



**East Action Organization**  
Action for Betterment

## **ZERO HUNGER INNOVATION PROJECTS EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE FARMING**

**Project Location:** Fafan Zone, Somali Regional State, Ethiopia

**Specific Site:** Hinjabi Farming Area, Shabelle Woreda

**Implemented by:** East Action Organization Name

**Contact Information:**

Head office Jijiga, Ethiopia

**Status:** On going

**Project Duration:** Long-term Sustainable Project (5-10 years)"

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**Project Focus:**

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- Sustainable Farming Practices
- Community Empowerment
- Zero Hunger Goals

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**Supported by:** Nejib private Company  
Member contribution and diaspora

Google map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/SyaHtsT34yR6xdmF8>



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# **1. Introduction**

## **Background and Context**

East Action Organization, headquartered in Jigjiga, Ethiopia, is a women-led national nonprofit recognized for its impactful initiatives since 2019. It operates with a mission to improve the well-being of vulnerable communities through resilience-building and sustainable practices. The organization's Zero Hunger Initiative addresses food insecurity and promotes self-reliance in Ethiopian communities.

## **Mission Statement**

To improve lives by providing sustainable solutions for food security, climate change adaptation, and community empowerment.

## **Program Areas**

- Food Security & Nutrition
- Livelihood Support & Agricultural Development
- WASH Services (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene)
- Educational & Child Protection Programs
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategies
- Conflict Resolution & Peacebuilding

## **Relevance to Zero Hunger (SDG 2)**

The project aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 2 by addressing food insecurity through innovative farming, fostering resilience, and equitable resource distribution.

This Zero Hunger Innovation Projects empower communities through sustainable farming by integrating dairy farming, beekeeping, and agroforestry. They enhance livelihoods with modern practices, community training, and market access while promoting biodiversity, organic farming, and water conservation. Youth and women are central, supported by technology, partnerships, and advocacy. This holistic approach ensures food security, resilience, and environmental sustainability, creating scalable models for global impact.

# **2. Objectives**

## **General Objective**

To combat food insecurity and build resilient communities through sustainable farming and resource utilization.

## Specific Objectives

- To enhance food production on 80 hectares of farmland.
- To train communities in sustainable farming techniques.
- To develop water resources, including groundwater and rainwater harvesting systems.
- To improve nutrition and economic well-being through diversified crops and dairy farming.

## 3. Problem Statement

### Problem Statement

Challenges:

- **High Levels of Food Insecurity:** Many households face chronic hunger and malnutrition due to insufficient food production and limited access to affordable, nutritious food.
- **Limited Access to Irrigation and Water Resources:** Farmers struggle with inadequate irrigation systems, making agricultural activities heavily dependent on unpredictable rainfall.
- **Lack of Modern Agricultural Knowledge:** Outdated farming techniques hinder productivity, with limited training opportunities to introduce sustainable and efficient methods.
- **Lack of Agricultural Machinery Inputs:** Farmers lack access to mechanized tools and equipment, leading to labor-intensive practices that reduce efficiency and crop yields.
- **Inadequate Market Access:** Farmers face challenges in transporting and selling their products, resulting in low incomes and food wastage due to perishable produce.
- **Poor Infrastructure:** Insufficient road networks and storage facilities further exacerbate the challenges of accessing markets and preserving harvests.

### Community-Specific Issues:

- **Dependence on Rain-Fed Agriculture, Vulnerable to Climate Variability:** Climate change exacerbates rainfall unpredictability, leading to frequent crop failures and reduced agricultural productivity.
- **Limited Financial Resources to Scale Agricultural Activities:** Smallholder farmers often lack access to affordable credit or financial support to invest in better farming practices or technologies.
- **Soil Degradation and Low Fertility:** Overuse of land and inadequate soil management practices result in declining fertility, reducing crop yields over time.
- **Lack of Community Awareness and Participation:** Insufficient community involvement in decision-making processes limits the adoption of new technologies and approaches tailored to their needs.
- **Limited Access to Agricultural Extension Services:** Farmers receive minimal support and guidance from agricultural extension services, limiting their ability to adopt improved practices.

- **Gender Inequality in Agriculture:** Women, who play a significant role in farming, face systemic barriers to accessing resources, training, and decision-making power.
- **Health Impacts of Food Insecurity:** Malnutrition and related health problems are prevalent, affecting the well-being and productivity of the community.

This expanded problem statement highlights the multifaceted challenges faced by communities, providing a comprehensive foundation for addressing these issues through targeted interventions.

## **4. Target Audience/Beneficiaries**

### **Demographic Focus**

Approximately 5,000 individuals, including:

- Smallholder farmers
- Women, with a focus on empowering female-headed households
- Small agricultural business groups, such as cooperatives and agro-processors
- Youth groups involved in farming and agri-business
- Marginalized and vulnerable groups in rural communities
- Special focus on small-scale women-led initiatives to support entrepreneurship and food security

These groups are aligned with the goals of the Zero Hunger Project, targeting sustainable livelihoods, enhanced food production, and improved community resilience.

### **Geographic Focus**

Communities in Fafan Zone, Shabelle Woreda, particularly the Hinjabi farming area.

### **Key Stakeholders**

- Local communities
- Government bodies
- Civil society organizations
- International donors

## **5. Methodology**

### **Community Engagement**

- Conduct participatory needs assessments.
- Empower local leaders and farmers through training.

### **Sustainable Farming Techniques**

- Utilize climate-smart agriculture methods.
- Implement crop rotation and intercropping systems.
- Develop efficient irrigation systems.

### **Implementation Phases**

- **Phase One:** Land preparation and initial cultivation.
- **Phase Two:** Expansion to 80 hectares and additional resource mobilization.

## **6. Innovation and Sustainability**

### **Innovative Approaches**

- Introduction of drought-resistant crops.
- Integration of solar-powered irrigation systems.

### **Sustainability Strategies**

- Community-led maintenance of farming systems.
- Establishment of cooperative models for resource sharing.

## **7. Partnerships and Collaboration**

### **Role of East Action Organization**

- Lead implementation, provide technical training, and ensure community alignment.

### **Involvement of Donors**

### **Technology and Innovation**

- **Monitoring and Management Tools:** Introduce digital platforms for farmers to track weather patterns, market prices, and crop performance, helping them make informed decisions, reduce risks, and increase efficiency.
- **Sustainable Innovations:** Promote the adoption of innovative farming technologies such as low-cost greenhouses, hydroponics, and aquaponics, tailored to local contexts and resources.

## Impact Measurement and Scaling

- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Develop systems to track project outcomes, including improved food security, increased income levels, and enhanced environmental sustainability.
- **Scaling Success Stories:** Identify and replicate successful models in other regions, ensuring that innovations are adapted to diverse local conditions and widely shared.

By integrating these components, the Zero Hunger Innovation Projects offer a holistic approach to combating hunger and promoting food security. This initiative not only enhances community resilience and economic opportunities but also fosters environmental sustainability.

## Collaboration with Global Programs

This project aligns with the World Food Program's Zero Hunger goals, focusing on eliminating hunger through sustainable practices.

## 8. Expected Outcomes

### Short-Term Impacts

- **Increased Food Production and Availability**  
Enhanced crop yield and livestock productivity provide immediate access to food.  
Reduced dependency on food aid or imports.
- **Empowered Communities with Enhanced Farming Skills**  
Local farmers acquire improved techniques and tools, increasing productivity.  
Adoption of sustainable farming practices boosts soil health and ecosystem stability.

### Long-Term Impacts

- **Improved Food Security and Nutrition**  
Consistent access to diverse and nutritious food supports healthy communities.  
Better diets improve overall well-being, reducing malnutrition-related illnesses.
- **Resilient and Self-Sustaining Agricultural Systems**  
Strengthened rural economies through robust farming practices and local innovations.  
Systems are less vulnerable to environmental challenges like droughts or pests.
- **Increased Job Opportunities**  
Agriculture becomes a thriving sector, offering roles in farming, distribution, and agribusiness.  
Employment extends to agro-processing industries, value-chain services, and cooperatives.
- **Enhanced Livelihoods and Income Stability**  
Families diversify their income sources, improving financial independence.  
Economic upliftment reduces poverty rates in rural areas.

- **Stronger Rural Communities**  
Collaborative efforts foster community-led solutions and solidarity.  
Long-term investments in education and infrastructure create a foundation for growth.
- **Improved Youth Engagement and Retention**  
Youth view agriculture as a viable and rewarding career path.  
Migration to urban areas reduces as opportunities grow locally.

## **9. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)**

### **Tools and Frameworks**

- Regular field visits and quarterly progress reports to track implementation and outcomes.
- Community feedback mechanisms to ensure inclusivity and relevance.

### **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

- Hectares cultivated and yield produced (measured biannually and compared against baseline).
- Number of beneficiaries trained (tracked quarterly and aggregated annually).
- Adoption rate of improved farming practices (evaluated semi-annually through surveys).
- Household income changes among beneficiaries (assessed annually).
- Reduction in post-harvest losses (monitored quarterly using community reporting).
- Percentage increase in food availability within target communities (measured annually).

## **10. Budget and Funding Requirements**

### **Estimated Initial Costs**

### **Project Budget Allocation and Funding Breakdown**

**Total Initial Budget on Hand:** \$55,000

**Funding Gap:** \$65,000

**Total Required Budget:** \$120,000

### **Activity-Wise Budget Allocation:**

1. **Soil Fertility Improvement:** \$10,000  
Introducing composting techniques and organic fertilizers to improve soil health.
2. **Climate-Resilient Crop Varieties:** \$8,000  
distributing drought-resistant or flood-tolerant seeds to farmers.
3. **Community Gardening Projects:** \$6,000  
setting up communal gardens for vegetables and fruits to improve local food security.
4. **Livestock Support:** \$15,000  
providing animals like goats, chickens, or cows and necessary feed and vaccines.
5. **Post-Harvest Management:** \$7,000  
Training on food storage, preservation techniques, and reducing food losses.



6. **Farmer Cooperative Formation:** \$5,000  
supporting the establishment of cooperatives for better market access and shared resources.
7. **Agroforestry Practices:** \$6,000  
Encouraging tree planting alongside crops for ecosystem balance and additional food sources.
8. **Drip Irrigation Systems:** \$12,000  
supplying affordable and efficient irrigation solutions to conserve water.
9. **Nutrition Awareness Campaigns:** \$5,000  
Educating communities on balanced diets and malnutrition prevention.
10. **Market Linkages:** \$6,000  
Connecting farmers to buyers and markets to ensure fair prices and reduce food waste.
11. **Youth and Women Empowerment Programs:** \$7,000  
Involving youth and women in farming activities and decision-making roles.
12. **Small-Scale Food Processing Units:** \$8,000  
Establishing facilities for milling, drying, or packaging to add value to produce.
13. **Integrated Pest Management (IPM):** \$5,000  
Training farmers on environmentally friendly pest control methods.
14. **Microfinance Access:** \$8,000  
Providing loans or grants to farmers for agricultural investments.
15. **Emergency Food Distribution:** \$12,000  
Ensuring immediate food supply to the most vulnerable populations during crises.

**Sub-Totals:**

- **Phase One (Initial Budget Coverage):** \$55,000  
Covers Soil Fertility Improvement, Climate-Resilient Crop Varieties, Community Gardening Projects, and parts of Livestock Support.
- **Phase Two (Funding Gap):** \$65,000  
Required for completing Livestock Support, Drip Irrigation Systems, Emergency Food Distribution, and other listed activities.

**Grand Total: \$120,000**

This budget distribution ensures a balanced approach to tackling food insecurity by addressing production, distribution, and consumption issues. The funding gap must be closed to successfully implement all phases of the project.

## 11. Challenges and Risks

### Potential Barriers

- Limited financial resources.
- Climate variability impacting crop yields.

### Mitigation Strategies

- Diversify funding sources.
- Introduce climate-resilient crops.

### 11.1. Job Opportunities

This initiative creates diverse employment opportunities, such as:

- **Agricultural Training Facilitators:** Experts to train farmers in sustainable practices.
- **Community Outreach Coordinators:** Mobilizing and engaging communities, focusing on women and youth.
- **Farm Assistants:** Implementing innovative methods and maintaining demonstration plots.
- **Logistics and Supply Chain Workers:** Ensuring efficient distribution of tools, seeds, and produce.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists:** Tracking progress and assessing project impacts.
- **Local Market Development Agents:** Supporting farmers in accessing markets and promoting local produce.

These roles empower individuals with skills and sustainable livelihoods, fostering community resilience and economic growth.

## 12. Timeline

### 5-Year Schedule

- **Year 1:** Land preparation and Phase One crop planting.
- **Years 2-3:** Training and irrigation system development.
- **Years 4-5:** Expansion to 80 hectares and Phase Two implementation.

### 12.1. Special Footnote

The urgent needs of this Zero Hunger Project include:

**Water Pipelines:** Installation of efficient pipelines to ensure a reliable water supply for irrigation and community use.

Irrigation Development: Establishing modern irrigation systems to improve water efficiency and support year-round farming.

Temporary Electric Supply: Provision of temporary power to facilitate initial agricultural activities, including water pumping and processing.

Solar System Installation: Deployment of solar panels to provide a sustainable and cost-effective energy source for farming operations and community facilities.

Fencing Farmland:

To secure 80 hectares of farmland, approximately 3,577.71 meters (3.58 kilometers) of chain-link fence wire is required.

This calculation assumes the farmland is square-shaped, with each side measuring approximately 894.43 meters.

Adjustments may be needed for irregularly shaped plots or additional security features.

### **13. Current Challenges and future direction**

The project currently faces several operational challenges, including:

Water Pump Issues: Interruptions in water pump functionality are affecting irrigation efficiency.

Electromechanical Constraints: Maintenance and reliability of essential equipment remain problematic.

Labor Costs: Rising labor expenses are straining the project's operational budget.

Provide space for photo

Future Directions

The East Action Organization is committed to addressing these challenges while scaling up the initiative by:

Expanding the project to include additional marginalized groups in neighboring areas.

Diversifying crop production to improve nutritional variety and food security.

Strengthening the capacity of local communities to manage the farming system independently over time.

This project stands as a testament to the East Action Organization's dedication to fostering sustainable development, food security, and social equity in the Fafan Zone

### **13.1. Conclusion**

The Zero Hunger Innovation Projects represent a transformative approach to achieving food security and sustainable livelihoods. Through innovative farming practices and strategic partnerships, East Action Organization envisions scalable solutions for eradicating hunger and fostering community resilience.

### **14. Contact Information**

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## "EAST ACTION: FUTURE PROJECT PLAN"

An image representing the Zero Hunger Innovation Project, showcasing sustainable farming practices, biodiversity, and community empowerment, with "East Action Organization" prominently displayed.



### Footnote:

This image highlights the integration of dairy farming, beekeeping, and agroforestry with modern techniques, community training, and environmental sustainability. It emphasizes the participation of women and youth, supported by technology and partnerships, aiming for food security and global scalability.



Preparation phase1,



GROUND WATER DRAILLING IMAGES AT HINJABI FARMING LAND OF EAO





Project Site Supervision Photo

