



THE WORLD BANK

Water for Agro-pastoral Productivity and Resilience Project (Biyoole Project)

Progressive report on Galmudug State of Somalia: Component one



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Introduction

The Galmudug State Biyoole Project was designed to enhance water supply infrastructure, promote agricultural development, and increase access to clean and safe water in the State. This report provides an update on the project's sustainability after it was closed on February 28, 2023, with a focus on the role of Village Development Committees (VDCs) in maintaining the success of the water sites. It also highlights the importance of gender inclusivity, with male and female beneficiaries and VDC members. The Biyoole Project in Galmudug State of Somalia is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, as well as the World Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity. Additionally, the project supports the strategic priorities of the Galmudug State of Somalia and the Federal Government of Somalia in promoting sustainable development, improving access to basic services, and enhancing community livelihoods.

Sustainability of Biyoole Project

The sustainability of the Biyoole Project is vital to ensure that clean and safe water continues to be available to the communities in the State. The VDCs, comprising both male and female members, play a critical role in maintaining the water sites. They are responsible for managing and maintaining the water supply infrastructure, ensuring that the sites are functioning correctly and well-maintained. Furthermore, the VDCs organise awareness campaigns in the community to promote water resource management, encouraging the communities to conserve water and use it efficiently.

The system will also ensure that the communities have a sense of ownership of the water sites, which will promote sustainability.

Male and Female Beneficiaries

The Biyoole Project has been successful in providing access to clean and safe water to both male and female beneficiaries, improving their quality of life. The project has increased access to water for domestic use, irrigation, and livestock watering, benefiting both men and women in the communities. The VDCs comprise both male and female members, ensuring that the management and maintenance of the water sites are gender-inclusive and promoting gender equity and equality in water management.

In addition, the project has promoted the participation of women in water management activities, which has had a positive impact on their social and economic status. The project has also contributed to reducing the workload of women, who were previously responsible for fetching water from distant sources. With the availability of clean and safe

water in their communities, women have more time to engage in income-generating activities, which has contributed to their economic empowerment.



Impact on Communities

The Biyoole Project has had a significant impact on the communities in the State. The availability of clean and safe water has improved the quality of life for the communities, with positive impacts on health, livelihoods, and education. The water supplied has been used for domestic purposes, including drinking, cooking, and washing, supporting hygiene and sanitation. The water has also been used for irrigation, supporting agricultural development in the State and promoting food security.

Status of 8 New Haffir Dams

The March 2023 Gu' rains in Galmudug State, Somalia, have been above average, resulting in significant amounts of rainfall throughout the State. The heavy rainfall has also caused the Haffir Dams in the State to fill up, which is a positive development as it will provide much-needed water for domestic, livestock irrigation and other purposes.

The improved water availability in areas that are prone to drought and water scarcity has led to drastic reduction of water transportation costs and water prices. The 6 Haffir Dams

that are holding water provide a reliable source of water for livestock and crops, which is essential for the survival and wellbeing of agro-pastoral communities in Galmudug State of Somalia.

The Biyoole project has been a significant success, providing vital clean water to numerous communities across the State. In total, eight new Haffir Dams have been completed, alongside the rehabilitation of three water points. This has resulted in an impressive 84,700 beneficiaries receiving access to clean water, providing an invaluable resource for their daily lives.

Recent developments have shown further progress, with two sites in Mudug, Laaso Caano, and Xingod, reaching full capacity in the past few days. This is a welcome relief for the communities in these areas, as the dams provide the only fresh water resource available. Previously, the water stored from Deyr 2022 in Xingod and Laaso Caano had been used to sustain the communities throughout the dry season, highlighting the vital role that the Biyoole project has played in securing a reliable water source for these areas.

In addition to the success in Mudug, four of the six Galgaduud sites, namely Wadgalinsor, Dudmacade, Guled Bogcad, and Biyocade sites, are also now full. This has further improved the quality of life for the local communities, providing access to clean water for domestic, livestock, and wildlife use.

The completion of the Haffir Dams and the rehabilitation of the water points have not only provided access to clean water but have also helped to stimulate economic growth in the State. With access to reliable water sources, communities are now able to focus on agricultural and livestock activities, leading to increased productivity and income generation.

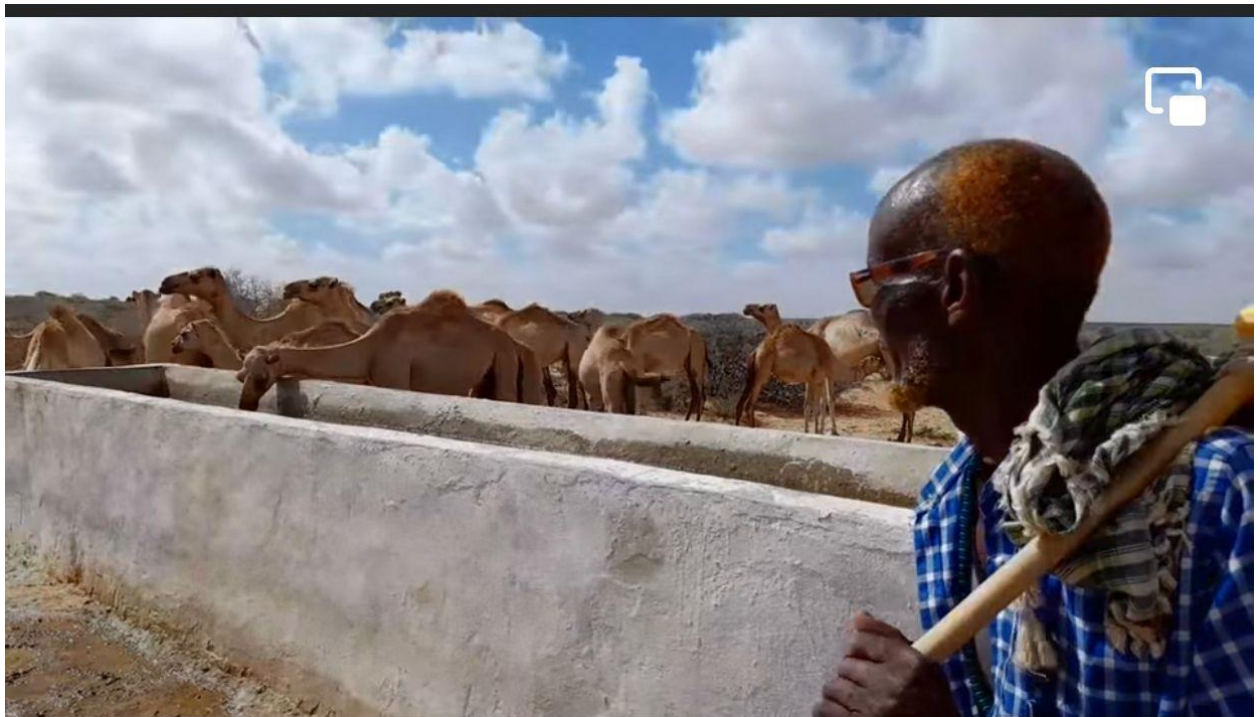
The Haffir Dams are expected to hold water for the following six months or until the next rainy season of Dayr, providing the communities and their livestock with water during the dry season. This is expected to lead to increased milk production, weight gain which improves livestock sale value and overall health of livestock, essential for the livelihoods of the Galmudug agro-pastoral communities. With increased income from agricultural and livestock production, these communities are better able to meet their basic needs and invest in their future.

Furthermore, water scarcity is a known factor that leads to localised conflicts. The local community leaders informed the project management that the availability of water from the haffir dams has reduced competition and conflict between agro-pastoral communities in Galmudug State over scarce water resources. This positive impact will continue to lead to improved social cohesion and reduced tensions between these groups.



















Conclusion

In conclusion, the sustainability of the Biyoole Project is essential to ensure continued access to clean and safe water for the communities in the State. The VDCs, comprising both male and female members, play a crucial role in maintaining the water sites and promoting gender equity and equality in water management. The project's success in providing access to clean and safe water has had a significant impact on the communities, improving their quality of life, promoting health, livelihoods, and education, and supporting agricultural development and food security.

Overall, the Biyoole project has been a resounding success, providing clean water to tens of thousands of beneficiaries and improving their quality of life. The completion of the Haffir Dams and rehabilitation of water points have had a significant impact on the State, and we hope that this progress will continue in the future.

