

## **Early Recovery Project Field Visit Report.**

Jan-2025

### **Introduction**

The Salaam Development Centre (SDC), in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), has been implementing an early recovery project in the Mudug and Nugal regions. This initiative focuses on improving food security, enhancing agricultural productivity, and providing sustainable solutions to support vulnerable communities in two districts: Godob-jiraan and Tawfiq.

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### **Godob-jiraan District**

In Godob-jiraan district, our mission this week included the handover of a farm tractor and its two assorted accessories of disk ploughs and disk harrow to the farmers' cooperative committee and government officials. To mark this occasion, we organized a small event attended by local authorities, community members, and the farmers' cooperative committee in the district. A WFP representative and our SDC senior management also participated in the event, highlighting its significance.

During the event, the SDC Executive Director emphasized the importance of the farm tractor, stating that it would support smallholder farmers in increasing their productivity, boosting farm production, and improving food security and nutrition status among vulnerable households in the district. The WFP representative affirmed their presence as witnesses to the handover ceremony, reinforcing the transparency of the initiative.

The district chairman expressed his commitment to ensuring the security and proper management of the farm tractor, assuring the community that the tractor would be monitored and utilized to benefit all farmers equitably. Cooperative farmers also pledged to manage the tractor effectively and follow good agricultural practices to achieve maximum productivity.

In addition to the handover, we conducted a community mobilization session to encourage effective farm system management. Recognizing that many of the community members are traditionally nomadic, we emphasized the importance of cultivating staple crops, such as cereals (beans, maize, and sorghum), to improve food security.

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### **Qoryo-weyn**

In Qoryo-weyn district, we implemented a project aimed at improving water access and reducing operational costs for the community. This area, characterized by its flat terrain and significant livestock population, relies heavily on this water point. The community, through their contributions, had previously dug a borehole and used a generator to pump water.

As part of our partnership with WFP, we supported the community by installing solar panels to power the borehole. This initiative was designed to reduce the cost of water extraction by utilizing solar energy instead of generators. Additionally, we began the construction of a durable

water tank and two animal troughs to serve the community's livestock. One trough was designed specifically for camels, while the other catered to goats, sheep, cattle, and other animals.

The project is currently in the implementation phase. The water tank and animal troughs are under construction, and the solar panels have begun to be installed. During our visit this week, the SDC senior management team observed the progress of these activities. We noted that the community and livestock heavily rely on this water point, especially during this dry season when drought conditions prevail.

Another critical component of the project was the distribution of beneficiary vouchers through the WFP's electronic Scope system. Each household in the Godob-jiraan district received a top-up voucher worth eighty dollars, while other districts received seventy dollars per month. This enabled beneficiaries to redeem their entitlements from authorized retailers. During our visit, we monitored the voucher distribution and observed how beneficiaries redeemed their entitlements. This process ensured transparency and provided valuable insights into how the system supports vulnerable households.

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## Challenges

Throughout Godob-jiraan district, a major challenge has been the reliance on rainwater for cultivating essential food crops, especially cereals. The lack of consistent rainfall, or the shortage of rain, has severely affected agricultural productivity. In many cases, the community only receives a small portion of rain during the season, making it difficult to grow crops. This weather-related issue has a significant impact on food security.

Additionally, the remote location of these areas presents logistical challenges. Access to roads is limited, which can hinder the transport of supplies and assistance. High prices for goods and services also put a strain on the community's ability to cope with these challenges.

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## Conclusion

The early recovery project implemented by SDC in partnership with WFP has made significant progress in both Godob-jiraan and Tawfiiq districts. From improving agricultural productivity through the provision of farm equipment to enhancing farm production, food security, and nutrition, and promoting water sustainability for livestock. Despite challenges such as rain shortages, logistical constraints, and occasional local conflicts, the project continues to create a positive impact on the lives of the people and livestock in these regions.

## Photos



*Tractor handover 1*



*Community mobilization, Godob-jiraan 2*



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*Water tank, Qoryo-weyn 3*