



Project Highlights

ETHIOPIA

“RAPID RESPONSE TO YELLOW RUST OUTBREAK IN ETHIOPIA”

Project code: OSRO/ETH/105/CHA
(HRF-ETH-0313-298)

Donor: CERF

Contribution: USD 775 000

Implementation: 19/08/11–31/08/12

Target areas: Oromia, Amhara and SNNP Regions

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Objective: To minimize livelihoods and food security risks through reduction of the impacts of yellow rust infestation on the *meher* wheat harvest on 20 000 ha of land.

Key partners: Federal Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), Regional Bureaus of Agriculture (BOAs), various national and international research and extension institutions.

Beneficiaries reached: 57 054 households (seed multiplication – 2 603; fungicide spraying – 54 451).

Activities implemented:

- National awareness creation and contingency planning workshop conducted on wheat rust diseases in Ethiopia.
- National wheat rust disease survey conducted to determine distribution of rust diseases.
- Rapid survey conducted to facilitate wheat rust control activities.
- Regional BOAs trained 749 zone and *woreda* experts, development agents (DAs) and farmers on disease control, fungicide application, use of PPEs.
- Distributed 8 240 litres of fungicide and 12 PPE sets to the three regions.
- Sprayed 16 480 ha of wheat belonging to 54 451 households.
- Organized field days for more than 3 959 people to raise awareness of rust diseases and the importance of using rust-resistant varieties.
- Adet Agricultural Research Centre produced 106 *quintals* of rust-resistant wheat seed varieties, which were distributed for seed multiplication.
- 976 *quintals* of basic and certified seeds of rust-resistant/tolerant wheat varieties and 1 300 *quintals* of fertilizers distributed to 2 603 households for seed multiplication in the 2012 *meher* season.

Results:

- 234 931 *quintals* of wheat, worth an estimated USD 7 million, protected in Oromia and SNNP Regions.
- Fungicides distributed played a key role in preventing wheat harvest losses due to yellow rust infestation.
- Multiplication of rust-resistant/tolerant seed varieties reduced risk of losses in the future and introduced farmers to new planting methods.

