

Somali Pastoral Dairy Development (SPDDP) Project II

BACKGROUND

The insufficient production and marketing of fresh milk has many causes of which some can be addressed and improved by the proposed intervention:

- ◆ The milk hygiene in production and marketing.
- ◆ The knowledge about hygienic aspects and its importance in trade.
- ◆ The need of milk quality testing.
- ◆ The legal framework in milk trade.
- ◆ Technical improvements in transport, storage, marketing and cooling facilities.
- ◆ The formation of milk bulking groups and milk sellers' groups.
- ◆ The development of new dairy products which can be stored in times of surplus production.

GOALS OF THE PROJECT

Incomes increased and food insecurity reduced through private-sector led economic growth.



ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

The described problems in milk marketing will be tackled through interventions in three areas:

- ◆ Strengthening the public sector to assume its role as regulatory body in the field of food hygiene.
- ◆ Supporting the private sector and initiating a clearly defined public-private partnership for the economic development of the dairy sector.
- ◆ Supporting the entire milk chain through human resources development and supply of equipment in order to reduce the health risk for consumers deriving from low quality and unhygienic dairy products.
- ◆ The project focuses in the first instance in improving the milk chain for fresh (raw) milk through training of stakeholders of the milk harvesting chain at all levels. The project focuses as well on the improvement of the highly perishable product raw milk through cooling or appropriate, harmless conservation techniques. The hygienic standards during transport and at the vendor shop will also be tackled. All these measures will build on the draft minimum dairy regulation that were developed during the first project phase and lead to the introduction of a reliable Quality Assurance Scheme for milk and milk products.
- ◆ Environmental appropriateness will be achieved through the introduction of solar water heaters at VMCs where producers can wash their milk cans and equipment, reducing their home consumption of firewood.





SUSTAINABILITY NEEDS

The overall objective targets on two important issues of the economic situation which are:

- ◆ Low incomes in a situation of constantly increasing prices for food and non food commodities which are not produced locally and need to be imported, using scarce foreign exchange reserves.
- ◆ Food insecurity due to insufficient local production of staple foods of which one of the most important in Somali diet is milk.

In the national economy, the major part of livestock revenues is generated through livestock and meat exports. However, to feed the population of Somalia and meet livestock holders' needs, a constant stream of revenues to cope with daily expenses at household level is necessary as well. This is achieved through milking animals and selling the milk daily (and even twice a day) to milk collectors (the final consumer being in general out of reach for the milk producer). In fact it is estimated that about 80% of the pastoralists' income is derives from milk sales. With regard to the entire chain of middle (wo) men such as milk collectors, transporters, traders and vendors, their livelihood depends entirely on the revenues from the milk trade. In addition, they have invested, even if the investment was in some cases marginal, in assets for their trade. These investments need to be paid off in order to reinvest again. The success of the private sector in an environment without access to loans was only possible through small private initiatives. This is in fact also the foundation for the sustainability of the project which focuses on the private sector and its already proven ability to drive the economy.



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DONOR INFORMATION

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