

ETHIOPIA LAND GOVERNANCE ACTIVITY



QUARTERLY ACTIVITY PROGRESS REPORT NO. 8 QUARTER 2, FISCAL YEAR 2021 (JANUARY I-MARCH 31, 2021)



APRIL 2021

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Cover Photo: Pastoral Landholding Adjudication Committee (PLAC) approving the pastoral landholding map on February 21, 2021. in Awash Town.

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FEED THE FUTURE ETHIOPIA LAND GOVERNANCE ACTIVITY

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACF	RONY	MS	iii
GEN	NERAL	. INFOF	RMATIONv
1.0	INTE	RODUC	TION
2.0	PRO	JECT RI	ESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS OF 2019
	(CO	VID-19)	PANDEMIC2
3.0	COM	IPONE	NT 1: STRENGTHENING THE LAND GOVERNANCE
	SYST	Γ ΕΜ	3
	3.1		OMPONENT 1.1: FACILITATE POLICY REFORMS AND
			IGTHEN LAND ADMINISTRATION AND LAND USE INSTITUTIONS
			OMOTING STRUCTURAL REFORMS OF RURAL AND URBAN
			TUTIONS AND THE LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM3
		3.1.1	Activity 1.1: Establish and Provide Ongoing Support to the Feed the Future
		3.1.2	Ethiopia Land Governance Activity Steering Committee
		3.1.2	Project Office (PO) to Advance Development And Roll Out of the NiluPP4
		3.1.3	Activity I.3: Support Reform of Federal And Regional Proclamations and
			Regulations and Strengthen Capacity of Land Administration Officials to
			Implement New Legislation4
		3.1.4 A	CTIVITY 1.4: Support Establishment of a Unified Rural/Urban Service Delivery
		2.1.5	Platform
			Activity 1.5: Increase Participation of Women and Youth in the Land Agenda5
		3.2.1	Activity I.6: Fellowship Grant to Staff of GOE Ministries and Regional Bureaus for Training at Graduate-Level Degree and TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL
			EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET) Programs and Internships7
		3.2.2	Activity 1.7: Support Establishment and Strengthening of the National Land
			Professionals Association8
	3.3		OMPONENT 1.3: CONDUCT POLICY-ORIENTATED RESEARCH ON
			GOVERNANCE AND PROVIDE SCALABLE SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE
			GOVERNANCE9
			Activity I.8: Support Policy-Oriented Research on Land Governance9
			Activity 1.9: Support Establishment of Learning Woredas
		3.3.3	Activity 1.10: Support Piloting of Systematic Certification in a Selected Peri-Urban Area
4.0	COM	IPONE	NT 2: EXPANDING COMMUNAL LAND TENURE SECURITY
7.0			AL AREAS12
	4.1		OMPONENT 2.1: EXPAND COMMUNAL LAND TENURE SECURITY
	1.1		STORAL AREAS THROUGH IMPROVED POLICY AND LEGAL
		•	RM12
			Activity 2.1: Support Development of Pastoral Rights Legislation
	4.2		OMPONENT 2.2: DEVELOP A SCALABLE APPROACH FOR LAND
		DEMAI	RCATION AND CERTIFICATION IN COLLABORATION WITH
		COMM	1UNITY INSTITUTIONS FOR PASTORALIST COMMUNITY LANDS 13
		4.2.1	Activity 2.2: Support Strengthening of Pastoral Institutions

ANI	NEX A:		28
6.0	MONITOR	RING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING (MEL)	18
5 .	COMMUNI	CATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION AWARENESS	17
		Landholdings and Support Participatory Land Use Planning	14
	4.2.2	Activity 2.3: Develop Scalable Approaches to Demarcate and Certifypastoral	

ACRONYMS

CALM Climate Action through the Landscape Management Program for Results

CLA Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting

CLGE Community Landholding Governance Entity

COP Chief of Party

COR Contracting Officer's Representative

COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus of 2019

CPIAS Communication and Public Information Awareness Specialist

CRPRS Cadaster and Real Property Registration System

DCOP Deputy Chief of Party

EFCCC Environment, Forestry, and Climate Change Commission

ELAPA Ethiopian Land Administration Professionals Association

FGD Focus Group Discussion

FULLPRIA Federal Urban Land and Landed Property Registration, and Information Agency

FY Fiscal Year

GIS Geographic Information System

GoE Government of Ethiopia

GS Gender Specialist

GYSAP Gender and Youth Strategy and Action Plan

H.E. His Excellency

IDIQ Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity

IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development

ILA/BDU Institute of Land Administration at Bahir Dar University

IR Intermediate Result

IT Information Technology

KII Key Informant Interview

LAND USAID Land Administration to Nature Development

LIS Land Information System

M.Sc. Master of Science

MEL Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

MoA Ministry of Agriculture

MoUDC Ministry of Urban Development and Construction

NEBE National Electoral Board of Ethiopia

NILUPP National Integrated Land Use Plan/Policy

NRLAIS National Rural Land Administration Information System

NRS National Regional State

NSC National Steering Committee

NTC National Technical Committee

NWLTF National Women's Land Rights Task Force

PLAC Pastoral Land Adjudication Committee

PO Project Office

RLAUD Rural Land Administration and Use Directorate

SNNP Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples

SOP Standard Operating Procedure

SOW Scope of Work

STARR II Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights II

TVET Technical Vocational Education and Training

ULAR Urban Land Adjudication and Registration

USAID United States Agency for International Development

USG United States Government

WLTF Women's Land Rights Task Force

GENERAL INFORMATION

Activity Title	Feed the Future Ethiopia Land Governance Activity
Prime Partner	Tetra Tech ARD
Contract Number	7200AA18D00003/72066319F00002, IDIQ
Activity Start Date	May 24, 2019
Activity End Date	May 23, 2024
Life of Project Budget	Approximately \$10.9 million
Reporting Period	Quarter 2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2021: January 1, 2021, to March 31, 2021

I.0 INTRODUCTION

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Ethiopia contracted Tetra Tech as the prime contractor to implement the five-year Feed the Future Ethiopia Land Governance Activity (the Activity) Task Order under the Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights II (STARR II) Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Contract. Tetra Tech will implement the Activity over a five-year period from May 2019 to May 2024. This Quarterly Report No. 8 summarizes implementation progress made during the period of January I–March 31, 2021 (Quarter 2, FY 2021).

The Activity's purpose is to support the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), its regions, and citizens to strengthen land governance, increase incomes, reduce conflict, and support well-planned urbanization, thereby contributing to the country's Ten-Year Development Plan. To help achieve these goals, the Activity will work in close partnership with relevant institutions in the GoE, Ethiopian universities and research institutions, civil society organizations, and other development partners operating in the land sector to implement activities under two components:

Component 1: Strengthening the land governance system

- i. Facilitate policy reforms and strengthen land administration and land use (LALU) institutions by promoting structural reforms of rural and urban institutions and the land information system.
- ii. Improve technical capacity for suitable land administration and land use planning activities to address emerging issues, such as urbanization, industrialization, and youth.
- iii. Conduct policy-oriented research on land governance and provide scalable solutions to improve land governance.

Component 2: Expanding communal land tenure security in pastoral areas

- i. Expand communal land tenure security in pastoral areas through improved policy and legal reform.
- ii. For pastoral community lands, develop a scalable approach for land demarcation and certification in collaboration with community institutions.

1

2.0 PROJECT RESPONSE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS OF 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

In March 2020, the GoE declared a state of emergency, restricted domestic travel, issued a national stay-at-home order, and banned large congregations to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Based on these events, the Activity developed and implemented contingency planning to (1) protect the health, safety, and well-being of project staff; and (2) ensure continuity of operations.

The Activity continued its policy of requiring staff to work from home during the reporting period. To the extent possible, the Activity conducted biweekly meetings with the USAID Contract Officer's Representative (COR) to discuss progress made and challenges faced by the Activity. The Activity prepared minutes of these meetings and shared them with the COR. A plan was underway to reopen the Activity's offices in October 2020. A complete protocol for workplace hygiene and efforts to keep staff safe was prepared. However, the reopening was put on hold due to ongoing security concerns in the country that continued during the last quarter and the increasing rate of COVID-19 infection being experienced in the country. Reopening the office will be considered once the security situation is normalized and the COVID-19 infection rate decreases.

3.0 COMPONENT I: STRENGTHENING THE LAND GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

- 3.1 SUB-COMPONENT I.I: FACILITATE POLICY REFORMS AND STRENGTHEN LAND ADMINISTRATION AND LAND USE INSTITUTIONS BY PROMOTING STRUCTURAL REFORMS OF RURAL AND URBAN INSTITUTIONS AND THE LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM
- 3.1.1 ACTIVITY 1.1: ESTABLISH AND PROVIDE ONGOING SUPPORT TO THE FEED THE FUTURE ETHIOPIA LAND GOVERNANCE ACTIVITY STEERING COMMITTEE

The newly appointed State Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), His Excellency (H.E.) Ato Sani Redi held a meeting with the Activity's Chief of Party (COP) and Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) and USAID's COR on March 16, 2021. The Activity provided the minister a briefing on the long-standing collaboration between USAID and the MoA's Rural Land Administration and Use Directorate (RLAUD), the Activity's main objectives, the functions of the National Steering Committee (NSC) of which he is the Chair, and the functions of the National Technical Committee (NTC) that is chaired by the Director of the MoA/RLAUD. H.E. Ato Redi expressed his and the ministry's commitment to collaborate with the Activity and his belief that the positive collaboration between the GoE and USAID will continue to be fruitful and achieve its intended objective.

The Activity organized a virtual meeting of the NTC on February 15, 2021, attended by technical experts from the MoA, the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction (MoUDC), and the Activity's Policy and Legal Specialist. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and reach consensus on whether the draft regulation on resettlement that the Activity is helping to develop should be a federal or regional regulation. Technical experts from the MoUDC argued that the Expropriation, Valuation, Compensation, and Resettlement Proclamation No.1161/2019 did not authorize development of a federal resettlement regulation and that regional states are required to develop resettlement packages. Other experts argued that Proclamation No. 1161/2019 does not fully address resettlement issues and the gap in the proclamation will need to be filled with a federal regulation. After listening to the arguments, the Chair of the NTC decided to refer the issue to the Attorney General's office to be resolved.

The technical experts from both sides produced concept notes outlining their respective arguments and submitted them, along with hard copies of Proclamation No. 1161/2019 and the draft resettlement regulation, to the Attorney General's office one week after the NTC meeting. The decision from the Attorney General's office is pending.

3.1.2 ACTIVITY 1.2: SUPPORT THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED LAND USE POLICY/PLAN (NILUPP) PROJECT OFFICE (PO) TO ADVANCE DEVELOPMENT AND ROLL OUT OF THE NILUPP

The Activity previously agreed with the Head of the NILUPP PO to provide support to the following priority areas:

- 1. Assist in drafting the land use legislation (proclamation and regulation);
- 2. Second a senior land use expert to the NILUPP PO; and
- 3. Provide support on short-term trainings for land use planning, GIS and Remote Sensing and information technology (IT).

On January 14, 2021, the Activity's COP and Land Administration and Use Specialist met with the recently appointed interim Head and Legal Officer from the NILUPP PO. The meeting focused on the PO's lack of technical leadership and staff capacity to implement the national policy after it is approved and to support development of the national and regional land use planning process. The interim Head concurred with the challenges identified and discussed. He added that his role is temporary and that his permanent position as Director of Biodiversity and Climate Change Directorate of the Environment, Forestry, and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC) prevents him from devoting his full attention to address the capacity challenges facing the PO. He explained that GoE approval of the draft national strategy has been delayed by the global pandemic and the GoE's response to security threats and the upcoming national election may create further delay. He stated that despite these challenges, the EFCCC will continue to push the Office of the Prime Minister to table the draft land use policy for consideration by the Council of Ministers and is willing to work with the Activity and other development partners to expedite NILUPP implementation.

To support development of land use legislation, the Activity supported establishment of a legislative drafting committee comprising representatives from the MoA, MoUDC, EFCCC, and the PO. The drafting committee produced its work plan for producing the required proclamation and regulations that was submitted to the EFCCC for approval that is pending. Additionally, the Activity finalized development of the Terms of Reference for the PO's senior land use expert and consultants who will provide short-term training on land use planning, geographic information systems (GIS), and remote sensing technologies. The Activity expects to deliver the training during the next reporting period.

3.1.3 ACTIVITY 1.3: SUPPORT REFORM OF FEDERAL AND REGIONAL PROCLAMATIONS AND REGULATIONS AND STRENGTHEN CAPACITY OF LAND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS TO IMPLEMENT NEW LEGISLATION

As discussed above, the Activity helped to advance development of the federal legislation that will help strengthen resettlement processes and implementation of the NILUPP. Further support during the next reporting period depends on the Attorney General office's decision on whether the resettlement regulation will be enacted by federal or regional authorities and the EFCCC's approval of the NILUPP legislation work plan.

3.1.4 ACTIVITY 1.4: SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIFIED RURAL/URBAN SERVICE DELIVERY PLATFORM

As reported previously, the Activity is collaborating with Tetra Tech's small business partner Resonance to produce an assessment report that will assist the GoE to assess the functionality of Ethiopia's two existing and separate rural and urban land information systems (LISs) and options for developing a single unified LIS integrating urban and rural land rights information. The Activity is delivering this support in conjunction with its support under Activity I.10 below to pilot "fit for purpose" technologies and a methodology to help improve the efficiency of systematic urban land adjudication and registration (ULAR). ULAR rights data will need to be migrated into a functioning LIS to be sustainably maintained and updated.

During the reporting period, Resonance produced the initial draft of its "Assessment of the Urban and Rural Land Information Systems and Options for Integration" report. The report examines three options for establishing a unified LIS: (i) building upon the rural (National Rural Land Administration Information System[(NRLAIS]) software; (ii) extending functionality of the urban Cadaster and Real Property Registration System (CRPRS) software; and (iii) utilizing a commercial-off-the-shelf land administration software system and forgoing the use of the existing software platforms. The report contains an evaluation matrix to assist officials from the MoA and MoUDC to assess options and inform their decision on the most appropriate path for developing a unified LIS.

The Activity's experts and Tetra Tech home office reviewed the draft report and requested Resonance include cost estimates for each option presented. To help improve accuracy of the cost estimates, the Activity requested that MoA/LAUD provide actual development and maintenance costs for the NRLAIS and obtained the same information from the CRPRS development team.

The Activity shared the draft report with GoE experts and the software designers from the Finland-funded Responsible and Innovative Land Administration II Project that is supporting the MoA/RLAUD to deploy the NRLAIS and the CRPRS design team for comment and feedback. This was to ensure the LIS report fully and accurately assessed the functionality and deployment status of both systems. Carring out consultations with the design teams strengthened the report, but also pushed back the timeline for completing the report. Resonance is incorporating feedback from GoE stakeholders and the design teams and will finalize the report during the next reporting period. The Activity will then facilitate an NTC meeting to review the report's findings and discuss the next steps toward unifying Ethiopia's LISs in the next reporting period.

3.1.5 ACTIVITY 1.5: INCREASE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND YOUTH IN THE LAND AGENDA

Preparing the Activity Gender and Youth Strategy and Action Plan (GYSAP)

The Activity's Gender Specialist (GS) worked closely with Tetra Tech's partner Landesa to incorporate information and findings from field research in pastoral areas of the Borana Zone and urban and peri-urban areas in Dukem Town into the draft GYSAP. The Activity's technical experts reviewed the draft, and the team shared it with USAID for comment and feedback. USAID requested the document present a detailed action plan, schedule, and strategic recommendations for GoE consideration to help strengthen gender equity in the land sector.

The GS is developing the recommendations in consultation with the Activity's experts and the Landesa team and will finalize the report in April 2021.

ULAR Pilot Gender and Youth Assessment

The GS conducted a rapid gender and youth assessment in Dukem Town where the ULAR methodologies will be piloted (Activity 1.10 below) to help ensure that women and youth participate in and benefit from the process. The GS produced a concise technical report, with input from the DCOP, that presents findings and recommendations for strengthening the MoUDC's standard adjudication manual to help make it more gender inclusive. The GS will work with the DCOP to monitor pilot implementation and help strengthen ULAR processes as information and learning emerge from piloting.

Assessment of Customary Land Tenure and Land Governance in Somali National Regional State (NRS)

The GS worked with the Activity's Pastoral Land Tenure Specialist to support researchers from Jigjiga University to design data collection processes the university teams will implement to conduct the assessment (Activity 2.2 below). The GS also delivered training to the university's data collection teams to help strengthen their skills to capture and assess gender and youth dynamics in pastoral communities.

Women's Land Task Forces (WLTFs)

The GS collaborated with the MoA and MoUDC to reconstitute the regional WLTFs. The GS helped to coordinate requests from the MoA to all regional land bureaus to appoint representatives from both the rural and urban land sectors to the regional WLTFs and requested the MoUDC to authorize representatives from its Women Children and Cross-Cutting Affairs Directorate to co-chair the regional WLTFs with representatives from the MoA. The GS also organized a joint meeting with the national and regional WLTFs representatives to reconstitute task forces in each NRS, validate the regional WLTFs charters, and review the federal model expropriation and compensation directive. Due to conflicting schedules in the MoA, the meeting was moved back to April 2021. The MoA has circulated the model directive to all WLTFs' members for their review prior to the meeting.

Woman's Land Rights Agenda for Ethiopia

The MoA and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the eight-country trade bloc in Africa of which Ethiopia is a member, organized a workshop to validate the draft Gender Handbook for land administration in the region. The GS participated in the workshop to share the Activity's experiences and provided inputs to enrich the handbook.

Subsequent to this workshop, the MoA and IGAD organized a three-day workshop to formulate the Women's Land Rights Agenda for Ethiopia. The national WLTF, recognized by the GoE and development partners as a leading group supporting development of policies to strengthen women's land rights in Ethiopia, played an important role in this workshop to identify five priority agendas for Ethiopia: land in pastoral context; legal and policy issues; land in the urban context; land-based investment; and participation and representation. National WLTF members helped to identify root causes and major constraints to gender equality and proposed strategies to address them.

The Activity then supported the MoA to organize a workshop with WLTF members and other Ethiopian stakeholders to validate the priority agendas identified. The Activity's Land Policy Specialist presented successful approaches that were developed to mainstream gender issues into legislation that has strengthened rural property rights, and the Activity's GS discussed the Activity's experience formalizing rights of pastoral communities. Participants at the validation workshop provided inputs to refine definitions of the priority agendas and validated the agendas and proposed strategies.

- 3.2 SUB-COMPONENT 1.2: IMPROVE TECHNICAL CAPACITY FOR SUITABLE LAND ADMINISTRATION AND USE PLANNING ACTIVITIES TO ADDRESS EMERGING ISSUES SUCH AS URBANIZATION, INDUSTRIALIZATION, AND YOUTH
- 3.2.1 ACTIVITY 1.6: FELLOWSHIP GRANT TO STAFF OF GOE MINISTRIES AND REGIONAL BUREAUS FOR TRAINING AT GRADUATE-LEVEL DEGREE AND TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET) PROGRAMS AND INTERNSHIPS

TVET Program

Oromia NRS land bureau officials requested the Activity to convert its share of 11 M.Sc. candidate positions at the Institute for Land Administration at Bahir Dar University (ILA/BDU) and its equivalent cost to provide TVET degree training to 186 land bureau staff to meet its needs for capacity building. Oromia officials have 3,829 staff employed in *kebele* offices that lack basic land administration skills. They view TVET training as an affordable and sustainable way to build the capacity of land bureau staff.

The Activity identified four TVET colleges (Ambo, Assela, Jimma, and Shashemene polytechnic colleges) to deliver the training. The Activity and land bureau offices jointly assessed the colleges' training capacities and found them appropriate for strengthening the required skills. The Activity, the Oromia land bureau, and the colleges signed a tri-partite agreement that defined the parties' respective responsibilities to fund the training, identify and select the trainees, monitor their performance, and administer the training programs. The Activity issued subcontracts to the four colleges and during the period of March 20–30, 2021, all 186 (141M, 45F) trainees were registered and admitted to the colleges to begin studies to earn their degrees.

M.Sc. Fellowship at ILA/BDU

The Activity and ILA/BDU had agreed to postpone the 2020 summer M.Sc. program due to the COVID-19 pandemic and enroll the first batch of 35 MSc candidates in March 2021. The Activity contacted all land administration bureaus in the country to nominate their respective candidates based on the distribution scheme agreed through the NSC. The MoA/RLAUD allocated part of its share of candidates to the recently formed Sidama NRS. All NRSs, with the exception of Tigray, nominated candidates working in their rural land administration sectors. NRSs nominated fewer candidates working in the urban system, with Amhara, Somali, Afar, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (SNNP) NRSs nominating none.

BDU/ILA administered an entrance exam for nominated candidates on February 11, 2021. Of the 56 nominated candidates, 47 sat for the exam. Of these, 31 candidates (29 male and 2 female) passed the exam, 4 less than was anticipated. Due to a number of regions failing to nominate candidates from the urban sector and/or nominating back-up candidates, the Activity amended its subcontract with ILA/BDU to reduce the number of candidates to 31 and add 4 more candidates to the second batch. On March 8, 2021, the 31 M.Sc. candidates were officially enrolled at ILA/BDU and began their studies the following day.

M.Sc. Land Use Planning Program at Jimma University

The Activity has supported Jimma University to review its existing curriculum to determine if it will strengthen the land use planning skills that regional land bureaus will require to develop land use plans during NILUPP implementation. The Head of the Department of Natural Resource Management at the university reported that despite the time demands faced by university staff due to the pandemic, review of the university's curriculum is moving ahead and the university will offer the summer M.Sc. program in June 2021. The Activity observed, however, that the university's cost proposal was not complete. It will support the university to revise its proposal to comply with the cost proposal template developed for ILA/BDU.

Support Provided to the RLAUD/MoA

The USAID Land Administration to Nature Development (LAND) project had supported the MoA/RLAUD to revise its integrated local level participatory land-use planning manual for high land areas. As agreed with the RLAUD, the Activity contracted services to edit and print 600 copies of the manual. Staff from the Activity and the RLAUD have thoroughly proofread advance copies and approved the layout. The printing house, however, has yet to produce the agreed number of copies. The Activity is closely monitoring the situation and pushing the printing house to complete the work.

3.2.2 ACTIVITY 1.7: SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL LAND PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

The Ethiopia Land Administration Professional Association (ELAPA) conducted its second General Assembly virtually on February 9, 2021. Its president, Dr. Achamyeleh Gashaw, presented the 2019/20 annual operational and financial report and the 2020/21 annual plan for discussion. The president also acknowledged the critical role the Activity and the ILA/BDU have played to re-constitute the association and thanked them for their staunch support.

Thus far, ELAPA has received 155 membership applications, of which 98 applicants have paid the registration and annual membership fees totaling 5,680.00 Birr. The assembly proposed to increase membership fees from 120.00 to 240.00 Birr and increase the target for new members from 50 to 100 per year. Increasing membership fees will require amending ELAPA's bylaws, and the Assembly decided to address this issue during the next General Assembly meeting. The president asked the members to attract new members and pay fees in a timely manner. Members commented on the inconvenience of having to pay fees to one of 21 focal points assigned from different land administration institutions. The General Assembly agreed to allow members to deposit fees directly into ELAPA's bank account.

The association is taking proactive steps to raise awareness about its mission, vision, and objectives to facilitate dialogue on land policy and governance. ELAPA sent letters of introduction to all the land bureaus and institutions in the country, inviting them to become honorary members and to encourage their professional staff to join the association.

On February 19, 2021, ELAPA's president attended the virtual meeting of the G-7 Land Partnership Ethiopia Forum, which helps coordinate development assistance to the rural land sector and facilitates exchange of information among development partners on the GoE's progress to develop land policy, support legislative reform, and implement development projects. He presented ELAPA's mission, vision, and objectives and an update on its progress to recruit members and formulate its five-year development plan. The president invited the G-7 members to form a strategic partnership with ELAPA to promote the two organizations' common interests to support GoE initiatives to strengthen land governance.

The National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) invited ELAPA to organize and facilitate land policy dialogue among Ethiopian political parties. ELAPA prepared a concept paper that outlines key policy issues to be included in the dialogue and will submit a cost proposal and budget to the Activity to help cover the costs of facilitation. NEBE also issued a press release announcing that it will present ELAPA's concept paper to the political parties' collaboration forum for review by parties participating in the election. NEBE will announce consensus on the policy issues to be included in the dialogue during the next reporting period.

3.3 SUB-COMPONENT 1.3: CONDUCT POLICY-ORIENTATED RESEARCH ON LAND GOVERNANCE AND PROVIDE SCALABLE SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE LAND GOVERNANCE

3.3.1 ACTIVITY 1.8: SUPPORT POLICY-ORIENTED RESEARCH ON LAND GOVERNANCE

As reported previously, the Activity will propose research topics to be presented to the NTC for review and comment before submission to the NSC for approval. Due to previous NTC meetings being dedicated to reviewing commenting on the Activity's work plan and difficulty in holding more regular meetings while government institutions adhere to work-from-home orders, the Activity has not been able to propose research topics to the NTC. The Activity has used this opportunity to review the research topics previously proposed by members of the ETHIOLANDNET. The Activity found that the topics were focused more on academic research than to help inform GoE policy and initiatives to strengthen land governance. The Activity consulted with officials from land bureaus across the country to identify the challenges they face in their work and to propose topics for research. The Activity COP then led a half-day retreat with Activity experts to prioritize topics for research. The topics include:

- I. Customary organizations and land tenure rules and practices for the use and access to communal and rangeland resources in SNNP, Gambella, and Beneshangul-Gumuz NRSs;
- 2. Privatization of pastoral landholdings;
- 3. Policy implications for real property valuation and taxation in Ethiopia urban centers;

- 4. Urban land market supply and its influence on informal land occupation and urban sprawl; and
- 5. Gender dynamics and differences between women's and men's urban lease holdings and/or occupation in informal settlements.

The topics will be presented at the next NTC meeting, scheduled for May 2021.

3.3.2 ACTIVITY 1.9: SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF LEARNING WOREDAS

As reported previously, with USAID approval, the Activity is acting on the MoA's request to recruit, fund, and second a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Specialist and a Communications Specialist to the MoA to assist it in developing its MEL framework and communications strategy for its overall program in rural land administration. The Activity has seconded the Communications Specialist. Recruitment of the MEL Specialist is in process.

3.3.3 ACTIVITY 1.10: SUPPORT PILOTING OF SYSTEMATIC CERTIFICATION IN A SELECTED PERI-URBAN AREA

As reported previously, the Activity's DCOP and Resonance's expert produced a report that assessed the "fit for purpose" technologies currently available to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and strengthen the outcomes of the ULAR process. The Activity presented the report to 24 representatives from GoE institutions including the MoUDC's Federal Urban Land and Landed Property Registration and Information Agency (FULLPRIA), Oromia NRS land bureau, Dukem Town Cadaster Office, and USAID COR. In consultation with GoE stakeholders, Resonance produced a request for quotations document that defined the technologies' requirements. The team sent these to three potential bidders identified in consultation with representatives from FULLPRIA and the Oromia land bureau. Resonance's expert and the DCOP also developed the evaluation criteria and an evaluation matrix to help guide the stakeholders' selection of the appropriate technology. Criteria for evaluating the software proposed included functionality, flexibility and scalability, cost of ownership, and sustainability.

All three potential bidders submitted technical proposals during the reporting period. The Tetra Tech home office established an evaluation committee to transparently document the process of evaluating the proposals. The committee utilized the matrix to score the proposals. Resonance's expert and the DCOP produced a memorandum for the GoE stakeholders that documented the process, presented the evaluation matrix to help guide the stakeholders' selection, and provided a recommendation on the appropriate technology.

The DCOP facilitated a virtual meeting with the representatives from FULLPRIA and the Oromia land bureau representatives to discuss the memorandum that had previously been submitted to them. During the meeting, the representatives debated the benefits and trade-offs for each technology including cost and sustainability. The representatives then validated the memorandum's recommendation that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Open Tenure/SOLA open-source software is the most appropriate for supporting the ULAR's objectives.

After the GoE representatives' selection of the SOLA software, the DCOP and Resonance's expert developed a statement of work (SOW) for the SOLA service provider to develop the software requirements specifications, customize the software to ensure usability, and specify

the equipment that must be procured to implement the ULAR pilot. The SOLA service provider will be contracted to carry out the SOW during the next reporting period.

4.0 COMPONENT 2: EXPANDING COMMUNAL LAND TENURE SECURITY IN PASTORAL AREAS

4.1 SUB-COMPONENT 2.1: EXPAND COMMUNAL LAND TENURE SECURITY IN PASTORAL AREAS THROUGH IMPROVED POLICY AND LEGAL REFORM

4.1.1 ACTIVITY 2.1: SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF PASTORAL RIGHTS LEGISLATION

Development of pastoral rights legislation in both Afar and Oromia NRSs has been delayed by the increasing spread of COVID-19 in the country and threats to security. Additionally, government officials are spending most of their time preparing for the upcoming national election and have not been available to collaborate with the Activity to implement interventions.

Afar NRS

The head of the land bureau was unable to organize a consultative meeting to consider approval of the draft Pastoral Lands Registration and Management Regulation that was prepared under the LAND project. In the absence of government leadership, the Activity is prevented from providing assistance to move the legislation forward. However, as discussed under Activity 2.2 below, activities to demarcate and register pastoral landholding in the Amibara woreda are gathering momentum. The Activity is in the process of supporting the Debnik Woima pastoral community to revise the bylaws governing its Community Land Governance Entity (CLGE) that were developed under the LAND project. This will formalize the status of the CLGE and enable registration of the community's landholding.

Oromia NRS

As reported previously, land bureau officials informed the Activity that prior to amending and approving the draft Pastoral Communal Lands Registration and Management Regulation, the bureau must confirm whether significant changes to the customary land administration and rangeland management practices in the Bale, Hararghe, and Karrayu Zones have occurred since they were documented in the 2015 Haramaya University assessment report produced for the LAND project. Bureau staff have completed the assessment and produced a field assessment report but they are unable to share the report with the Activity until it has been approved by their superiors. The Activity noted that standard procedures do not require such approval of field assessment reports and that it should be shared with the Activity to help inform amendments to the regulation. The report has not yet been shared and the Activity will raise the issue with senior land bureau officials when a meeting can be arranged.

Somali NRS

The Activity subcontracted Jigjiga University to assess pastoral land tenure and governance rules and practices in 20 kebeles located in the Degehabur, Ararso, Awbere, and Harshin woredas. The university completed its field work during January and February 2021 and produced a draft assessment report. The Activity's experts are currently reviewing the report and providing comments and suggested revisions. Initial findings contained in the draft report include:

- Large numbers of land parcels have been allocated to individuals for private use both for
 cropping and pasture enclosures. In the Awbere and Harshin woredas, most land is held
 individually. It appears the process of allocating land lacks transparency and is subject to
 unfair elite capture. Women, youth, and members of minority groups report that they lack
 access to land for private use.
- Generally, community members, particularly elderly men, perceived their land rights as secure. This may be due to limited government land expropriation in the region and the power of clans to protect the community's land. However, as noted above, community members interviewed in nearly all of the study sites reported privatized land was not distributed fairly.
- There appears to be general interest to register both communal and private land rights at the same time.
- It appears that government land bureau officials and even some members of the university's
 research team are influenced by the narratives of "destructive land use and backward
 lifestyle" attributed to pastoralists by those who consider pastoralism to be an outdated
 production system.

The report will be finalized and presented to regional stakeholders for validation during the next reporting period. Once validated, the Activity will support the Somali NRS land bureau to utilize the report's findings and recommendations to inform development of the pastoral land rights legislation.

4.2 SUB-COMPONENT 2.2: DEVELOP A SCALABLE APPROACH FOR LAND DEMARCATION AND CERTIFICATION IN COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS FOR PASTORALIST COMMUNITY LANDS

4.2.1 ACTIVITY 2.2: SUPPORT STRENGTHENING OF PASTORAL INSTITUTIONS

Oromia NRS

Three communities (Borana, Guji, and Gabra) access the Gomolle *Dheeda* that Oromia land bureau officials planned to demarcate and register with Activity support. During the last reporting period, land bureau staff, with additional support from the Activity, were trying to address the Guji and Gabra communites' concerns and secure their participation in the process to demarcate and register their landholdings. Two main issues remained unresolved. First, the Guji community is concerned that it will not be adequately represented on the *dheedha*'s CLGE.

Second, the Gabra community is concerned that basing registration of pastoral landholdings on a customarily identified grazing unit and establishing CLGEs based on traditional land governance institutions would favor the Borana community as these practices are linked to the Borana culture.

During the reporting period, land bureau officials continued their efforts to facilitate an agreement between the communities, but were not successful. The deputy head of the land bureau informed the Activity that in consultation with Borana Zone officials and experts, her bureau has decided to postpone registration of the Gomolle *Dheeda* and identify other locations where communities are interested in having their landholdings registered. The deputy head agreed to work with the Activity to conduct a rapid appraisal with zonal and *woreda* officials and community leaders to identify and select appropriate locations where it will prioritize registration work. The appraisal, however, has been delayed because government officials are participating in trainings organized by their political parties to prepare for the upcoming election.

Afar NRS

As discussed under Activity 2.3 below, land bureau officials and clan leaders agreed to continue the work begun under the LAND project to demarcate and register pastoral community landholdings in the Amibara woreda. The community's CLGE is in place, and pastoral land adjudication committees (PLACs) have been reactivated to validate the boundaries mapped previously.

The ongoing boundary disputes in Chifra woreda, however, could not be resolved by government officials. The head of the land bureau informed the Activity that the model used to register the landholding is not likely to work in Chifra. He explained that woreda officials are highly polarized and clan leaders are fearful boundary demarcation could foment conflict between clans. The head advised the Activity to develop a plan to identify new locations in the Asayta, Dubti, and Gerni woredas. The Activity has begun to develop this plan in close consultation with the deputy head of the land bureau.

4.2.2 ACTIVITY 2.3: DEVELOP SCALABLE APPROACHES TO DEMARCATE AND CERTIFYPASTORAL LANDHOLDINGS AND SUPPORT PARTICIPATORY LAND USE PLANNING

Afar NRS

The Activity facilitated a consultation with representatives of the government and the land bureau, clan elders, PLAC members, and women and youth representatives to resolve the remaining boundary disputes that prevented registration of the Amibara *woreda* (recently bifurcated and re-named the Amibara and Haruka *woredas*) under the LAND project. The first consultation chaired by the head of the land bureau was held on January 4, 2021, at Awash Town). A total of 73 participants (71 men and 2 women) attended the meeting. The consultation concluded with the participants adopting the following resolutions:

- 1. Respect the communal land boundary demarcated under the LAND project.
- 2. Re-name the pastoral land holding to the "Amibara-Haruka Debenik-Weima Pastoral Landholding."

- 3. Re-draw the proposed Halaydeghe-Asebot Park boundary to designate more land for grazing purposes and to end at the administrative boundary of Afar NRS. The land bureau will work closely with the park office and the Afar Bureau of Tourism and Culture to redraw the boundary.
- 4. Remove the word "Asebot" from the name of the proposed Halaydeghe park because that is the place name for the part of the original park boundary that extended into Oromia NRS.
- 5. Resolve the dispute over grazing land occupied by the military training center in consultation with H.E. Ato Awol Araba, Afar NRS President, and officials of the Federal Ministry of Defense.

Following adoption of these resolutions, the Activity supported the land bureau to re-draw the agreed boundaries and validate remaining boundaries demarcated under the LAND project to complete the registration process. Special attention was paid to demarcating the previously disputed boundaries bordering the Halayeghe park, Gedamyetu special *kebele*, and the military training site.

On February 21, 2021, the Activity facilitated the boundary adjudication meeting in Awash Town. The meeting was attended by a total of 66 clan leaders and woreda, zonal, and regional officials and experts. PLAC members explained their work to re-draw boundaries to accommodate the proposed park and to create buffers between woreda capitals, kebele centers, the Gedemayetu special kebele, and communal lands. Clan representatives and kebele officials agreed and adjudicated



Fig. I. PLAC members demarcating pastoral landholding boundaries.

the new boundaries while woreda, zonal, regional, and park officials observed and validated the process. The Activity will support the Afar land bureau to complete the process of registering and certifying the community's rights in the demarcated landholding.

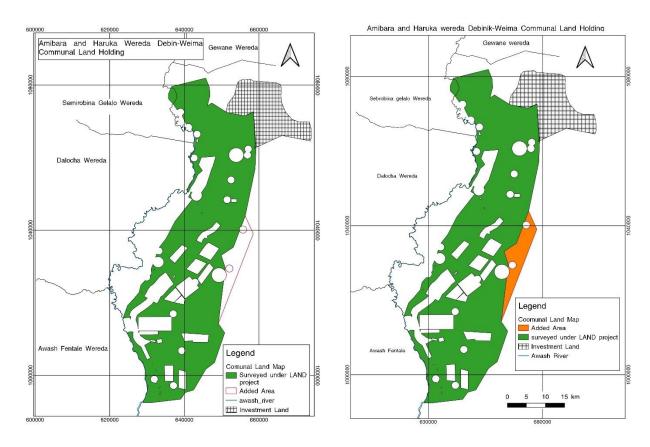


Fig. 2. Boundary defined during the LAND project (left) and the realigned boundary with added area (right).

5.0 COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION AWARENESS

The Communications and Public Information and Awareness Specialist (CPIAS) worked closely with Activity experts to produce the Activity's second "Update" publication that will be distributed to 110 key stakeholders via email in the first week of April. The latest update focuses on the support the Activity provides to improve land governance by strengthening the capacity of Ethiopia land administration staff and the Activity's support to demarcate and register the pastoral landholding in the Amibara and Haruka Woredas of Afar NRS.

The CPIAS is supporting the MoA/RLAUD to produce its annual report on land governance activities. The report will highlight RLAUD's work on Second Level Land Certification, building the National Rural Land Information System, and strengthening its monitoring and evaluation system. Additionally, the CPIAS is supporting the RLAUD to produce a factsheet on the Climate Action through Landscape Management-Land Administration (CALM) program it is implementing. The factsheet summarizes the large-scale project in a two-page brief that will inform stakeholders about CALM's objectives and implementation approaches.

6.0 MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

Baseline Survey

The MEL Specialist, with the support from the COP, the Activity's technical specialists, and Tetra Tech home office MEL Associate, developed the Activity's baseline survey protocol, household survey questionnaires, and methodologies for collecting baseline data. This baseline survey was conducted to establish a starting point for comparison to support the program impact measurement as part of future project evaluation and to guide a realistic and feasible target setting for the selected performance indicators. The baseline survey was conducted both in pastoral and urban/peri-urban areas. USAID reviewed and approved the baseline survey protocol and data collection instruments prior to the Activity conducting data collection.

Urban/Peri-Urban areas

The survey employed both quantitative and qualitative methods. The Activity administered surveys to a total of 171 households to collect quantitative data. Four focus group discussions (FGDs) and nine key informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted to capture the qualitative data. The Activity instituted protocols to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 that included physical distancing and face masking (with the Activity providing face masks to participants), outdoor meetings, and focus groups limited to eight participants.

The Activity collected data in the Koticha *kebele* in Dukem Town, Oromia NRS, where the Activity will implement the ULAR pilot. The Activity contracted five enumerators and one facilitator and equipped them with the KoBoToolBox mobile application to collect data for the household survey. The MEL Specialist used the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25 to analyze and interpret data with support from the COP and the home office MEL Associate. The Activity engaged Dukem Town government and land administration officials and a representative sample of community elders, women, and youth together with targeted households in the urban area.

Pastoral Areas

The Activity collected data in ten *woredas* located in the Afar, Somali, and Oromia NRSs. It conducted a total of 40 FGDs and 96 Klls with government and land administration officials at the regional, zonal, and *woreda* and town land levels and a representative sample of community elders, women, and youth participants. The Activity contracted two consultants to implement data collection activities in Afar and Oromia NRS, while the MEL Specialist conducted data collection in selected *woredas* in Somali NRS.

The draft baseline survey reports for both pastoral and urban/peri-urban areas were completed and shared with the Activity technical team for comments and feedback in March 2021. In addition, for ease of communication and dissemination, a two-page baseline summary report was also prepared. The final baseline report and revisions to the Activity's MEL Plan will be shared with USAID for approval in the next reporting period.

Presentation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Data Quality Management

The MEL Specialist presented the SOPs to the Activity's technical team. He explained all the SOP requirements for data quality management. The MEL Specialist also discussed each of the Activity's performance indicators, definitions, responsible person/s, reporting period, and necessary support documents with the team. The discussion helped to strengthen the team's understanding and knowledge to collect and manage indicator data.

Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA)

The MEL Specialist facilitated an internal CLA self-assessment with the technical team using USAID's standard CLA template. The MEL Specialist chose three subcomponents for the assessment:

- I. Knowledge management
- 2. Pause and reflect
- 3. Internal collaboration

The assessment applied the available spectrum of practice for each subcomponent: Not Yet Present, Emergent, Expanding, Advanced, and Institutionalized. The self-assessment revealed that the Activity is functioning at the advanced stage for the three subcomponents. The one area of improvement agreed with the team is to strengthen internal knowledge and information sharing. The team agreed to have one shared folder in the Egnyte application that each team member can access to share and drop relevant documents and materials. The MEL Specialist has created the folder and is monitoring document-sharing practices.

The table below summarizes progress made to date to achieve Fiscal Year (FY) 21 Q2 performance indicator targets.

TABLE 2. PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SUMMARY TABLE

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting Frequency	Baseline Values	FY21 Targets	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA Targets	Remarks/Notes
produc	ctive use of land and r	natural resource	es promote		ngthened, land-rel	ated conflicts	reduced, and sustainable and
5 S	Percent of people with access to a land administration or service entity, office, or another related facility that the project technically or physically establishes or upgrades who report awareness and understanding of the services offered [EG.10.4-4, Outcome]	Y3 and Y5	TBD	20%	0	50%	This is an outcome level indicator that will be measured in Year 3.
Sub-IR	Milestones in improved institutional architecture for food security policy achieved with USG support [EG.3.1-d Output, Outcome]	Annually	ws strength 0	ened 	0	3	Outcome indicator. To be reported annually.
2	Number of specific pieces of land tenure and property rights	Quarterly	0	3	The draft resettlement	27	The draft resettlement regulation drafting committee submitted the draft to the NTC for consultation.

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting Frequency	Baseline Values	FY21 Targets	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA Targets	Remarks/Notes
	legislation or implementing regulations proposed, adopted, and/or implemented positively affecting property rights of the urban and/or rural poor as a result of USG assistance [EG.10.4-1, Outcome]				regulation advanced to Stage 2 ¹		Stakeholders debated whether the regulation should be enacted as a federal guideline or by the regions. The issue is to be resolved by the office of the Attorney General.
20	Number of research studies conducted on land administration and land use issues [that influence the policies or programs of the GOE] [Custom, Output]	Quarterly	5	4	0	12	Tasks contributing toward achieving this target have been delayed as discussed in the progress narrative in the reporting above.
Sub-IR	II.2: Land rights clarif	ied and register	red to reduc	ce conflict and	d enhance enabling	environment fo	or economic growth
4	Number of land and property rights disputes resolved by local authorities, contractors, mediators, or courts as a result of USG	Quarterly	0	193	0	840	Support to GoE land bureaus to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings has been delayed as discussed in the progress narrative in the reporting above.

Analyzed (Stage I), Consulted (Stage 2), Revised and Presented (Stage 3), Approved (Stage 4), and Implemented (Stage 5)

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting Frequency	Baseline Values	FY21 Targets	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA Targets	Remarks/Notes
	assistance [EG.10.4-3, Outcome]						
6	Number of parcels with relevant parcel information corrected or incorporated into an official land administration system as a result of USG assistance [EG.10.4-5, Output]	Quarterly	0	3,500 peri-urban parcels	0	15,000 peri-urban parcels	ULAR piloting has yet to begin, but progress has been made with GoE stakeholders to identify appropriate technology for implementing the pilot.
Sub-IR deliver		tion capacity en	hanced to b	oetter develop	land-use plans for	productive use	of land and effective service
3	Percent of individuals trained in land tenure and property rights as a result of USG assistance who correctly identify key learning objectives of the training 30 days after the training [EG.10.4-2, Outcome]	Quarterly	0	80% of all trainees	0	80% of all trainees	There was no training conducted in the quarter.
7	Number of land administration and land use personnel with a reported stronger capacity [Custom, Outcome]	Annual	TBD	399	0	1,636	This indicator will be reported annually as per the approved MEL Plan.

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting Frequency	Baseline Values	FY21 Targets	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA Targets	Remarks/Notes
8	Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degreegranting non-nutrition-related food security training [EG.3.2-2, Output]	Quarterly		50	217	100	31 M.Sc. candidates (29 M, 2 F) were officially enrolled in the ILA/BDU master's program. 186 land administration staff (141 M, 45 F) were officially enrolled in degree programs in four TVET poly-technical colleges.
9	Number of land administration and land use training curricula materials successfully developed and distributed [Custom, Output]	Quarterly	0	2	0	7	The Activity used the training curriculum it developed during the previous year to deliver training on the new federal expropriation and compensation proclamation. New training curricula will be developed to meet GoE needs.
10	Amount of GoE resources leveraged in support of training on land tenure and property rights [Custom, Output]	Annual	0	ETB 1,740,000	0	9,228,000	This indicator will be reported annually as per the approved MEL Plan.
IR2: C	ommunal land Tenur	e security in pa	storal areas	expanded			
13	Number of adults who perceive their tenure rights to land or marine areas as secure as a result of USG assistance [EG.10.4-8, IM-level]	Annual	TBD	135,900	0	675,000	This indicator will be reported annually as per the approved MEL Plan.

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting	Baseline Values	FY2I	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA	
#		Frequency	values	Targets	Actuals	Targets	Remarks/Notes
15	Number of pastoral communities with demarcated and certified land rights [Custom, Output]	Quarterly	0	6	0	30	As noted under Indicator No. 4 above, support to GoE land bureaus to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings has been delayed.
Sub-IR	2.1 The pastoral con	nmunity landho	Idings dema	arcated and r	egistered		
11	Number of individuals participating in USG food security programs [E.G.3-2, Output]	Quarterly	0	151,050	217	750,100	31 M.Sc. candidates (29 M, 2 F) were officially enrolled in the ILA/BDU master's program. 186 land administration staff (141 M, 45 F) were officially enrolled in degree programs in four TVET poly-technical colleges.
12	Number of adults with legally recognized land or marine tenure rights as a result of USG assistance [EG.10.4-7 IM-level]	Quarterly	0	151,000	0	750,000	As noted under Indicator No. 4 above, support to GoE land bureaus to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings has been delayed.
14	Number of households or organizations with legally recognized land or marine tenure rights as a result of USG assistance [Custom, Output]	Quarterly	0	75,500	0	375,000	As noted under Indicator No. 4 above, support to GoE land bureaus to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings has been delayed.
19	Number of hectares (in millions) mapped,	Quarterly	0	3 million	0	15 million	As noted under Indicator No. 4 above, support to GoE land bureaus

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting Frequency	Baseline Values	FY21 Targets	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA Targets	Remarks/Notes
	demarcated, and adjudicated [Custom, Output]						to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings has been delayed.
Sub-IF youth	2.2 Customary instit	utions strength	ened to be	democratic a	nd inclusive, creati	ng access to pro	oductive resources for women and
16	Number of inclusive, pastoral community institutions established [Custom, Output]	Quarterly	0	6	0	30	Support to communities to establish their CLGE has been delayed as discussed in the progress narrative above.
18	Number of pastoral community bylaws developed [Custom, Output]	Quarterly	0	6	I	30	The bylaw regulating the CLGE of the Debnik Woima pastoral community in Amibara woreda of Afar NRS that was initially prepared under LAND was revised and will be presented to community elders.
Sub-IF livesto		d use plans dev	eloped that	contribute to	sustainable and p	roductive use o	f rangeland resources, including
17	Number of pastoral community land use plans developed [Custom, Output]	Quarterly	0	6	0	30	CLGEs support development and ratification of community land use plans after the community's landholding has been demarcated. Support to establish CLGEs and demarcate community landholdings has been delayed as discussed in the progress narrative in the reporting above.

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting Frequency	Baseline Values	FY21 Targets	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA Targets	Remarks/Notes
Cross-	Cutting Indicators						
21	YOUTH-3: Percentage of participants in USG- assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources who are youth (15- 29) [IM-level]	Quarterly	TBD	10%	0	10%	The means to access resources is through participation in activities to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings. As noted under Indicator No. 4 above, support to GoE land bureaus to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings has been delayed.
22	GNDR-2 Percentage of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources	Quarterly	0	50%	0	50%	The means to access resources is through participation in activities to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings. As noted under Indicator No. 4 above, support to GoE land bureaus to demarcate and register pastoral landholdings has been delayed.
23	GNDR-4 Percentage of participants reporting increased agreement with the concept that males and females should have equal access to social, economic, and political resources and opportunities	Y5	TBD	2%	0	3%	To be measured in Year 3.
24	The amount of resources the Ethiopian Land Administration	Quarterly	TBD		15,680.00		The association collected 15,680 ETB in membership fees from 98 members.

Ind. #	Indicator	Reporting Frequency	Baseline Values	FY21 Targets	Quarter 2 Actuals	LOA Targets	Remarks/Notes
	Professional Association mobilized to finance its operations						

ANNEX A: SUCCESS STORY

Formulating the Women's Land Rights Agenda for Ethiopia

Although Ethiopia's constitution and land rights legal framework guarantees women equality, women still face challenges to fully exercising their rights in practice. Due to the absence of civil society organizations advocating for women's land rights, USAID collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) to establish the National Women's Land Rights Task Force (NWLTF) in 2015 to promote learning, generate evidence, participate in the development land rights policies and laws, and advise on their implementation to help strengthen rights of women and youth. The NWLTF comprises up to 15 representatives from the office of the Attorney General, the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Women Children and Youth Affairs, and development partners including UN Women, Oxfam, and the Feed the Future Ethiopia Land Governance Activity (Activity).

Recently, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the eight-country trade bloc in Africa of which Ethiopia is a member, collaborated with the MoA to organize a three-day writing workshop to formulate the Women's Land Rights Agenda for Ethiopia. The NWLTF, recognized by the GoE and development partners as a leading advocate for women's land rights, played an important role in this workshop to identify five priority agendas for Ethiopia: land in pastoral context; legal and policy issues; land in the urban context;



Representatives of the NWLTF participate in the validation workshop.

land-based investment; and participation and representation. NWLTF representatives at the workshop helped to identify root causes and major constraints to gender equality and proposed strategies to address them. Following the writing workshop, with Activity support, the MoA organized a validation workshop with the NWLTF and stakeholders in the land sector to refine and validate the priority agendas and proposed strategies.

NWLTF Chairperson Alemzewed Demassie stated "The Task Force advocates that women's and youth's land rights should get more attention to ensure overall development for any community. This kind of high-level workshop is a good platform to lobby key actors and improve women and youth land ownership rights." Since its establishment, the has NWLTF provided technical inputs and comments for all land tenure and property rights policies and laws developed by the Government of Ethiopia with USAID assistance.

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