

Project Highlights HORN OF AFRICA

"Effective emergency desert locust control in locust-prone countries in the Horn of Africa"

Project code: OSRO/SFE/601/USA

Donor: United States of America

Contribution: USD 1 050 000

Implementation: 27/09/2016-31/08/2018

Target areas: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and

Sudan

Contact

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Objective:

To strengthen national and regional capacities for better management of emergency locust control and preventive interventions in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan.

Key partners:

Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA) and the Ministries of Agriculture of its member countries (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan).

Beneficiaries reached: 2 038 people.

Activities implemented:

- Facilitated bilateral agreements on cross-border desert locust surveillance and management between Djibouti and Somaliland and between Ethiopia and Somaliland, to prepare joint strategies on desert locust management.
- Carried out aerial and ground field surveys with enhanced early detection and response capacities to prevent additional desert locust outbreaks.
- Delivered training of trainers to 157 national desert locust control staff.
- Trained 249 community locust scouts on desert locust monitoring, prevention and control at different levels.
- Sensitized 1 625 people on the pest across the five countries.
- Acquired and deployed survey equipment, including four motor vehicles and 50 GPSMAP 64 systems with accessories.
- Upgraded communication networks in DLCO-EA base stations.
- Supported the locust unit in Somaliland through capacity building, training, improved mobility and provision of IT and field equipment.

Results:

- Raised awareness among communities in frontline locust-prone countries about the biology, threat and means of controlling the pest.
- Improved cooperation between countries in the Horn of Africa on jointly monitoring and controlling the pest.
- Strengthened communication between Ministries of Agriculture and community locust scouts, speeding up the reporting process.
- Contributed to building the capacity of DLCO-EA so it can better support its member states in managing the threat posed by the desert locust.
- Detected and prevented desert locust infestations early in the 2016/2017 main cropping seasons.

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