



**“Emergency seed support to smallholder farmers affected by the El Niño-induced drought
in Amhara and Oromia Regions”**

Project code: OSRO/ETH/603/JCA

Donor: Japan

Contribution: USD 330 000

Implementation: 18/03/16 – 31/12/16

Target areas: South Wollo Zone in Amhara Region and East Hararghe in Oromia Region



Contact

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- Objective:** To increase agricultural production at household level to enhance food security and nutrition.
- Key partners:** Amhara and Oromia National Regional State Bureaus of Agriculture.
- Beneficiaries reached:** 16 396 households.
- Activities implemented:**
- Targeted four *woredas* (districts) in Amhara and Oromia Regions based on nutritional vulnerability of the population, lack of coverage by other humanitarian partners and severity of drought impacts.
 - Procured 229.4 tonnes of cereal and legume seed, including barley, maize, sorghum, teff, wheat and haricot bean.
 - Provided 16 396 households (17 percent women-headed) with regionally adapted and drought-tolerant crop seed.
 - Trained 616 model farmers (416 in Amhara and 200 in Oromia) in improved agricultural practices to then share knowledge and skills with local communities.
 - Conducted regular monitoring, evaluation and backstopping activities through the implementing partners, extension workers and FAO staff based at regional offices.
- Results:**
- Contributed to the largest emergency seed response in Ethiopia’s history, enhancing the livelihood security of vulnerable families severely affected by the El Niño-induced drought.
 - Enabled beneficiary households to plant 4 763 ha with the seed received, significantly enhancing their livelihood recovery and improving food security with crops harvested.
 - Supported households to achieve higher yields than average through the provision of improved seed varieties and training on good agricultural practices.
 - Prevented use of negative coping mechanisms among vulnerable households in need of seed, e.g. sale of productive assets to afford planting materials.
 - Assessed that seed aid was of good or excellent quality (96 percent of households) and received on time (90 percent); 96 percent of households were satisfied or very satisfied with the seed and 80 percent of households had some or no problems accessing other agricultural inputs.