



## Project Highlights

# ETHIOPIA

**“Food security support to 28 000 vulnerable households affected by drought and soaring food prices in SNNPR, Oromia, Amhara and Tigray Regions of Ethiopia”**

**Project code:** OSRO/ETH/905/USA

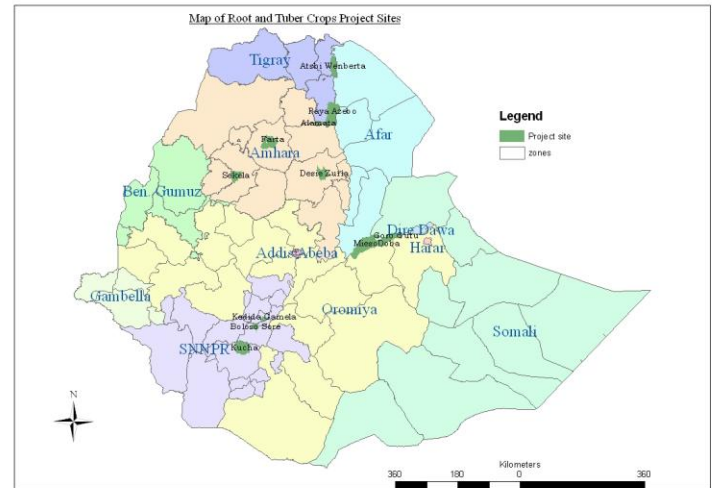
**Donor:** The United States of America

**Contribution:** USD 1 675 098

**Implementation:** 15/08/2009 – 31/03/2011

**Target areas:** Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples’ Region (SNNPR), Oromia, Amhara and Tigray Regions

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**Objective:** To contribute to the improved food security, livelihoods and income status of 28 000 households affected by recurrent drought and soaring food prices in Ethiopia through the promotion of drought-tolerant root and tuber crops and training on improved crop production.

**Project partners:** Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Regional Bureaus of Agriculture and Rural Development.

**Beneficiaries reached:** 47 581 farming households

- Activities implemented:**
- The project provided 12 nurseries with farming tools and initial planting materials and trained 18 nursery technicians.
  - Thirteen Letters of Agreement were signed with agricultural universities, research centres and the International Potato Center to provide high-yielding, disease-resistant varieties of Irish potato, sweet potato, cassava and taro.
  - Over 16.28 million clean sweet potato cuttings, 7 326 quintals of Irish potato seed tubers, 4 994 quintals of taro (*Boloso-1* variety) and 89 522 cassava planting materials were distributed.
  - Extension workers and farmers were trained on improved root and tuber crop production; training manuals and informative posters and brochures were produced.
  - More than 30 potato diffuse light storage facilities equipped with plastic storage crates were constructed in eight *woredas*.

- Impact:**
- Thanks to additional funding, the project managed to reach 47 581 households.
  - A total of 212 extension workers and 640 farmers were trained on improved crop production and field management practices.
  - More farmers had access to improved varieties thanks to the project’s seed/planting material recovery strategy in which beneficiary farmers returned the equivalent amount of planting materials at the end of the production season.
  - FAO is using the planting materials generated through the project for other emergency projects for drought-affected communities.