Photo trip report from the initiation meeting of the Lemo woreda Innovation Platform (SNNPR)

12-14 February 2014
• The Africa RISING project in the Ethiopian highlands is supporting the establishment of local innovation platforms in each of its sites.

• This visit aimed to brief agricultural research, development and other stakeholders working at Africa RISING sites about the program’s activities, and initiate the establishment of Innovation Platforms (IPs) with key partners.

• By the end of the visits we established 4 strategic (woreda) and 8 operational (kebele) IPs and formed technical committees at woreda and kebele levels.
Briefing session on Africa RISING activities to agricultural research, development and other stakeholders working at woreda level
Kindu Mekonnen gives an overview of the Africa RISING program, project activities to date including the results of the Participatory Community Analysis.
Discussion by stakeholders involved in the innovation platform
Workneh Dubale, Africa RISING site coordinator confirms his intention to collaborate with stakeholders to see the project objectives achieved.
Participants discussing challenges and opportunities around innovation platforms
Identifying key stakeholders to be members of the innovation platform
Participants agreeing and approving the technical committee members
Members of the Technical Committee at zonal level: (from left to right) Belay Osere, Lobe Haile, Tamrat Erjinaw, Shemelis Mengistu, Fikadu Tessema, Ashenafi Yohaness, Workneh
Elias Damtew leading the discussion on monitoring and evaluation framework
On the way to visit Jawe kebele
Greetings one of the model farmers in Jawe kebele
Examining forage interventions
forage interventions
Model farmers while sharing their experience
Discussing innovation platform purpose, role, membership and technical committees
Aberra Adie talks about building partnerships and value chains
Members of the Technical committee in Jawe kebele: Mulugeta Negash, Mulatu Basha, Birtukan Bizuneh, Bekelech Belachew, Birtukan Shigute, Ayele Abebe, Meles Shobiso
Africa RISING team, Jawe kebele farmers and other stakeholders
Farmers set up a straw man to prevent animals eating their crops
Project partners Ethiopia
Local partners Ethiopia

- **Academic institutions:**
  Wachemo, Mekelle, Madawolabu, Debre Berhan and Hawassa universities; Maichew Agricultural College

- **Regional research organizations:**
  Amhara Regional Agricultrural Research Institute, Southern Agricultural Research Institute, Tigray Agricultural Research Institute, Oromia Agricultural Research Institute

- **Federal research organizations:**
  Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research, Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute

- **Offices of Agriculture:**
  Endamekoni (Tigray), Basona Worena (Amhara), Lemo (SNNRP) and Sinana (Oromia)

- **Agricultural Transformation Agency**
Credits
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Our appreciation goes to team members, local partner organizations and the community of Lemo woreda
Africa Research in Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation

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