Context

- Land degradation robs livelihoods of lowland pastoralists in Chifra.
- Floods from the highlands, dwindling rains and overgrazing make it worse.
- > Conflicts over scarce resources and dependence on food aid increase.
- > Urgent need for a **behavior change** in pastoralists to learn farming skills.

Innovative ways of working

The big shift to agro-pastoralism



INNOVATIVE **TECHNOLOGY**

Water **Spreading Weirs** capture highland floods and spread to lowlands (Designed by

GIZ-SDR)



AGRI-SCIENCE

Cropping zones mapped based on soil moisture content (GIZ, ICRISAT & Agri-universities)

SOCIAL DYNAMICS





EXTENSION SYSTEM

Pastoral Agriculture and Development Office acts as conflict mediator and byelaw enforcer

OUTCOME

Success of lead agro-pastoralists encourages others to shift to the new system



Harnessed flood water re-greens degraded pastoral lands in Ethiopia

> Land that couldn't grow any crops was turned into a productive oasis in 3 years in Chifra, Afar



Spreading Weirs

Built Water







Harnessed the Taught pastoralists highland floods farming skills

Introduced 8 food-feed crops

- > Better food security: 52 households in the pilot project, who grew food and forage, relied less on food aid
- > Sustainable pastoral systems: Increased feed and water access around the year.

2016

2017

2018

Pastoralists farm 24 ha with project guidance

Farming area increased to 46 ha

Pastoralists take their own cropping decisions

Produced biomass of about 10 t/ha

Produced biomass of about 12 t/ha

Crops grown: Sorghum, maize, teff, mung bean, cowpea, elephant grass, pigeon pea and lablab







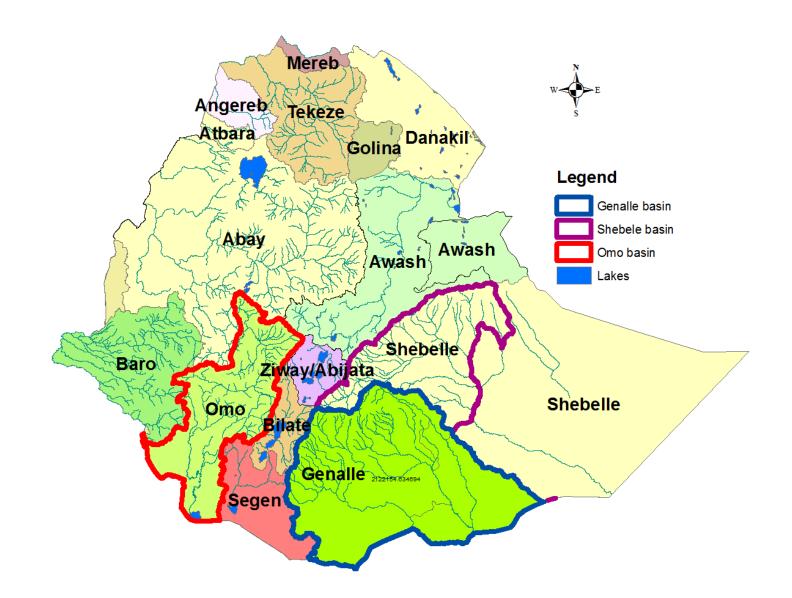






Future steps

- > Flood analysis of Afar region using Sentinel-1 satellite data shows floodbased farming potential:
- 550,000 ha in Belg (Short rains)
- 1.2 million ha in Meher (Rainy season)
- > Pilot to be upscaled in Shebelle and Genalle basins in **Somali region** and Omo-Gibe basin



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