Improve visibility:** signage are an important communication and visibility channel that needs to be better utilized. It helps to create awareness of an intervention and presence of the implementing organization which is important for brand awareness and recognition. The signage needs to be uniform with consultation on what is to be communicated, in what location and what language.

**Ensure sustainability & exit strategy:** there is need to start deliberate planning for a closure (exit strategy) that will support sustainability in the long-run. Informing stakeholders and especially beneficiaries that the project will end at some point is crucial for action and planning towards sustainability.



**Figure 13** A focus group discussion with FNS-REPRO beneficiaries

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## 4 Day 2 – Rapid Value Chain assessment; stories of change; key discussion topics

### 4.1 Rapid Fodder Value Chain Assessment (RCVA)

Another key information source for the 2022 evidence-based and adaptive programming cycle was a rapid fodder value chain assessment (RVCA) that was undertaken in May 2022 in Sanaag region of Somaliland. This was commissioned by WUR and undertaken by its partner Sanaag University, based in Erigabo in Sanaag region. The assessment targeted two villages in the regions in which FNS-REPRO has been operational. Booca and Dagaar villages in Sanaag. The rapid value chain assessment was designed by WUR in collaboration with the WUR Learning Agenda Focal Points (LAFPs), who undertook the assessments with the assistance of technical staff from the partner Sanaag University.

The objective of the RVCA was to assess the existing fodder value chain before the FNS-REPRO interventions, identifying the existing actors and other influencing factors, the existing gaps, how the FNS-REPRO intervention has changed the value chain over time, and what services have been provided by FNS-REPRO and other actors in the chain.

A summary of the RCVA is presented here. The full RCVA assessments is presented in another report which will be published by WUR and its partners at a later stage.

#### **Scope of the study**

- Mapping of the existing Fodder Value chain in the region (Sanaag);
- Analysing various value chains operating within the sub-sector in terms of:
  1. Pre-production;
  2. Production;
  3. Harvesting and post-harvesting;
  4. Market channels (demand and supply analysis);
  5. Enabling environment.

#### **Sensemaking event**

The findings of the rapid value chain assessment were presented during the sensemaking event for validation, reflection and to inform a discussion on the extent to which the fodder value chain had changed over time as a result of FNS-REPRO interventions and where the focus should be in the final annual programming cycle.

#### 4.1.1 Summary of key findings

The summary of the responses from respondents (fodder producers, traders, relevant government sectors, NGOs) and the subsequent analysis were presented, the trends of the changes were mapped, and also the gaps were identified (before FNS-REPRO interventions and during the life time of the project). The responses are based on Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs).

##### **4.1.1.1 Preproduction phase**

#### **The main gaps and challenges before FNS-REPRO interventions**

- Land preparation equipment and cost (tractor and cultivation cost);
- Seed viability;
- Irrigation;
- Knowledge and skills for GAP;
- Limited awareness and mobilization;
- Market linkages;
- Women participation.

### Changes made by the intervention (FNS-REPRO) in the pre-production phase

- The greatest change is the mindset change, the communities' awareness and readiness for fodder production;
- Capacity building/trainings about GAP were provided (knowledge and skill gap improved);
- Free tractor hours were provided (140 Minutes for each household in 120 HHs in the selected villages);
- Seed for planting fodder was provided;
- Fodder chopper machines were provided in some villages.

#### Existing gaps in preproduction 2022 after FNS-REPRO interventions

- *Irrigation system is not adequate*: rain is the main determinant factor for production. Suggestion to include water catchment and create awareness on water conservation awareness.
- *Seed*: the beneficiaries are still sensitive to obtain seeds from the externals, NGOs and aid agencies. Suggestion to introduce good/relevant seeds gradually and to ensure that seed input suppliers and universities play a leading role in this.
- *Some inputs /equipment are not yet provided*, such as sickles, sisal twine, shovels, hay folks, safety hand gloves, scissors, plastic bags. Suggestion to provide these in the appropriate time (when production is expected, otherwise wasting can occur).

### 4.1.1.2 Production phase

#### The main gaps and challenges before FNS-REPRO interventions

The fodder production was not substantial due to the following reasons:

- Diminished rainfall;
- Lack of full participation of the community;
- Recurrent droughts;
- Locust;
- Lack of knowledge and skill;
- Cost of inputs (rented tractors, labour and water).

#### Changes made by the FNS-REPRO interventions in the production phase

The FNS-REPRO interventions have enhanced the community's willingness and readiness for engaging in fodder production, strengthened the capacity of the fodder producers through trainings on GAP, and covered the costs of the inputs directly or indirectly.

#### Existing gap in fodder production 2022 after FNS-REPRO interventions

- Water is still a challenge. Water catchment mechanisms need to be put in place.
- Locust: a potential threat to fodder production.
- Recurring drought; drought has a huge impact on fodder production and has also demotivated the project beneficiaries.

### 4.1.1.3 Harvesting phase

#### The main gaps and challenges before FNS-REPRO interventions

- Labour safety pre- and post-harvesting;
- Storage facilities;
- Upgrading the skills for harvesting;
- Tools for harvesting;
- Risk of fire – need for fire prevention and management approaches.

#### Changes made by the FNS-REPRO intervention in the harvesting phase

The FNS-REPRO interventions have led to the provision of storage facilities and enhanced the knowledge and skills on fodder harvesting, processing, aggregation, quality preservation, and storage.

#### Existing gaps in harvesting 2022 after the interventions of FNS-REPRO

- Hand gloves to reduce human diseases;
- Harvesting equipment not yet received;
- Chopper machines not yet provided all the targeted villages;
- Skills and knowledge are enhanced but no practice (to observe trial and error);
- Completion of the storage facilities.

#### 4.1.1.4 Market phase

##### The main gaps before FNS-REPRO interventions

- Lack of cooperative (disoriented fodder producers);
- Decreased capacity of the fodder producers in terms of fodder trade;
- Exploitation of the fodder profit by small groups e.g. fodder traders and brokers;
- Absence of direct interaction between the fodder producers and traders;
- Transportation challenges;
- Decreased production versus high demand.

##### Changes made by the FNS-REPRO interventions in the Market phase

FNS-REPRO has led to formation of cooperatives (fodder trader groups) which will subsequently assist the fodder producers in terms of market information aiming to maximize the profit.

#### Existing gaps in the market after the FNS-REPRO interventions

- The cooperatives trader teams have not yet received trainings (capacity building/ trainings should be received by the trader groups in order to maximize the profit of the fodder producers);
- Unbalanced supply of fodder and demand in the market (need to scale up fodder production);
- Transportation.

#### 4.1.1.5 Enabling Environment

The two regions (Sool and Sanaag) have an ideal enabling environment for fodder production including: appropriate vast land, manpower, rainwater, consumer trends and high demand.

##### Changes made by the FNS-REPRO interventions in the enabling environment

- The land is invested in terms of preparation/cultivation;
- Equipment is provided;
- Trainings are provided (GAP);
- Willingness & participation: significant change in the mindset of communities and great extent of behavioural changes towards their attitude to the environment, rangeland management and fodder production;
- Seeds are provided;
- Storage facilities are provided.

Note: many of these are catered for by the program. However, no mention is made of the enabling environment in terms of accessing the market, government support, policies and enforcement etc.

#### Existing Gaps in the enabling environment 2022 after FNS-REPRO interventions

- Rain water: recurrent droughts has a huge impact on fodder and pasture;
- Locust: potential threat;
- Conflict: adequate conflict resolution mechanism;
- Conflict resolution committee;
- Lack of agro-investment.



**Figure 14** *The wooden bed. Harvesters collect the fodder on this wooden bed to avoid the risk of flooding after harvesting (Xarqo Village)*

## 4.2 Stories of change

Coupled with the WUR commissioned RCVA, the data collection mission by Sanaag University also collected some stories of change. The stories of change, being of qualitative nature, assessed a wider range of impacts (so far) by FNS-REPRO in the respective target communities and its beneficiaries and identified what worked well, what did not work well, what good practices were emerging and remaining key challenges.

One story of change is highlighted here. The complete overview of stories of change are presented in the more detailed report.

### **Amia Ali story: Fodder producer groups formed by FNS-REPRO helped me to bounce back.**

Due to impacts of recurrent droughts, FNS-REPRO has been offering village residents with low incomes access to improved livelihood and income opportunities. Village fodder producer groups, which have village savings and loan (VSL) functions, have been formed with a particular emphasis on encouraging participation from female members of the community to join and play a leadership role in the groups. Zahra Hassan, 30 years old, is widowed mother of 6 children, 4 of which live with her while the other 2 live with her sister in Erigavo in order to reduce the load of household expenses and to attend school.

FNS-REPRO has been working with her and assisted with the establishment of the fodder producer and saving Groups in Dagaar village. The group began saving and covering expenses of the fodder production activities. The group started September 2021 and has been running up to now. It did the first share-out distribution of fodder produced to cover for water trucking expenses for land irrigation and other required inputs.

### **Zahra explained her story**

"Because I have a very low educational level and did not have the opportunity to have access to formal employment, the only traditional system I knew for livelihood and income generation is herding the livestock. Unfortunately this business is not an easy task for everyone at every time. The drought in 2016 and 2017 severely affected me and I lost livestock several times.



I have been herding and accumulating the livestock since 2010 but in one season I lost 80 percent of my livestock, this left me desperate. I decided to leave the village and join in the Internally Displaced People's (IDPs) camp. I joined the IDPs in Eilafwayn. After a while I realized that the life in IDP-camps is not pertinent. Finally I decided to prepare my plot of land back home for farming to produce some fodder and vegetables to sell for an alternative income parallel with the few livestock that remained. I've done this since 2019 as the main source of income for the support of my family. But the irregularity of the rain and recurrent droughts affected the fodder production and made it difficult to manage and keep the business running. Again I got heartbroken about the farming production.

I abandoned the fodder production and decided to move to the main city (Erigavo) despite of knowing that I am lacking skills and knowledge to work in main cities but still I insisted to go there, because you can't wait till you lose everything and you can't be stable mentally having nothing to feed your children. Again I realized that living in the main city imposed another burden of expenses on me.

It has been very helpful to get access to this project FNS-REPRO. It gave me strength to find myself again and devote myself. Now I see the future ahead, now I am able to produce fodder and other crops (sorghum, maize). I am not afraid of failure. I have the strength and courage to produce. I have the input, the cost of everything is covered by the group (our savings covered the land irrigation). The land preparation is covered by the FNS-REPRO (free hours of tractor work were provided to each household) as well as the seed. Now I am very happy to see the female fodder producers beside me sharing with me the ups and downs. I realized that there is still a hope to lift up any one left behind. Now I encourage my peers to rely on themselves, create saving groups, engage more in fodder and other crop production. The FNS-REPRO project is helping directly by providing us material inputs and skills, but for me it was also a message arousing the dead initiatives inside me, I am motivated and energized. Thanks, FNS-REPRO for thriving the livelihood for me and for many men and women like me."

## 4.3 Key issues for discussion

During the sensemaking event a few topics were discussed more in detail so as to better understand the issue and also come up with suggestions that could be included in the next, final annual plan. For Somaliland the key topics for discussion were: the Horn of Africa drought emergency response for Sool and Sanaag, improving MEAL and evidence generation and improving output 3 on nutrition.

Furthermore, in between the group discussions a range of other challenges have been identified to some of which suggestions to address these challenges have been developed. This was discussed and noted down during the FAO review and planning day, subsequent to the sensemaking event and is shared in a separate brief report by FAO.

### 4.3.1 Horn of Africa drought emergency response for Sool and Sanaag

#### 4.3.1.1 Drought overview

Current drought impacts are very severe across the Horn of Africa, including Sool and Sanaag. Increasingly FNS-REPRO project communities are experiencing severe impacts with a high risk of FNS-REPRO investments being undone and reversed. This could potentially lead to a situation wherein FNS-REPRO will not be able to achieve its goals and fail.

The current IPC analysis predicts IPC phase 4 for Sool as a whole and in part for Sanaag<sup>6</sup> for June-September 2022. The upcoming Deyr season is also predicted to fall short<sup>7</sup>, thus, underpinning the urgent need to respond to the drought as the situation is very likely to worsen.

The donor is expecting a response by FNS-REPRO. It is an opportunity to show the ability of FNS-REPRO to respond to emerging issues and trends and programme across the HDP nexus and safeguard investments

<sup>6</sup> IPC release for Somalia May-September 2022 (6 June 2022): [https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC\\_Somalia\\_AFI\\_AMN\\_Snapshot%20Update%20RoF\\_May%202022%20Final.pdf](https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Somalia_AFI_AMN_Snapshot%20Update%20RoF_May%202022%20Final.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Multi-Agency Drought Alert for the upcoming October – December 2022 rainy season: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc0312en/cc0312en.pdf>

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made so far. This is one of the key principles of the programme, and it will be evaluated on its performance in this regard.

Opportunities exist to synergize and link with FAO emergency teams and their drought response, but also beyond FAO linking to UN wide responses. This would be cost effective and could be more comprehensive in its nature. Nonetheless, given financial shortfalls and current attention and funding streams of the international donor community being diverted to the ongoing Ukraine crisis, FNS-REPRO needs to respond, taking into account aforementioned reasons.

#### **4.3.1.2 Drought response plan by FAO Somalia for FNS-REPRO**

As the FAO Somalia team already had developed a draft drought response plan for FNS-REPRO during the February mid-year sensemaking event, and recent developments have been taken onboard now, an updated drought response plan has been finalized directly after this sensemaking event in June 2022 and will be undertaken as part of FNS-REPRO's adaptive and flexible programming approach across July-December 2022. The drought response plan is included in Appendix 2.

### **4.3.2 Improving MEAL and evidence generation**

#### **4.3.2.1 Introduction**

During the sensemaking event it became clear that MEAL and evidence generation needs to be strengthened in order to more consistent and continuously support evidence-based and adaptive programming.

Furthermore, the FNS-REPRO approach to build resilient food systems is new and emerging, thus it is key to collect evidence not only to prove but also to test the assumptions of the FNS-REPRO Theory of Change and inform evidence-based and adaptive programming so as to ultimately contribute to impact.

Finally, based on evidence, lessons can be learned for the FNS-REPRO and the overall approach used, which can also inform other stakeholders engaged building resilient food systems in the context of protracted crises.

#### **4.3.2.2 Findings and suggestions for improvement**

##### **Key findings**

- Across the three outputs at country level, and specifically under output 2, there is a lack of consistent data collection and evidence generation. This is crucial for better understanding progress and effectiveness of interventions that are placed to improve fodder value chain performance to improve incomes and FNS.
- To better understand and influence the effectiveness and relevance of interventions across natural resource management (output 1), fodder production and fodder value chain strengthening (output 2) and nutrition and healthy diets (output 3), monitoring tools need to be developed and applied across the FNS-REPRO programming areas.
- FNS-REPRO implementing partners may have collected data and evidence on their own behalf. FAO Somalia is suggested to compile this in line with new monitoring tools that are being developed.

##### **Key action points with regard to MEAL and the log frame**

- Develop appropriate assumptions in the last column of the log frame and ensure that assumptions are monitored and responded to.
- Develop *processes and templates for qualitative and quantitative data collection*, through record keeping at beneficiary/household level for informed decision-making at household level, group level and program level.
- Agree on the data to be collected, when to start, frequency and standardization of measures needed to generate evidence of fodder produced, harvested, used and sold. Make use of electronic data collection tools such as [KoboToolbox](#) to capture project data.
- Qualitative data collection and documentation of stories of change can be done in collaboration with the LAFPs. Qualitative and quantitative data is critical to show evidence of intended FNS-REPRO impact and successfulness of its approach (improving fodder value chain performance to improve FNS) but also to explain challenges and suggestions for improvement. Qualitative data can help to explain the 'why' behind numbers. This is a fundamental component to test and validate the FNS-REPRO approach. Note: the LAFPs

can only capture a few stories of change, but will also focus on capturing stories of change through KIIs with IPs so as to get the overview of what is happening on the ground.

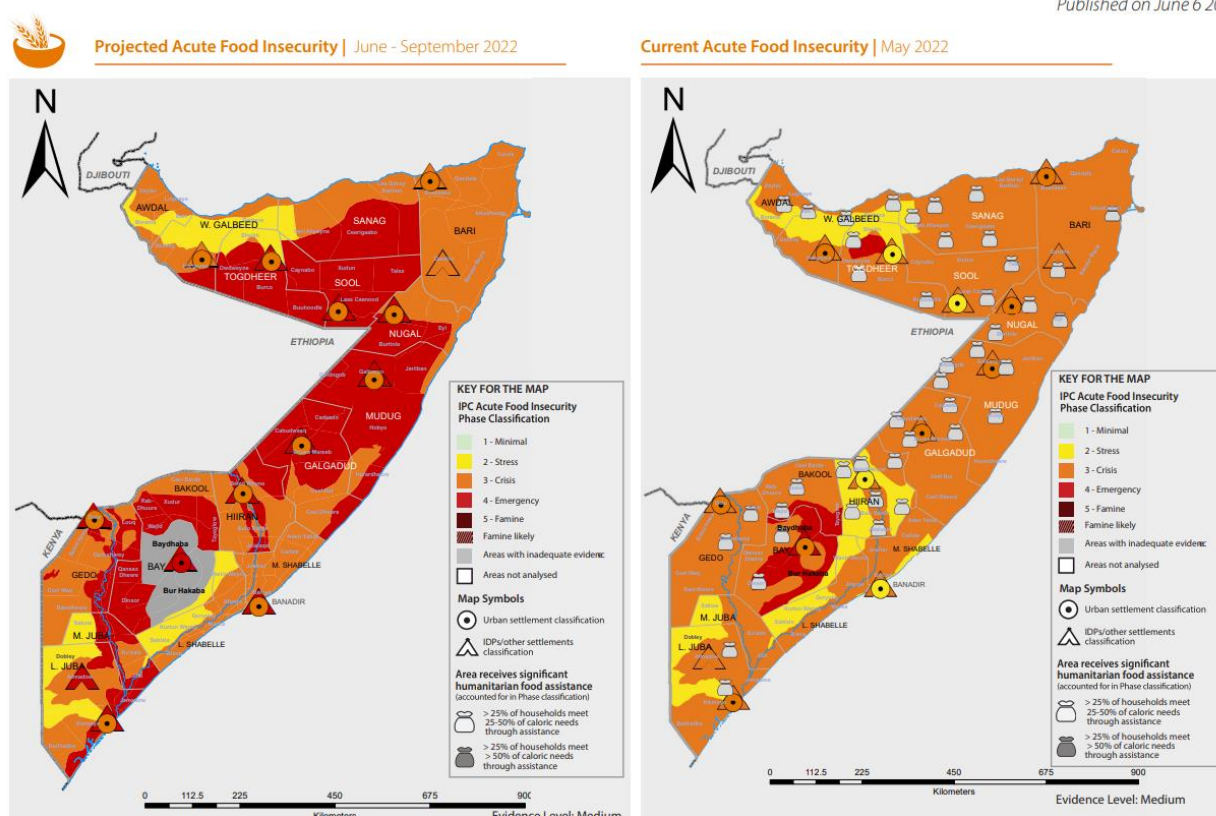
### 4.3.3 Improving output 3 on nutrition

Key issue: Output 3 on nutrition has not been implemented. Attention to nutrition and healthy diets needs to be better integrated.

#### 4.3.3.1 Introduction

"Somalian meals consist of mainly staple commodities (maise, sorghum, rice, wheat and pasta), oil and, with limited consumption of nutritious foods, such as fruits and vegetables. The majority of the Somali population consumes more frequently an energy-based diet because of their affordability and accessibility. It consists primarily of starchy carbohydrates and minimum nutritional values. A healthy and balanced meal globally costs approximately six (6) times more to purchase compared to an energy-based diet. According to the World Food Programme (WFP): Fill the Nutrition Gap, the cost of diet is roughly seven (7) dollars per day per household in Somalia. Because a nutritionally dense food is not affordable to the majority of the population; as a result, their health is impacted with hidden hunger, iron deficiency anaemia and vitamin A."<sup>8</sup> IPC data show a high level of food insecurity.

Due to the worsening drought there are high levels of food insecurity (IPC 3 and above)<sup>9</sup>. Projections for June-Sept indicate the risk of famine, also for Sool and Sanaag, the FNS-REPRO project areas. The need to address the issue along the HDP nexus is crucial. So access to affordable, nutritious food is key. The next section provides suggestions by participants (and facilitators) to deal with this issue better in the next, final annual plan.



**Figure 15** Projected food insecurity map for Somalia June-September 2022

<sup>8</sup> Source: <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/nutrition-sensitive-diet-somalia>

<sup>9</sup> Source: IPC\_Somalia\_AFI\_AMN\_Snapshot Update RoF\_May 2022\_Final.pdf

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### 4.3.3.2 Key elements of this output and suggestions for improvement

#### Nutrition education

Whilst poor access (including affordability) to and availability of food is a major problem to consume healthy diets is key, there is also an element of lack of knowledge on what healthy diets are.

Therefore, nutrition education needs to be integrated in this program. However, this has not yet been implemented, partly due to lack of knowledge and capacity by the implementing partners (IPs). During the sense-making workshop a range of ideas were discussed to move this issue further.

#### Key topics

There are a range of topics to be covered under nutrition education. These include the following:

- Nutrition-sensitive agriculture. This includes a.o. encouraging people to grow nutrient-dense food (e.g. beans and dark green leafy vegetables for iron) that can easily be grown locally, and crop diversification for diverse diets.
- What are healthy diets?
- Nutrition for children under-five, pregnant and lactating women, and the elderly.
- Food loss and waste, food handling and food safety.
- Food processing (e.. preservation).
- Cooking food (with minimal loss of micro-nutrients).
- Since the program focuses on fodder production and many people in the project area are (agro) pastoralists, information on the importance of nutritious feed for healthy livestock & milk can also be included as this ultimately can also contribute to a healthy diet.
- Survival feeding, how to portion available food over time etc.

#### Who to target with nutrition education

Whilst women have a major role to play in caring for the family, including nutrition, also men need to be targeted so that at household level shared decision making can take place in terms of what food is produced (nutritious food), how it is used and by who (men often get the most nutritious food), how income is used (women tend to spend their income more on food for the family than men). So both men and women need to be targeted, and even community leaders can support the decision making on growing and using nutritious crops for healthy diets.

#### How to increase awareness and knowledge on nutrition

A mix of methods to create awareness and improve knowledge and skills on healthy diets needs to be used to reach people. Apart from mass media campaigns like using radio and tv (which is also expensive), posters etc, more direct engagement through training, workshops, community based awareness activities can often be more effective in influencing behaviour change.

#### Who can undertake the nutrition education?

Whilst a clear plan still needs to be developed, both Sanaag and Nugaal University can be engaged in this as they have extensive experience in nutrition. Sanaag University for example has a well-established nutrition department, and Nugaal University trains MCH clinics that could easily be coming in to do the nutrition education on the ground. There already is a national curriculum available that can be made use of. Furthermore, the FAO nutritionist can come in to support this as she is linked to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. Furthermore RTEA will look into nutrition support where needed.

#### Livelihood diversification with attention to healthy diets

Many people in the project area depend on livestock for their livelihood. The current drought and related food insecurity shows that dependency on livestock cannot be sustainable. Therefore, the program wishes to integrate alternative income generating activities (IGAs) that also focus on nutrition. Three options have been proposed:

- *Kitchen gardens*: since lack of water is a key issue, this can be done in the demonstration gardens (54 in total), that are established close to a water source. A part of these demo gardens can be set aside for growing locally available nutritious vegetables (e.g. spinach) and fruits (e.g. papaya). Access to water is critical and if needed water tanks for storing water and pipes (irrigation) can be provided. Sanaag and

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Nugaal University can support this. Sanaag University is engaged in a horticulture project funded by Nuffic. Access to seed will need to be discussed. The demo plot can stimulate people to also grow vegetables and fruits on their own land, provided land is available.

- *Poultry*: these can easily be kept for home consumption as well as income. IPs can do the training.
- *Bee keeping*: this can be done where there is access to water.

For the above it needs to be looked into how exactly this can be done and by who. Certainly the universities in collaboration with the FAO Somaliland nutritionist can think through a detailed plan.

Note: RTEA will also support this nutrition component by engaging a nutrition consultant.

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# Appendix 1 Workshop participants

Category	Name	Title
1 WUR	Eelke Boerema	Food System Resilience Officer
2 WUR	Cecile Kusters	Senior Advisor MEAL
3 WUR (LAFP)	Ahmed Idle	President of Sanaag Uni
4 WUR (LAFP)	Abdirazak Mohamed Yassin	Dean of Livestock and NRM Nugaal Uni
5 FAO	Koen Joosten	Resilience Expert
6 FAO	Jane Ndungu	Project manager
7 FAO	Jibril Abdi	Institutional Development Officer
8 FAO	Abdideeq Yusuf	National FNS REPRO focal point
9 FAO	Elmi Dhirie	Senior Animal production Associate
10 FAO	Erastus Mbugua	Fodder Production Officer
11 FAO	Kennedy Nyawira	Agribusiness Associate
12 FAO	Idris Mohamud	Project Associate, Conflict & Learning
13 FAO	Ahmed Hussein	Field Programme Coordinator
14 FAO	Ahmed Nur	Farmer Field School Specialist
15 FAO	Mohamed Hussein	Programme Monitoring Officer
16 FAO	Hersi Nirmco	Gender Officer
17 HAVOYOCO	Ibrahim Harir	Project Manager
18 HAVOYOCO	Farhia Hussein	Gender Officer
19 UVRDO	Aden Mahdi	Project manager
20 UVRDO	Mohamed Cisman	Project staff
21 Sanaag Uni	Raxma Abdilaahi	Project staff
22 Nugaal Uni	Anisa Mohemdd	Project staff
23 Government	iIbrahim Omer	Officer at department of Animal Production, MoLFD
24 Government	Faysal Saeed	Regional MoAD coordinator - Saraar
25 Government	Saalax Siciid	Regional MoLFD coordinator - Sanaag
26 Government	Shaafici maxamud cabdi	Regional MoLFD Coordinator - Sool

## Appendix 2 FNS-REPRO Drought response plan from July to December 2022

### FNS-REPRO DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN FROM JULY TO DECEMBER 2022

Objectives	Outputs	Activity	Estimated budget	Resources diversion	Remarks
Improve utilization of locally available feed (Browser) through the use of Novel browser forage enhancers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct trial on utilization of browse enhancer (Polyethylene glycol -PEG) in four villages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dialogue with government on the trial</li> <li>Identify and select four villages</li> <li>Define the trial protocol</li> <li>Identify the control and treatment groups</li> <li>Undertake the field trial</li> <li>Analysis of the data and reporting</li> </ul>	25,000 USD	5014 Contracts  5013 Consultants  5021 Travel  5023 Training	Currently the only forage option available in FNS-REPRO regions particularly Sool are browser forage and with browse enhancers animals, the feed availability is improved. This has an opportunity of success that can be replicated and scaled up within the larger Somaliland
Improve water and food availability in FNS-REPRO Villages in Sool and Sanaag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6000 households to receive continuous water supply for their livestock from the existing wells and boreholes</li> <li>18 demonstration farms to produce vegetable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement and distribution of water pumping machines</li> <li>Procurement and distribution of water pipes</li> <li>Procurement of vegetable seeds</li> </ul>	100,000 USD	5024 Expendable procurement  5014 Contracts	<p>There has been consensus within project beneficiaries and the FNS-REPRO team on the need for water for livelihood consumption. This activity would empower the existing water infrastructure and contribute towards sustained water supply to the demonstration farms.</p> <p>The demonstration farms are critical component for the nutrition and diversification aspects of the project.</p> <p>The demonstration gardens will enabled the women groups to plant a variety of vegetables and fruits that are a good source of vitamins and other vital nutrients. and there is future prospect of scaling up to kitchen gardens.</p>



Objectives	Outputs	Activity	Estimated budget	Resources diversion	Remarks
Improve food and nutrition security of the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3600 pastoralists supported with cash in exchange for drought weakened non-productive small ruminant through slaughter - destocking intervention</li> <li>3600 heads of sheep and goat destocked</li> <li>2400 vulnerable HHs receiving an equivalent of half sheep/goat's carcass of meat per month for two months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement of local and central government</li> <li>Mobilization and sensitization of the communities</li> <li>Formation of village slaughter destocking committees</li> <li>Procurement of livestock for slaughter</li> <li>Slaughtering and distribution of meat</li> <li>Arrangements for pre and post-mortem inspection and waste disposal put in place</li> </ul>	250,000 USD	5024 Expendable procurement  5014 Contracts	The focus is to reduce livestock, improve protein availability and inject cash to the communities. The rational in the short term, is to make use of severely weakened, unproductive but otherwise healthy animals in order to reduce animal and human mortality risk and improve the nutritional status of malnourished and vulnerable community members and pressure on the limited available pasture/water.
Improve feed availability and nutrition for core breeding animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3500 beneficiaries receiving survival feeding for their core productive animals</li> <li>900 tons of local fodder distributed to 3500 Beneficiaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement and distribution of local fodder</li> </ul>	170, 000 USD	5014 Contracts  5024 Expendable procurement	Import of livestock feed take longer period and there is an urgent need for survival feeding for the core breeding animals, and locally procurement of livestock feed.
Improve animal health conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>210,000 sheep and goat received veterinary service including deworming against internal and external parasites</li> <li>Reinforcement of 50 community based Animal Health workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement of the regional coordinators for the MoLFD to facilitate veterinary service delivery to REPRO village</li> <li>Refresher training for CAHWs in Sool</li> <li>Procurement and supply of veterinary drugs</li> <li>Provision of veterinary service to FNS-REPRO beneficiaries</li> </ul>	35, 000 USD	5024 Expendable procurement  5023 Training  5021 Travel	
Provide timely weather information (rainfall, pasture and water availability) to reduce vulnerability of the beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3500 beneficiaries provided timely weather information and climate advisories</li> <li>Beneficiaries to make informed drought mitigation measures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilization and sensitization of communities</li> </ul>	0	Activity exists but to be strengthened due to ongoing drought situation	This activity will enhance the information for early warning systems so that beneficiaries have detailed and accurate historical, real-time and forecast weather information can help them understand and track the growth status/stage to make informed decisions.
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>580 000 USD</b>		

## COMPLEMENTARY FAO SOMALILAND EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES FROM JULY TO DECEMBER 2022

Objectives	Outputs	Activity	Estimated budget	Resources diversion	Remarks
Improve feed availability and nutrition for core breeding animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3500 Beneficiaries received supplementary animal feed for their core breeding animals</li> <li>420 tons of range cubes distributed to 3500 beneficiaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement and distribution of range cubes</li> <li>Engagement of SP to distribute</li> </ul>		<b>Link with FAO emergency livestock</b>	<b>Depending on funds availability</b>
Improve access of vulnerable households to food and rehabilitation of productive assets through cash for work and unconditional cash transfers. Safety net of the beneficiaries and rehabilitation of the productive assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3500 beneficiaries received six months cash assistance</li> <li>The productive assets (including water catchments, and soil bunds) of 25 villages is improved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide cash 3500 HHs @ USD 55/ HH for 6 month</li> </ul>	1,260,000 USD	<p><b>Link with Emergency programs</b></p> <p>Emergency Cash for work to cover Ceelafwayn district</p> <p>Cash plus livestock and Long-term Emergency programme to support the remaining districts</p>	<b>Depending on funds availability</b>



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