



## Monitoring Report

**Monitoring reference** MR-128460.15  
**Report date** 25/02/2011  
**Project title** "Food Facility, EC-FAO II"

### I. Intervention data

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Status  | FINAL   |
| Monitoring Report Type  | Ongoing   |
| Aid Modality  | Project approach  |
| Project   | Multi Country / Regional Project<br>- Component Report  |
| Project Management  | Project managed by HQ (Brussels)                        |
| Financed via a thematic budget line                               | Yes   |
| CRIS Number   | C-213679  |
| Project Title according to Financing Agreement/Financing Decision | Food Facility, EC-FAO II                                |
| Domain  | Development - Food Security                             |
| DAC - CRS Sector  | 52010 - Food aid/Food security programmes               |
| Additional DAC - CRS code   | 52010 - Food aid/Food security programmes               |
| Geographical zone   | Kenya   |
| Keyword (for innovative interventions)                            | Poverty Reduction                                       |
| Date Financing Agreement/Financing Decision/Contract signed       | 20/07/2009  |
| Person responsible at HQ  | FONTAINE SYLVIE   |
| Person responsible at Delegation                                  | STURESSON ULF PETER                                     |
| Monitor   | Melanie Inniss  |
| Project Authority   | United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) |
| Type of implementing partner                                      | UN family organizations (incl. WB)                      |
| Start date - planned  | 01/05/2009  |
| End date - planned  | 30/06/2011  |
| Start date - actual   | 01/06/2009  |
| End date - likely   | 30/06/2011  |
| Monitoring visit date   | from 31/01/2011 to 04/02/2011                           |

### II. Financial data

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Primary commitment (EC funding)                            | 74,554,532 |
| Budget allocated for TA                                    | 0          |
| Secondary commitment (funds contracted of EC contribution) | 74,554,532 |
| Other funding (government and/or other donors)             | 0          |
| Total budget of operation                                  | 74,554,532 |
| Total EC funds disbursed                                   | 69,847,633 |
| Financial data on  | 25/02/2011 |

### III. Grading

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Relevance and quality of design      | B |
| Efficiency of Implementation to date | B |
| Effectiveness to date                | B |
| Impact prospects                     | B |
| Potential sustainability             | B |

### IV. Summary of conclusions

#### Relevance and quality of design

This project uses a different approach in that FAO Kenya made a Call for Proposals (CfP) from NGOs already working within the sectors to be targeted and project managed a multi-component project whose combined action would achieve the identified results, Project Purpose (PP) and Overall Objective (OO). Proposals were received and implemented by a number of State and Non-State Actors including the Provincial Department of Livestock Production (PDLP), the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) and the Dairy Training Institute (DTI). This approach ensured that all stakeholders were involved in the project design, thus guaranteeing that the activities were relevant to the Government of Kenya (GoK) and the final beneficiaries. The Livestock Industry is 42% of agricultural GDP and the livestock herd is estimated to be over 60 million head, 60% of which is found in the Arid and Semi-arid Lands (ASALs) where 90% of the population resides. Livestock farming employs over 50% of the agricultural labour force and therefore any action to improve the livestock industry is key for the people in the ASALs. In recent years there have been recurrent drought conditions in the ASALs which lead to a substantial loss of livestock and a significant depression of livestock prices. The result is high poverty in these areas, as high as 95% within the last 5 years. A project to increase and diversify the income of this population and improve the health and productivity of livestock is urgently needed and will help to improve the living conditions in the ASALs and reduce poverty. The Logical Framework Matrix (LFM) was updated over the project life and used for monitoring progress at specific intervals, (6, 12, 18 and 24 months). The LFM clearly outlines how activities and the corresponding results are linked to the PP and the OO. The design assessed all possible risks to the success of the project, many of which are realised. One of these risks, identified and subsequently experienced was the lack of availability of fodder seed. It was noted that no mitigation was formulated at the design stage. Although sustainability was considered initially, a more specific strategy was only formulated later in the project, resulting in some missed opportunities to include more targeted activities to enhance sustainability.

#### Efficiency of Implementation to date

Although the Financing Agreement (FA) was only signed on 15th July 2009, activities on the project had commenced since the 1st June. The Project Management Unit (PMU) was in place prior to the start date and was quickly mobilised. In the first six months approximately 13 Letters of Agreement (LOAs) were signed followed by another 6 in early 2010. The PMU coordinates the various components of the project and there is regular monitoring both at the component level and the overall project level against phased targets. There have been minor delays or setbacks however all components have been implemented successfully with 80% of the total project time (24 months) elapsed, 83% of the budget committed and 64% disbursed. The project has been flexible and implemented contingencies where necessary as a result of the changing conditions, caused by the erratic and unpredictable weather of the ASALs. There has been a wide variety of outputs achieved, due to the large number of LOAs; these have generally been of good quality and complement each other in contributing to the intended results. Outputs include a variety of training sessions for both government staff as well as final beneficiaries, the supply of agricultural inputs including fodder seeds, livestock, vaccines, market infrastructure, as well as a number of research studies to both inform the action and government policy. Virtually all outputs, goods and services have been delivered according to plan with only small deviations in timing or quantity. One of the Pastoral Field Schools (PFS) in Garissa had a slow start up and the 17 training sessions will now be completed in April instead of February.

#### Effectiveness to date

There has been approximately a 10% increase in milk production due to the fodder production. This could also be attributable to the increased rainfall in some areas as well as improved animal care following the training interventions. It is noted that some of the fodder produced was used by the households (HH) and some was sold to other group members, whilst small amounts were sold external to the group. A number of farmers / farmers groups have used the proceeds from fodder sales to purchase seeds for other vegetable crops

such as tomatoes & onions, etc. hence diversifying and increasing their incomes. Proceeds have also been used to purchase diesel for irrigation pumps. Some groups have also harvested fodder seed and redistributed these within their groups as the demand for seed increased once the benefits experienced by the PFS groups were observed. Another significant outcome was the prevention of disease outbreaks during the last floods as has been customary. These outbreaks are usually accompanied by market closures, which serve to reduce incomes and Food Security (FS). Using the digital pens to get real time data on incidence of disease along with the River Valley Fever (RVF) vaccine campaign a crisis was averted. The PP was achieved through a number of the initiatives, including fodder sales, milk sales, the sale of vegetable crops - income diversification, improved animal health, access to markets, improved dairy hygiene. There were some unexpected negative effects, caused by the weather, in the flood affected areas for example only one fodder harvest could be achieved rather than the expected 3 and in drought affected areas fodder was harvested prematurely for HH use and / or sale resulting in reduced seed harvested.

### **Impact prospects**

Due to the erratic nature of weather in the ASALs short-term initiatives can be problematic and difficult to affect long-term change as opposed to simple disaster response. In this case there has been some attitudinal change, key for sustainability and long-term impact. Farmers now perceive that grass can be grown as a commercial crop rather than just by the *‘will of God’*. Through the use of river water for fodder growth, it is now possible to sustain livestock through the dry season, providing milk for children and ensuring higher income when livestock is eventually sold. The extent of the impact is further demonstrated by the fact that farmers in non-target areas have sought to learn about and consequently engage in fodder production. Another attitudinal change is the use of camel milk and the exploitation of camel products in general as a means to diversify income and to sustain HHs in the drought periods as camels remain close to home when other animals are moved in search of water. The upgrading of markets has attracted more people; the busiest upgraded markets are utilised by as many as 3,500 people per market day. The vibrancy of the markets also brings small entrepreneurial activity by women and other traders who have set up new businesses around the market and generally FS and HH income are improved as these traders also bring to market other HH items for trade. In terms of increasing the consumption of camel products in urban areas, there have been a number of promotional campaigns, however it is too soon to register any impact.

### **Potential sustainability**

A threat to sustainability is the lack of adequate storage facilities for hay and seeds, which was not properly planned. Facilities will have to be built, which protect against sun, rain and pests such as ants and termites. A number of benefits will require continued financial resources to ensure their sustainability; for example irrigation pumps require maintenance and servicing, the market infrastructure will require maintenance and incur running costs, the information & communication technology (ICT) systems equipment requires a monthly fee for services and the support of even a targeted vaccination regime can be costly. Each component is required to formulate an exit-strategy, including the identification of ongoing financing requirements as well as how these will be met and by whom. It is expected that the PDLO & DVO will be critical for sustainability both in terms of human and financial resources and representation was already raised to the relevant Minister regarding this issue. The project has incorporated many training and capacity building activities, including training of trainers and facilitators, to support sustainability. The governmental change where the 8 Provinces will be converted to 47 Counties offers a positive future perspective. It is expected that the County structures with their devolved powers and budgets, will be more responsive to the needs of the people of the ASALs and support further infrastructure development. Although there has been much discussion with the GoK and various NGOs, financial sustainability remains the largest hindrance to the continuation of project benefits.

### **Key observations and recommendations**

The project has many complex components; however the approach of using stakeholders already operating in the target areas improved both implementation and impact in such a short project timeframe. FAO KE: 1) Ensure beneficiaries receiving outputs with ongoing financial needs give a written commitment to meet these requirements; 2) Ensure that appropriate facilities are in place for hay and seed storage.