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## **Mudug Monitoring and Evaluation Update**

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Compiled by: Monitoring and Research team.

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### **Background.**

Salaam Development Centre (SDC) has been partnering with United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) since 2018 to make certain that drought-affected individuals have immediate assistance in resolving challenges brought about by water inadequacy and conflicts. During the years, SDC planned and implemented conditional and unconditional interventions supported by WFP in Puntland.

These projects included Livelihood-FFA and Relief project respectively. They are designed to sustain migrant pastoralists and the surrounding community access nutritional food and sustainability assistance throughout the drought season. In order to help with the smooth flow of the project implementation processes, Successful community consultations are conducted during orientation, selection, registration and actual implementation. Partnerships exist within the local communities so as to assist in building trust and to ensure the affected individuals are able to express their preferences and challenges freely.

Recently SDC is implementing Livelihood project in Mudug region. This project targets several farm sites in the region and more specifically Bursalax cooperative site that has 96 Households working on 2HA of community land that serves as primary training site for beneficiaries. Beneficiaries receive in depth GAP trainings, farm management, basic literacy and self sustainability skills. Beneficiaries are encouraged to apply the knowledge received in their

personal gardens and farms back in the villages to provide vulnerable households with a dignified existence while significantly decreasing dependence on humanitarian assistance.

### **Benefits of GAP- (Good Agricultural Practices) to cooperative sites.**

There are various benefits a community enjoys from the GAP curriculum. One of them is that it serves as a motivation factor to the beneficiaries as the curriculum is tailor made to suite each site challenges and mitigation measures. Beneficiaries are trained on economical food production methods, alternative farming techniques, farm management, crop and disease control.

### **Results**

As a result of years of support within the cooperative sites, trainings and encouragement to implement the knowledge, our research team has followed up on two individual sites established by two beneficiaries in their respective home gardens. They were initially relief beneficiaries and they graduated into becoming Livelihood project beneficiaries.

They are members of Bursalax cooperative site whereby they have received extensive GAP trainings and farm management techniques. During set up of their personal gardens they were assisted by a professional agronomist and SDC provided them with fruit trees seedlings, vegetable seeds, farm tools, farm nutrients that appropriate their farms to assist with the transition. Each beneficiary owns a 50M<sup>2</sup> farm which will be cultivated this season.

These ladies were part of the beneficiaries selected because their households were some of the most severely affected by the drought situation in the region. Their households have little to no food and the available options have no nutritional value. These women are the only breadwinners in their households that expands up to 6 or more members. The economical situation in the country has also made it hard for them to adequately sustain themselves without an effective alternative source of livelihood.

### **Recommendations**

The cooperative sites only serves as a temporal solution. One of the recommendations is to introduce more transition projects that go a long way in rescuing the famine situation. This can be done by actively encouraging all beneficiaries with personal land to consider transitioning from primary training sites and into their own farms. As an implementing partner we are considering setting up water tank storages near the communities so as to accelerate the process. Also, drilling boreholes can provide a continuous water supply throughout the seasons. Another recommendation is to increase education on water conservation practices among migrants and community members.

## MUDUG ANNEX



*Figure 1: Bursalex individual farm cultivation.*



*Figure 2;Farm cultivation.*



*Figure 3:Tree seedling distribution.*

### **Reference.**

Mudug Research and Evaluation Report (2023). SALAAM DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (SDC).

Website; <http://www.salaamcenter.org/>