



## **Climate Change Adaptation Programme in Water and Agriculture in Anseba Region, Eritrea**

**Inception workshop  
6 November 2012**

### **1. Background**

The project is a five year integrated water and agriculture initiative implemented in the Anseba region. The project is organized across four Outcomes and 12 outputs with a budget of \$6.52 million, directly benefitting 6141 households, 1350 of whom are female-headed.

Low agricultural productivity and land degradation have become major features of the Anseba region. Over the last three decades, the region has experienced several droughts as well as erratically distributed rains. Other problems include cultivation of marginal land without fallowing, over-grazing, and inappropriate land management, lack of investment in land improvement, inadequate animal feed, depletion of underground water and the natural limitations of the rugged topography. Furthermore, inadequacy of agricultural extension services has contributed to the low level of development of agriculture in this region.

The project will operate in the Habero and Hamelmalo sub-regions. These are ranked in the top five (out of 11) sub-regions most affected by food insecurity, due largely to drought. Habero and Hamelmalo are bisected by the Anseba seasonal river, with base flows that can be strategically harnessed to enhance the availability of water for increased productivity and thus adaptive capacity for vulnerable communities, by expanding small-scale irrigation for vegetable production and rangeland development.

The Adaptation Fund Board at its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting during 17-18 March 2011 approved the project document. On 5 August 2011, UNDP sent an official letter to AF Board asking for an extension to the project start-up due to the national development planning process underway at the time, which was to be the framework for all cooperation projects. Further to that, an official letter from Government of Eritrea was sent on 12 April 2012 requesting another extension to account for the time needed for the approval process of the national development plan. On 5 September 2012 the project document was signed by the Executing Agency: Ministry of Lands, Water and Environment. The project inception workshop was held on 6 November 2012.

A two hour pre-meeting of leading stakeholders was held on Monday 5 November at the Ministry of Lands, Water and Environment. The main points of discussion were accountability structures for the project, implementation arrangements and monitoring and evaluation requirements.

## 2. Summary of workshop discussions

Some 40 stakeholders of the national ministries and the Anseba Regional Administration attended the inception workshop. The Minister of MLWE opened the meeting emphasising the high level of government commitment to the project, thanking the AF Board and UNDP for their patience and understanding for the delays in project start-up, and also highlighting that the Government expected that this project would become the model for cooperation on CCA. The UNDP Resident Representative (RR) and the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor also gave opening remarks. The RR emphasised the high commitment, high accountability, low corruption working environment in Eritrea, which would provide an excellent platform for the success of the project. The RTA emphasised the innovative aspects of the project (programme approach, participatory nature of activities and use of risk information for anticipatory management of climate risks) and the value in connecting the Eritrean experience with adaptation to the international pool of knowledge.

Presentations were given by the following people on the following subjects:

<b>Mr. Gebremeskel Tewelde</b> , National Project Coordinator MOA, Zoba Anseba	Objectives of workshops and introduction of participants.
<b>Yoseph Admekom</b> , Programme Specialist and Assistant Resident Representative, Environment and Sustainable Development, UNDP	The project framework.
<b>Mussie Tesfahiwet</b> Head; Environment – Infrastructure Department Zoba Anseba	Hamelmalo and Habero catchments and dam sites.
<b>Mr. Seid Abdu</b> , Climate Change focal point within Department of Environment	Climate Change Activities in Eritrea (short briefing).
<b>Ms. Jessica Troni</b> , Regional Technical Adviser Climate Change - Adaptation Regional Service Centre East and Southern Africa United Nations Development Programme	Adaptation Fund Project Monitoring and Evaluation requirements.

Stakeholders did not propose any changes to the project framework (objective, outcomes, outputs, targets, indicators). Participants thought the project was highly relevant to the country's strategic plan for rural development. The Year 1 budget, to begin disbursements in January 2013, remains the same. During the workshop, it has been confirmed that the project will not request any additional fund from AFB as a result of the delay in project approval and implementation and will use the same amount for the new duration

stipulated.

The programme implementation timeframe changes from January 2011 to December 2015 to January 2013 to December 2017. The two major points of discussion were a) the implementation plan and b) the organigram of the project management structure. Three working groups were convened in the afternoon to brainstorm on these questions. Refinements were made to the arrangements that were detailed in the project document, mainly around which stakeholders should be part of the project technical committee and steering committee. Stakeholders clarified which institution would be responsible for delivery of project outputs, and contributing institutions for each output. Accountability structures were clarified: the programme implementation unit is accountable to the Anseba Regional Administration, which is accountable to the project steering committee for the programme's performance. The ultimate accountability lies with the AF DNA at the Ministry of Lands, Water and Environment. The final arrangements are included as annexes.

Other questions that arose in the course of the day were as follows:

- How much flexibility was there to move budgets between outcomes and within outcomes?
- The need to establish baseline values against which to measure project progress.
- The need to ensure that infrastructure investments applied relevant EIA procedures;
- The need to conduct proper feasibility assessments of the water capture, river diversion and irrigation investments to ensure end-user benefits and cost effectiveness;
- The need to explore sustainable sources of energy for pumping of water from wells.

The discussions were highly interactive and participants showed great interest to have an input into the project implementation plan. The working group discussions were carried out over the course of a 2.5 hour period. With report backs and subsequent discussions, the meeting went on until 6pm. A smaller group convened the following day to finalise the implementation arrangements and project management structure (organo-gram).

The following attachments are included:

Annex A: Workshop Agenda; Annex B: Participants list;  
Annex C: Minister MLWE opening speech;  
Annex D: Project Management Structure;  
Annex E: Implementation plan;  
Annex F: Photographs of inception workshop.

## Annex A: Working Invitation letter and Workshop Agenda

29 October 2012

Dear .....

### **Subject: Adaptation Fund Project Initiation Workshop**

We are pleased to inform you that the Government of Eritrea has accessed funds for the Climate Change Adaptation Programme in Water and Agriculture in Anseba Region, a five-year project to be implemented over a five-year period starting January 2013.

To this effect, the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment (Government Coordinating body), the Anseba Regional Administration Office (implementing agency) in conjunction with UNDP-Eritrea country office have organized a one-day workshop. The workshop is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, **06 November 2012**, at the **National Confederation of Eritrean Workers (NCEW)**, Asmara.

While the aim of the workshop is to introduce the project with key and relevant stakeholders and seek their respective support and cooperation during the implementation stages, it will focus on two main themes:

- i) The project framework: objective, outcomes, outputs and targets, and implementation arrangements, and
- ii) Monitoring and Evaluation Requirements of Adaptation Fund projects and implementation

Inviting you cordially to this very important workshop, please find attached, for your information, a draft agenda of the meeting.

We look forward to meeting you in person in due time.

Sincerely yours,

Kibrom Andemichael  
Head of Economic Development Department  
Anseba Regional administration

## WORKSHOP AGENDA

08H15-08H30	Registration	Facilitator/Resource Person
08H30-08H40	Welcome speech	<p>- <b>H.E. Mr. Tesfai Gebreselassie</b> Minister of Land water and Env't.</p> <p>- <b>H.E. Mr. Ghergish Girmay</b> Governor, Zoba Anseba</p> <p>- <b>Mrs. Christine Umutoni</b> UNDP Resident Representative and UN R/H Coordinator</p> <p>- <b>Mrs. Jessica Troni</b> Technical Adviser Climate Change - Adaptation Regional Service Centre East and Southern Africa United Nations Development Programme</p>
8:40-8:50	Introduction of participants	Participants
08:50-9:05	Objectives of workshops and introduction of participants	<b>Mr. Gebremeskel Tewolde</b> , National Project Coordinator MOA, Zoba Anseba
9:05-09:35	The Adaptation Fund Project Framework,	<b>Yoseph Admekom</b> , Programme Specialist and Assistant Resident Representative, Environment and Sustainable Development, UNDP
09:35 10:00	Hamelmalo and Habero catchments and dam sites	<b>Mussie Tesfahiwet</b> Head; Environment – Infrastructure Department Zoba Anseba
10:00 -10:20	<b>Coffee break</b>	<b>All in NCEW cafeteria</b>
10:20 -10:35	<i>Plenary discussion</i>	All participants
10:35-10:55	<i>Climate Change Activities in Eritrea (short briefing)</i>	Mr. Seid Abdu, Climate Change focal point within Department of Environment
10:55-11:25	Adaptation Fund Project Monitoring and Evaluation requirements	<b>Mrs. Jessica Troni</b> , Regional Technical Adviser Climate Change - Adaptation Regional Service Centre East and Southern Africa United Nations Development Programme
11:25-12:00	Break-out group discussions on implementation arrangements and modalities, project timeframe and coordination among key stakeholders	Groups
12:00H-13:30	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>All in NCEW cafeteria</b>
13:30-14:00	Continue with Group Discussion	Groups
14:00-14:45	Report-back to plenary and discussion	All participants
14:45-14:55	Next steps	Anseba/Dep't of Env't/UNDP
14:55	Workshop closing remarks	<b>Mr. Mogos Woldeyohannes, DG:</b> Department of Environment Ministry of Land, Water, and GEF Focal Point
14:55	<b>Coffee break and Deaprture</b>	<b>All in NCEW cafeteria</b>

## Annex B: Participants list

### ASMARA PARTICIPANTS

NO	NAME	INSTITUTION/ORGANISATION	TEL & E-mail	Remarks
1	Rosa Kiflemariam	NUEW	(+00 291-1)111135	
2	Mulugeta Asmelash	MOLWE/DOL	+00 (291)(0)7151464	
3	Seid Abdu Salih	MOLWE/DOE	07202756	
4	Aster Redeazgi	MOLWE/DOE	07235654	
5	Heruy Asghedom	MOA	07179461	
6	Tedros Demoz	UNDP/SGP	07267463	
7	Verity Nyagah	UNDP	151256	
8	Yohannes Debretsion	CONSULTANT	07124642	
9	Mogos Woldeyohannes	MOLWE/ Director General	07133443	
10	Ammanuel Negassi	MOA	07191839	
11	Futsum Hagos	MOA/FWA	07164568	
12	Mebrahatu Iyassu	MOLWE/WRD/Director General	07120609	
13	Solomon Gebreyohannes	UNDP	07154535	
14	Berhe Ogbamichael	MOA	(+00 291-1) 182179	
15	Estifanos Bein	MOA/FWA	07182601	
16	Fikreyesus Ghilay	MOA/ESWA	07144370	
17	Iyob Zeremariam	FOOD AUUTHORITY	07126754	
18	Tedros Abraha	UNDP	07115966	
19	Hagos Asrat	MOLWE/DOE	07134930	
20	Yoseph Admekom	UNDP	07156613	
<b>ANSEBA PARTICIPANTS</b>				
1	Mussie Tesfamichael	ZOBA ANSEBA/MOLWE	(+00291-1) 400241	
2	Dr. Woldeselassie Ogbamichael	HAC	(+00291-1) 40029	
3	Eng. Michael Ghirmai	ZOBA ANSEBA/INFRASTRUC	(+00291(0)7120119	
4	Abdella Mohammed	ZOBA ANSEBA/MOA	07305190	
5	Mehari Habtay	ZOBA ANSEBA	07195500	
6	Ali Idris Beshir	ZOBA ANSEBA	07339197	
7	Asha	NUEW/ZOBA ANSEBA	07157151	
8	Gebremeskei Tewolde	ZOBA ANSEBA	07134822	
9	Mehari Woldemichael	ZOBA ANSEBA	07231766	
10	Zeral Nour	ZOBA ANSEBA	07161485	
11	Alamin Tahir	ZOBA ANSEBA	07141401	
12	Keste Tesfazion	ZOBA ANSEBA	07309100	
13	Kibrom Andemichael	ZOBA ANSEBA	07169060	
14	Ghebru Haile	ZOBA ANSEBA	07215305	
15	Semere Asmelash	ZOBA ANSEBA	07115507	
16	Misghina Zerai	HAC	07296750	
17	Gemie Hamid	HABERO	07181917	
18	Mekonen Teklay	HAMELMALO	07118432	
19	Merhawi Issac	ZOBA ANSEBA	07279013	
20	Haregu Woldeghiorghis	ZOBA ANSEBA/MOLWE	07137283	

## **Annex C: Minister of Ministry of Lands, Water and Environment Opening Statement**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen;

I welcome you all;

Special warm welcome to our guest , Mrs. Jessica Troni, Regional Technical Advisor of Climate Change Adaptation, who has come from South Africa to take part in this initiation workshop of the “Climate Change Adaptation Programme in Water and Agriculture in Anseba Administration.

Climate Change is a reality with far reaching social, economic and environmental impacts felt by all countries of the world, but more so critically by the most vulnerable developing countries, our country Eritrea being one of them.

Today, the most conscientious citizens and nations of our contemporary world share a commendable stand and belief, that it takes a common resolute effort and responsible maximum cooperation and commitment of all nations, without exception, to mitigate the menacing impacts of global climate change. Climate Adaptation Fund and its support to this project constitute one, but still a very modest expression of this conscientious intent and conviction. I say modest because, there is still a long way to go before the belief and commendable stand of the most responsible will develop into a workable and binding international commitment; so that effective cooperation between nations and maximum possible resources could be deployed to deter the impacts of global climate change and clear the scary cloud that hovers over life on our planet.

The project the initiation of which is marked by this gathering, aims at helping increase community resilience and adaptation capacity to the aggravating climate change and climate variability in the sub-zobas of Hamelmalo and Habero, Anseba. In the process of its implementation, many stakeholders will be engaged in the various activities. Here, in the workshop the responsibility, role and anticipated contribution of each player shall be made clear.

I would like to take this opportunity to note that the project has the full backing of the Government of the State of Eritrea. We want it to be a success story and have it implemented as soon as possible; first and for most because it will help improve the life conditions of not less than 6000 of our fellow agro-pastoralist citizens in the target area. Secondly, we have a stake in seeing it serve as learning process and exemplary model for our future climate change adaptation programmes and as a model of cooperation with our partners and an appreciation of their contribution.

For the reasons briefly stated, all the players who will take part in the implementation of the project are called to contribute their utmost, knowing that their role could be defining in the successful achievement of the objectives of the programme. It is also worth to strongly remind programme managers and implementers not to lose sight of the fact that conscious and active engagement of the ultimate beneficiary population is vital to the successful realization and sustainability of the project goals.

Having said so, on behalf of the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment, and on my behalf, I would like to express sincere appreciation to our partners, Adaptation Fund Board and UNDP for their technical and financial support as well as for the patience and understanding they had shown when we came with a new idea that caused the substitution of the original

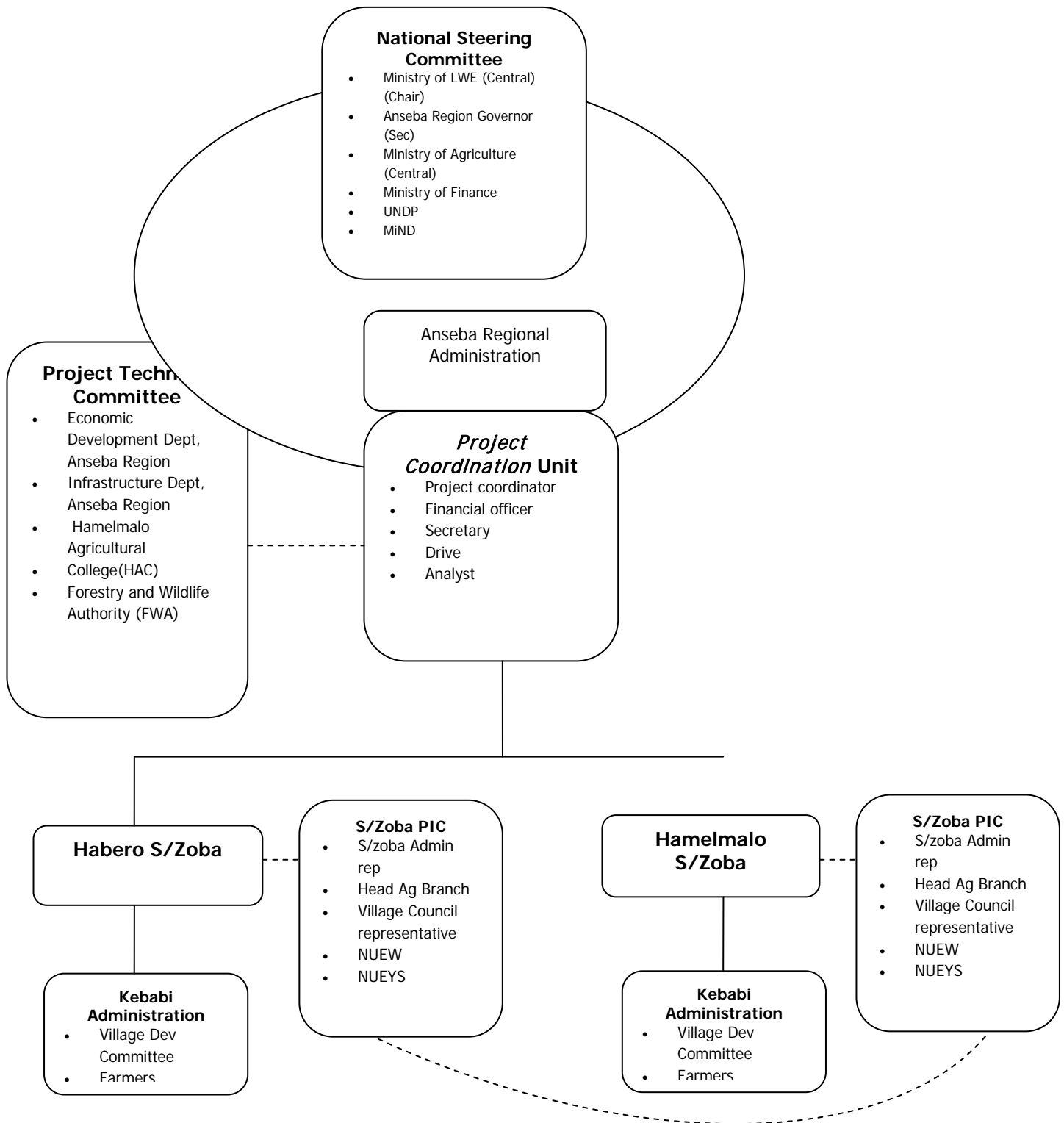
Kerkebet Project proposal by the Water Recharge Project in Tsilima- Southern Region, the PIF of which project is under formulation..

At last but not least, I extend my special thanks to those who worked hard to put up the project.

I thank you all for the attention.  
6 November, 2012



## Annex D: Project management structure (organogram)



## Annex E: Implementation Plan

Outcomes	Outputs	Lead Agency	Key actors
<p><b>Outcome 1</b></p> <p><b>Increased water availability and erosion control through groundwater recharge, rainwater harvesting, irrigation and soil and water conservation and afforestation measures</b></p> <p><u>Indicators</u> - Change in level of renewable water resources used in programme area</p> <p><u>Baseline</u> Only about 1million cubic meters is put in use</p>	<p><b>Output 1.1:</b> Groundwater recharged and irrigation technologies implemented for crop and forage production by developing a sub-surface dam within the Anseba River</p> <p><b>Output 1.2.:</b> Floodwater harvested to enable irrigation of rain-fed cereal production and rangelands</p> <p><b>Output 1.3:</b> Two dams constructed to retain and store rainfall run-off.</p> <p><b>Output 1.4:</b> Soil and water conservation measures implemented to improve runoff management and infiltration (Catchment rehabilitation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dept of Economic Development (DED) /Min of Agriculture (MOA) Anseba</li> <li>• DED/MOA Anseba</li> <li>• DED/MOA Anseba</li> <li>• DED/MOA Anseba</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hamelmalo College (HAC)</li> <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li> <li>• Ministry of Local Government -MLG (Community)</li> <li>• HAC</li> <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li> <li>• MLG (Community)</li> <li>• HAC</li> <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li> <li>• MLG (Community)</li> <li>• HAC</li> <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li> <li>• MLG (Community)</li> <li>• Forest and Wildlife Authority (FWA)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outcome 2 Climate-resilient agricultural and livestock production enhanced</b></p> <p><u>Indicator</u> Change in food security in the programme area as a result of using climate-resilient agricultural and livestock production methods, measured as # of months per year additionally covered by local production</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> to be established.</p>	<p><b>Output 2.1:</b> A range of climate-resilient agricultural technologies and methods developed and transferred to farmers e.g. drought- and disease-resistant varieties, integrated crop-livestock production systems, conservation agriculture, agroforestry, rangeland management; and traditional improved fuel-efficient stoves</p> <p><b>Output 2.2:</b> Seasonal forecasts used in a farmer-led collaborative action learning process to enhance adaptive capacity and climate-proof production systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DED/MOA Anseba</li> <li>• Department of Infrastructure (DI)/MLWE-Anseba</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HAC</li> <li>• MLWE Anseba</li> <li>• MLG (Community)</li> <li>• FWA</li> <li>• National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW)</li> <li>• National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)</li> <li>• HAC</li> <li>• Meteorological service</li> <li>• Water Resources Department (WRD)</li> <li>• DED/MOA Anseba</li> </ul>

<p><b>Outcome 3</b>  <b>Improved climate risk information and climate monitoring used to raise awareness of and enhance community preparedness to climate change hazards</b></p> <p><u>Indicator</u>  Percentage of programme beneficiaries making use of improved climate risk information and climate monitoring processes, disaggregated according to gender</p> <p><u>Baseline = 0</u></p>	<p><b>Output 3.1.:</b> Improved climate risk information generated and capacity developed for climate monitoring and analysis</p> <p><b>Output 3.2.:</b> Awareness raised at different levels on climate change risks facing Zoba Anseba</p> <p><b>Output 3.3:</b> Community preparedness enhanced through development of a community-based early warning system in sub-zobas Hamelmalo and Habero</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li>   <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li>   <li>• DED/MOA Anseba</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HAC</li> <li>• MOA Anseba</li> <li>• Eritrean Mapping and Information Center, Anseba</li>   <li>• HAC</li> <li>• Meteorology Services</li> <li>• NUEW</li> <li>• National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS)</li> <li>• MLG-community</li> <li>• DE/MOA Anseba</li> <li>• MOI Anseba</li>   <li>• HAC</li> <li>• NUEW</li> <li>• NUEYS</li> <li>• MLG-community</li> <li>• DE/MOA Anseba</li> <li>• MOI Anseba</li> <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outcome 4</b>  <b>Knowledge management system established and knowledge management activities implemented</b></p> <p><u>Indicators</u>  Number of 'lessons learned' about natural resource management in the context of climate change as a result of the programme</p> <p><u>Baseline = 0</u></p>	<p><b>Output 4.1:</b> Knowledge management system established and knowledge management activities implemented</p> <p><b>Output 4.2:</b> Policy advocacy activities implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DED/MOA Anseba/HAC</li>   <li>• DI/MLWE Anseba</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DI/ MLWE Anseba</li> <li>• NARI</li> <li>• MLG</li> <li>• MOI Anseba</li> <li>• MOE Anseba</li>   <li>• HAC</li> <li>• NARI</li> <li>• MOA Anseba</li> <li>• MLG</li> </ul>

**Annex F: Photographs of inception workshop**

