

Project Overview 2011

**Dire Kebele Community
Gimbichu District
Oromia Regional State
Ethiopia**

**Work done in collaboration with HORC, an Ethiopian NGO under the direction of
Dr. Getenesh Sintayehu**

Work was commenced in February, 2011 with resources provided by HORCO Canada and the Community, working under the guidance of Mr. Kassahun Hiyile Mikael, a registered hydrological engineer in Ethiopia.

Work was completed in July, 2011.

While waiting for a final report to be received from Dr. Getenesh, HORCO Canada provides the enclosed information for donors to see that the work has been completed successfully and the community is enjoying the benefits of a safe water source that provides sufficient water for each family.

Contents of the Report:

Site visit by HORCO Canada in April, 2012

Photo collage of the project from beginning to end

Preliminary expense report dated September, 2011.

Monitoring Mission of HORCO

Notes for follow-up report for Gimbichu project sites – Apr 10/11, 2012

Dire Kebele – completed July, 2011 with HORC

- Travelled to site with Getenesh, a Board Member and a Holeta Project Co-ordinator, plus Dagim Almaw, Chris Chadwick (videographer) and Bob Kline (plus driver)
- Took about 2+ hours, 2/3 of the way was good road, 1/3 was awful, with rocks, holes, mud and 3 river crossings (no bridges) to get to the site. Our driver (Abata) was outstanding as a driver and an individual (Toyota Land Cruiser + driver hired from EKWC Development Office). Extreme off-road experience!! Go Toyota!
- We stopped in Cheffe Donsa, the closest town, to pick up 2 staff persons (Yarad and Tesfaye) from the District Water Officer, who provided regular oversight for the project.
- Project site was in the middle of a field with some marshy, muddy places. One home lived close-by, several could be seen at a distance, but most were not visible from the project site due to rolling hills.
- When we arrived several women and children were getting water from the fenced-in access point and one was washing clothes. A group of little kids were running around, with a handful of men standing by. The chairman of the farmers' association in that area was a spokesperson. I interviewed him as Chris videoed. He expressed thanks on behalf of the community for the work of HORCO Canada. In response to questions we found out that:
 - About 150 families were using the facility (providing water for about 1,000 people)
 - Each family was getting about 6-20 L jugs a day, which at 20L/person meets the UN recommendations for total water use. Water can be obtained during two time periods a day. Sufficient water for all who want it, even in the dry season.
 - Average walking time is about 15 minutes one-way. Donkeys are used to carry water jugs.
 - Children's health has improved – GI problems frequent before are no longer a problem, and typhoid is gone. Cattle are healthier.
 - Women like the washing table because clean water can be used and clothes are not spread out on the ground.
 - Overflow from the reservoir is used to irrigate a new garden planted nearby by 3 families who live close to the facility.
- We visited the washing table where a woman was washing onions with clean water. I asked her to explain how the spring facility helped her – she commented about being able to wash vegetables with clean water on a clean surface.
- We followed the pipeline uphill to the large reservoir (10,000 L+). They explained that no water has been coming out through the overflow for the last several months. This water used to be used to irrigate the garden, but now there is a leak from one of the 3 springs that was protected, which has been channelled to the garden.

- We followed the pipeline to the leaking spring. There was considerable water being lost from the system. The engineer is supposed to come and advise the community. This is their responsibility, not HORCO's. Of interest, the District Water supervisor was suspicious that one of the garden's owners may have done something to get a better water flow to the garden!! If true, the community must deal with this.
- Getenesh commented on the excellent community participation there was on this project – they have definitely owned it. Many workers were involved (as shown by Dagim's video from last Spring). They have plans to possibly expand the gardens to a community garden.
- Back in Cheffe Donsa, we spoke briefly with the District Water Officer, who thanked HORCO for being involved in this area, and encouraged us to continue to work with other communities in this unserved part of the region. He said that the facility at Dire Kebele was model for the whole district. We took photos.
- We treated the two coordinators to lunch and I gave them each 200 Birr (about \$12) for their work with Getenesh, who said that she never paid them.

Comments: Overall I was impressed with what I saw and heard, although realistically, we may have been told what they thought we wanted to hear. We don't have any hard evidence about children's health. I was somewhat surprised that so few people from the community were there – somehow I expected a larger crowd (pride?). Dagim said it was a workday and people might have been busy. It was also quite hot and late in the morning, when women did not normally go to the site. The spokesperson said an inauguration was being planned to dedicate the spring, and that Getenesh and the engineer were invited. I was glad there was no HORCO Canada sign at the facility. They seemed genuinely thankful for being able to partner with us.



Dire Kebele Water Facility - Expenses from scanned receipts (Sep, 2011)*

Project Expenses**	ET Birr	\$CDN	Currency exchange ~ 17
Construction Materials	51,035	3,002	
Daily Labor/Materials (sand & stone)	25,220	1,484	
Professional Fees	162,800	9,576	
Car Rental - Engineer	1,000	59	
Fuel	3,280	193	
Community	1,702	100	
Refreshments	832	49	
Subtotal	245,869	14,463	

Admin/Management

Staff Salaries/Staff Per Diem	62,535	3,679
Office Rent	24,000	1,412
Photocopies/Supplies	242	14
Car Rental	8,100	476
Refreshments	832	49
Miscellaneous	5,629	331
Auditor (2010)	2,702	159
Subtotal	104,040	6,120

Overall Accounting

	ET Birr	\$CDN
HORCO Funds (est)	445,400	26,200
Expenses	349,909	20,583
Funds Remaining (est)	95,491	5,617
Grand Total	349,909	20,583

* Preliminary final report constructed from figures sent by Getenesh

** Work completed: protection of 3 springs, construction of 3 reservoirs connected to distribution point, washing table, and animal trough; training of care-takers and maintenance personnel

