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Mid-Term Review

Crop Investment and Diversification, Processing and Marketing in the Shebelle Valley Project (CIDPM)
Contract No. LO-17641-96-13

and

Strengthening of Agricultural Activities in Shebelle Valley Project (SAASV)
Contract No. GPR/AIDCO/2000/2110/11/0

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Crop Investment and Diversification, Processing and Marketing in the Shabelle Valley, and
Strengthening of Agricultural Activities in the Shabelle Valley

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Abbreviations

ADRA	A SHARP Partner Agency
CAP	Community Action Plan
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
Cefa	Comitato Europeo per la Formazione e L'Agricultura
EC	European Commission
EPRDF	Ethiopian Patriotic Revolutionary Defence Force
FAO	UN Food and Agriculture Organisation
LSR	Lower Shabelle Region
MTR	Mid Term Review
MSR	Middle Shabelle Region
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
RGA	Rice Growers Association
RT	Review Team
SACB	Somalia Aid Coordination Body
SHARP	Shabelle Valley Agriculture Rehabilitation Project
WHO	World Health Organisation

Contents

1. Relevance[1]

1.1 Identification and Formulation Process

Cefa has been working in the Middle Shebelle area from as early as 1992. It was farmers in the Jowhar area that suggested trying to re-establish rice production. Each step of project development has involved local farmers incorporating their ideas, responding to perceived needs as they emerged – including the re-establishment of a revolving fund on a pilot basis and the re-establishment of Rice Growers and Rice Millers Associations.

From 1996 to the present, rice cultivation has been re-established in Jowhar District, Middle Shabelle, and introduced for the first time in Lower Shabelle through the implementation of three project phases. Pure rice seeds were made available by means of local seed multiplication. Farmers were continuously trained and supported, A local Rice Growers Association (RGA) was re-established and until March 2001 in Jowhar was operating with some success. In Lower Shabelle three new RGA,s were established. The last part of the second phase began to focus on rice processing and produce marketing in order to complete the cycle from production to processing to marketing (see Figure 1). This was continued through the third phase, where processing, marketing and capacity building of the Growers and Milling Associations were intended to be the main activities.

Following the success of the first three phases a further phase was designed entitled: **"Crops Improvement and Diversification – Cultivation, Processing and Marketing in the Shabelle Valley" (CIDPM).** This began in February 2002, and it builds on the experiences and lessons learnt from the past and seeks to promote an expanded approach to diversification.

At the same time a separate project named, **"Strengthening of Agricultural Activities in Shabelle Valley" (SAASV)** was designed and initiated that focuses on the need to rehabilitate existing irrigation structures in order to encourage more families to take up farming activities again. This second project overlaps in geographic area and content with CIDPM. Further SAASV is part of a coalition of four INGO's (Cefa, CARE, Concern Worldwide and ADRA) who are conducting parallel activities in different and overlapping geographical areas.

As a result of recommendations of the End of Term Review of phase III (the Rice Project) these two projects are being implemented through an integrated management structure in order to coordinate improvements in agricultural techniques with improved access to irrigation water – and they are the subject of this Mid Term Review.

1.2 Realism of Project Design

Recent Somali history has been about the collapse of a nation state, about anarchy, chaos and confusion. Much of the involvement by the international community in this period has been partly about responding to very real humanitarian need, and partly contributing to the chaos through the failure to make the shift from an emergency focused mentality to a recovery and

[1] The appropriateness of the project objectives to the problems that it is supposed to address and to the physical and policy environment within which it operates.

development approach. In the midst of this, Cefa has taken a long-term process oriented, community-based, participatory and step-by-step approach; going very quickly when possible then going slowly and patiently when necessary.

The basic philosophy has been that of building on traditional structures, using what people know and can do for themselves, but introducing new technology as well whilst going at the absorptive capacity of the people involved. This has been shown to help calm a very violent and lawless situation and is encouraging people to give value and space to peace and security, because their focus is on food security and economic recovery. The situation in Jowhar has been relatively peaceful for some years now. In Lower Shabelle this is not the case, and the absence of effective law and order continues to disrupt the progress being made.

The project design has been both realistic and productive, albeit with continuing problems due to insecurity – particularly in Lower Shabelle.

2. Project Preparation and Design[2]

2.1 General Context

In 1977 the Somali National Army invaded what is now the Somali National Regional State, Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Army repulsed this invasion but the impact on the people and economy of the area was devastating. Many inhabitants were displaced, particularly into Somalia and into Northern Kenya. They stayed there as refugees until the Siyad Barre regime in Somalia collapsed in 1991 (in the same year the EPRDF government came to power in Ethiopia after fifteen years of civil conflict). At this time these same Somali people were displaced back into Ethiopia, where they had originally come from.

The last decade (1990-2000) has been particularly difficult from a climatic point of view. The collapse of the Somali Government took place in the middle of a severe and lasting drought (1991-1994) that affected most of Somalia, large parts of Ethiopia (in particular the Somali Region) and large parts of Kenya (particularly the Northern and Eastern pastoral areas). I995-1996 saw something of a recovery; then 1997 was the year of El Nino where large areas suffered heavy rainfall and floods. 1998 was a good year, which was still affected by the residual soil moisture and good grazing produced by El Nino, but the October-November *Deyr* rains were poor, as were also the *Gu* and *Deyr* rains in 1999. Three failed rainy seasons in a row showed how little the pastoral economy had recovered from the droughts at the beginning of the decade.

The El Nino event of 1997 had another impact. The heavy rains brought on an epidemic of Rift Valley Fever in the lowland areas of Kenya. As a result, Saudi Arabia and Yemen imposed a ban on cattle that has not yet been lifted. This had the further complicating effect of closing the major export markets for the cattle of Somalia, Somali Region and Somaliland and further devastating local economies. This ban is slowly being lifted, although there has been no evidence of further outbreaks of Rift Valley Fever anywhere in the Horn of Africa since 1998.

2.2 Specific Context

Middle Shebelle Region

The region is divided into seven districts with different geographical and economic characteristics. Jowhar district is located along the Shebelle River in one of the most productive agricultural areas in the country, with about 12,000 ha of irrigated land and 64,000 ha of rain fed agricultural land.

The population can be divided into different groups:

- Settled farming community;
- Nomadic/ semi-nomadic pastoralists;
- Urban business community,

There is no accurate estimate of the population size, but WHO estimates (1998) an average of 143,000 people.

[2] The logic and completeness of the project planning process, and the internal logic and coherence of the project design.

Lower Shebelle Region

The region is divided into eight districts with different geographical and economic characteristics. The project area comprises both Merca and Qoriooley Districts. An estimate of the number of families in these two districts is seen below in Figure 1.

Qoreooley District		Merca District	
Village	No.of Families	Village	No.of Families
Qoreooley	6,000	Genaale	4,259
Gaiw erow	700	Segaale West	600
Farhane	1,150	Segaale East	192
Cardi Cali	700	Maduulow	n/a
Furuqley	550	Waagade	567
Bandar	480	Degw ariri	1,000
Jeerow	800	Khamisow	770
Maduulow	520	Majabto	215
Garas Guul	500	Buulo Muuse	57
Tugaarey	300	Golw eyn	2,000
Bulo-Koy	100	Bulo Marerta	3,000
Jasiira	350	Mushaani	976
Haduman	570	Uguunji	1872*
Bulo Sheikh	470	Shalambood	1017 *
Manya Murug	465	Bufow	275
Farkeerov	250	Bulo Arundo	180
		Bulo Jameo	77
		Malabele	850
		Busley Da'ud	1200
Total	13,905		16,218

Source: Village elders, farmers and CEFA field staff - June 2003
* 1977 figures from MMP report. 2003 figures not available

Figure 1. Number of families in Qoreooley and Merca Districts

Estimated land use in the project area, 1978 & 2003, is given in the Figure 2 below[3].

[3] Data is drawn from Banana Sector Study for Somalia, Strategy for Agricultural Development and Diversification in Lower Shabelle, September 2003, Eurata

LAND USE (ha)	1978					2003				
	Gross Land Area	Non Cultivated Area	Planted Area Irrigated	Planted Area Rainfed	Total Planted Area	Gross Land Area	Non Cultivated Area	Planted Area Irrigated	Planted Area Rainfed	Total Planted Area
Uncultivable land	17,450	17,450	0	0	0	17,450	17,450	0	0	0
Non-irrigable crop area	15,565	10,487	0	5,078	5,078	15,565	10,487	0	5,078	5,078
Irrigable annual crop area	27,010	15,498	11,512	0	11,512	31,380	8,458	8,000	14,922	22,922
Bananas - irrigated	6,870	2,803	4,067	0	4,067	2,500	900	1,600	0	1,600
Other fruits - irrigated	515	210	305	0	305	515	315	200	0	200
TOTAL	67,410	46,448	15,884	5,078	20,962	67,410	37,610	9,800	20,000	29,800

Sources: 1978 figures - "Genale - Bulo Marerta Project" report by Sir M. MacDonald & Partners.
2003 figures - Mission estimate - see notes on the land use table below
Note: Banana area in 1978 includes 647 ha under development at that time.

Figure 2. Estimated Land Use in the Study Area, 1978 & 2003

Qoriooley District is located along the Shebelle River in a productive agricultural area of the country, with a potential 30,000 ha of irrigated land and 5,000ha of rain fed agricultural land.

The population can be divided into three main groups:

- Settled small-scale farmers;
- Nomadic/ semi-nomadic pastoralists;
- Urban business community.

Because of the predominance of nomadic groups it is difficult to estimate accurately the population in the district. WHO estimates (1998) an average of 155,000.
FAO Land and Water Project, also funded by EC, is planning a thorough demographic analysis of inhabitants of the Shabelle Valley.

2.3 The Project Design

Because of the close coordination of activities the two projects are reviewed together. The details are shown in Figure 3 below.

Crops Improvement and Diversification, Cultivation, Processing and Marketing	**Strengthening of Agricultural Activities in the Shabelle Valley**
Project Goal Food security in the Shabelle Valley improved	**Project Goal** Standard of livelihood improved in rural areas in a sustainable manner

Project Purpose Regional production of rice and oil crops increased in an economically viable manner	**Project Purpose** Agricultural production in the target area will be strengthened and diversified contributing to increased livelihood security of the beneficiaries.

Core Theme	Results-CIDPM	Results-SAASV
Capacity Building	1. Improved capacity of local groups, staff and individuals on community based management, participatory methods and technical management	
Infrastructure		1. Project target interventions selected and cooperation with beneficiary communities ensured

		2. Training packages developed for rehabilitation and maintenance of irrigation network as well as backstopping for other targeted projects provided
		3. Irrigation infrastructure is rehabilitated and maintained by the communities
		4. Flood protection assessed and rehabilitation package developed in the target area as well as backstopping for other related projects provided
Increased crop production	2. Average rice production per unit improved and number of rice growers increased	
Crop diversification	3.Alternative oil crops tested with local farmers and introduction/cultivation packages developed	5. Training package for suitable and diverse crops production developed, tested and introduced
Crop processing	4. Quality and quantity of milled/ packaged rice increased, oil processing bases operational in an economically viable manner, oil processing quality improved	
Marketing	5. Marketing of agricultural produce and inputs improved	

Figure 3. Comparison of Logframes in CIDPM and SAASV Projects

Comparison of logframes for both projects

By putting the two logframes together it is possible to see the linkages between the results of each project. The column on the left indicates the core themes of each project. SAASV has a technical engineering team put together to rehabilitate canals and embankments and to provide training and support to communities to self-maintain those canals. Also under SAASV is a crop diversification element that focuses on **training** for crop diversification that is paralleled in CIDPM. Wheat is newly introduced under SAASV.

CIDPM however is about **introducing** those new crops, testing their performance and developing cultivation packages. It then goes on to address crop processing (rice, and oil crops) and marketing issues.

An important aspect of CIDPM is that it provides capacity building activities to both the agronomy and the infrastructure activities in an integrated way. The important point here is that the people whose capacity is being built are both the Cefa staff and the community leaders who are trained together and then operate together.

The logframe results collectively are intended to increase organisational, agricultural and infrastructure capacities. The project purpose of CIDPM however is about increasing production with a view to "improving food security". The SAASV project purpose is about strengthening agricultural production in order to "strengthen agricultural production" in order to contribute to "sustainable livelihoods improvement".

Both projects are ambitious, but well designed and making good progress. The only passing thought is whether or not the projects are moving too far ahead of the current situation in Somalia. It is true that security levels in Jowhar have been reasonably acceptable over the last few years, but that is in the context of surrounding areas where this is not the case. The same is not the case for Lower Shabelle.

The Purpose level indicators are well defined with respect to the Project Purpose as shown in Figure 4 below.

CIDP	SAAV
	Number of farmers with diversified crop production
Surface under rice cultivation increased from 300 to 600 ha/season within the project period;	Increased for at least three crops
Average rice production increased from 750 tons to 1,800 within the project period;	Increased area under irrigated crop production
Surface under alternative (not sesame) oil crops cultivation increased from 0 to 25 ha within the second project year.	

Figure 4. Indicators at Project Purpose Level

Livelihoods status is about increasing household assets in a sustainable way (poverty reduction).
The CIDPM indicators are consistent with the project purpose but the goal is rather vague, cannot be measured, and has little value. The SAASV indicators are consistent with the project purpose.

Comments on design of "activities" in each project.
Project activities should be sub-divided in to "Activities" and "sub-activities". The distinction is that many sub-activities are part of a process that leads to a specific activity outcome. Sub-activities do not need to have indicators defined. Trying to provide indicators for every sub-activity is unnecessary and involves massive increases in monitoring and report writing that are unnecessary.

The projects should review the logframe and reduce the number of indicators to only those that demonstrate a specific outcome.

It is better to have fewer indicators that are "smarter" than to have many indicators such as "surface area under rice has increased by x amount" or "production of at least three crops".

3. Efficiency[4]

3.1 Activities Analysis[5]

Indicators relevant to each Result, and progress so far to the end of October, are shown below in Figures5 and 6. See Figure 3 for details of Results. Note that the RT was unable to verify activities in Lower Shabelle because of an insecurity situation.

Crop Improvement and Diversification, Processing and Marketing Project

Result 1		A	B	C	D
25 project staff trained on participatory methodologies within the first project year	A total of 22 had at least one full training session, 3 of the trained staff left the project and 2 staff were recruited after the last training session		B		
40 local representatives trained on participatory methodologies within the first project year	A total of 31 different groups (Village committees, council of elders, woman groups, Canal Committees) stemming from 16 different villages and totalling a number of 208 local representatives were trained on participatory methodologies Participatory planning exercises were conducted for demo plot trainings on improved agricultural practices for: 26 groups and 130 members- Lower Shabelle region 5 groups and 19 members- Middle Shabelle region		B		
11 CAPs developed during first project year	8 CAPs developed complete (Infrastructure, Agriculture and Capacity building) 31 CAPs developed for agricultural training in 31 villages in both LSR and MSR		B		
5 local farmer groups operational on rice, self managed	1 in training (Jowhar RGA) and 3 RGA's trained in Lower Shabelle region but absence of paddy rice halted LSR activities in this respect and new trials for Upland rice are introduced (see below) In LSR 26 and MSR 10 groups of potential contact farmers were (among other crops) introduced through demo plots to upland rice cultivation (Gu 2003) In LSR 22 and MSR 6 contact farmers initiated the cultivation of Upland rice on farmer managed trial plots covering 5 ha and 9 different villages/rice growing areas (Deyr 2003)		B		
2 local farmer groups operational on oil crops	In case oil crops show a high potential the 4 RGA's as representatives of their area and villages are to be trained on oil crop management; at this stage trials are carried out as follows: In both MSR & LSR 31 groups of potential contact farmers are (among other crops) introduced through demo plots to oil crops cultivation (Gu 2003) In LSR 45 and MSR 39 contact farmers initiated the cultivation of Oil crops on farmer managed trial plots covering 25 ha and 19 different villages/irrigated areas (Deyr 2003)		B		
5 local groups and other individuals trained on rice processing and marketing	4 trained (Jowhar RGA. Janaale RGA. Qorioley RGA, Golweyn women group)		B		

[4] The cost, speed and management efficiency with which inputs and activities were converted into results, and the quality of results achieved.

[5] The rating system is based on A=outcomes above expectations; B=outcomes about what was expected; C= outcomes are below what was expected and D=outcomes are so bad activity should be discontinued.

Result 1		A	B	C	D
2 local groups and other individuals trained on oil crops processing and marketing	Two training on oil processing including a taste test for the RGA Jowhar, local Administration, a local miller and Cefa Staff		B		
1,200 farmers participating meetings and training sessions	A total of 2,100 farmers from 39 different villages participated in meetings and/or trainings in various subjects regarding capacity building, agriculture and infrastructure		B		
Result 2		**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
Local farmers average rice production/unit increased from 2.5 to 3 tons/ha	Jowhar: average rice production/unit increasing from 2.5 to 2.7 tons/ha Qorioley: average rice production/unit decreasing from 2 tons/ha to about 0.9 tons/ha to a total stop on paddy rice cultivation Janaale: average rice production/unit decreasing from 2.2 tons/ha to about 1.1 tons/ha to a total stop on paddy rice cultivation Golweyn: only one planting resulting in 2.6 tons/ha		B		
N. of rice growers increased from 200 to 400 within one-year period and to 500 within the second year.	In MSR 461 ha (Deyr 2003) of paddy rice was initiated by approximately 400 farmers In LSR 22 and MSR 6 contact farmers initiated the cultivation of Upland rice on farmer managed trial plots covering 5 ha and 9 different villages/rice growing areas (Deyr 2003) Total: 428 farmers		B		
Result 3		**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
2 oil crops tested and 10 trials implemented in Middle and Lower Shabelle in the second project year, data collected and analysed	15 trial plots implemented and concluded for 3 Sunflower, 10 Safflower, Ground nut and improved practices for sesame. In LSR 45 and MSR 39 contact farmers initiated the cultivation of Oil crops on farmer managed trial plots covering 25 ha and 19 different villages/irrigated areas (Deyr 2003) Total: 15 trials completed and 84 trials initiated		B		
N. of farmers growing alternative oil crops increased from 0 to 30 in Middle and Lower Shabelle in the second project year	In LSR 45 and MSR 39 contact farmers initiated the cultivation of Oil crops on farmer managed trial plots covering 25 ha and 19 different villages/irrigated areas (Deyr 2003). Crops grown (in cases multiple crops per farmer) are safflower (43) and/or sunflower (68) and/or sesame (11)/groundnut (3) under improved practices. Total: 84 farmers started off growing alternative oil crops for Deyr, 2003		B		
Surface under alternative (not sesame) trial crops cultivation increased from 0 to 6 ha/season within the project period	In LSR the number of ha, farmer managed, comprising of alternative/improved oil crops for Deyr 2003 is 20 ha. In MSR the number of ha, farmer managed, comprising of alternative/improved oil crops for Deyr 2003 is 5 ha Total: 25 ha of alternative oil crops started off for the Deyr 2003 season		B		
Result 4		**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
2 new rice processing bases established and equipment operational in Middle and Lower Shabelle	1 new rice processing base established in Middle Shabelle, managed by the Jowhar RGA		B		
2 new oil crops processing bases for alternative oil crops established and equipment operational in Middle and Lower Shabelle	1 new oil processing base purchased and yet to be operational for research purposes in MSR		B		
50% of total rice produce packed in printed bags by farmer groups and seasonal increasing	In discussions with the RGA, Jowhar it was revealed that farmers are not interested to cover the extra costs for printed bags. Tests are to be carried out with the remainder of the printed bags as to how they add value to the product and the economic viability of the extra costs of printing.		B		

Result 5		A	B	C	D
900 tons/season of rice marketed on at least 10 market places country wide	1013 tons rice marketed per season stemming from Jowhar alone. Jowhar is most important and climbing in tons of rice marketed, while Lower Shabelle is ceased to grow (paddy) rice		B		
100 tons of agricultural inputs marketed at local markets in Middle and Lower Shabelle for each project year.	175 tons (3,500 bags @ 50 kg) of both Urea and TSP is being marketed in Jowhar for the Deyr 2003 season by means of a farmer agricultural input supply system (under the RGA)		B		

Figure 5. Analysis of Crop Improvement and Diversification, Processing and Marketing

Strengthening of Agricultural Activities in Shabelle Valley

Result 1		A	B	C	D
No. of committees formed with full participation involved	A total of 53 different groups (Village committees, council of elders, woman groups, Canal Committees, Groups of contact farmers) stemming from 39 different villages and totalling a number of 317 local representatives were engaged in the project with full participation involved		B		
Work plan of management committees and minutes of their meetings	7 Work plans developed complete on agriculture, infrastructure and capacity building 31 work plans developed on agricultural training All Work plans are minuted		B		
Result 2		**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
Trainers (CEFA staff), Farmers/Groups and others trained (Training packages; Write ups)	*Participatory Methodologies:* Four training packages on participatory methodologies for CEFA staff and local representatives *Rehabilitation and maintenance of Irrigation Works:* Keli Dere Canal Management Training Manual for trainers and farmers Need for Users' representation and formal organization in User based Water Management Pictorial farmer manual for planning on Cessare Maria rehabilitation works *Backstopping.* One Irrigation design manual for technical (INGO) staff within the SHARP project for backstopping purposes Manual for Community Management of Irrigation Systems (Backstopping from CARE) Training module for technical staff implementing the infrastructure rehabilitation component of SHARP Irrigation design training of 7 technical staff involved in the implementation of SHARP infrastructure activities Irrigation design training of 4 technical staff involved in the implementation of ICRC infrastructure activities		B		
Number of technical missions including backstopping carried out and quality bills of quantities produced	Agricultural working group (SACB) presentation of the Irrigation Design Manual, 15 participants in 1 session ADRA managed SHARP project staff training on pump fed irrigation infrastructure design, 5 ADRA staff participants in 1 session CINS managed project review of irrigation infrastructure design, 1 CINS staff participant in 1 session ICRC managed project review of irrigation canal intakes designs, 1 ICRC staff participant in 1 session ADRA managed SHARP project review of project proposal before presentation to EC Somalia unit Review with CARE engineer of CARE bills of quantities for sluice gates and box culverts and necessary information for structures design		B		

Result 2		A	B	C	D
Number of training sessions held and number of participants in each	*Participatory Methodologies*: A total of 22 staff had at least one full training session, 3 of the trained staff left the project and 2 staff were recruited after the last training session A total of 1100 farmers from 11 different villages of the project area participated in 2-3 training sessions *Rehabilitation and maintenance of Irrigation Works:* 4 training sessions for 5 CEFA staff members on Canal Operation and Maintenance (O&M) 15 participants of Keli Dere Management Committees and farmers attended 6 training sessions on O&M 17 participants of the Jowhar Administration and Keli Dere Tender committee attended 1 training session 40 participants from Keli Dere Management and Village Committees attended 1 training session 15 participants including the sole contractor and village committees attended 2 training sessions in Jowhar 10 participants of the Jowhar Administration attended 1 training session 30 participants (management committees, farmers, administration and local contractor) of 3 villages comprising of the Keli Dere Canal beneficiaries trained over a 2 month period on canal rehabilitation Over a 6 week period about 15 participants (management committees, farmers and contractor) were trained on river embankment rehabilitation and gate construction in Bayahow In 5 consecutive sessions with an average of 20 participants (management committees, farmers, machine owners) cum beneficiaries of Cessare Maria canal system were sensitized/trained on canal rehabilitation 60 participants from Bananey, Bayahaw, Jowhar Somali, Kalundi, Barrey, Jowhar town attended 1 session on canal maintenance In 2 sessions the CM Canal Committee and machine owners (2) came to final agreement on starting the rehabilitation works In 2 sessions the CM canal committee (15) was trained on detailed planning to conduct rehabilitation works 25 participants (management committees, farmers, and local contractors) of 3 villages comprising of the Cessare Maria Canal beneficiaries trained over a 2.5 month period on canal rehabilitation 1 session with about 25 participants including the CM canal committee and local representatives trained on conflict management 2 sessions with representatives of Primo Secondario in sensitizing/training in canal rehabilitation		B		
Result 3		**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
Quantity and quality of rehabilitation works implemented	Lower Shabelle Canal 4 completed (4.5 km) new intake structure, 4 new gates on 2 cross-regulators, repair of one box culvert, excavation of 3,000 m^3 reservoir for domestic water and 2,000 m^3 reservoir for livestock water at tail end of canal. 15.5 km of Cessare Maria canal completed, 6 box culvert repaired, 1 new box culvert, 3 cross-regulators super structure rehabilitated, 12 gates fitted in the cross-regulators (sedah bundo & punto libah) 1 intake at Cessare Maria with 3 gates complete. 4.2 km of canal 3 completed, 2 intake gates fitted, 2 box culvert sub structure repaired, 5 gates fixed on 3 cross-regulators. 7.3 km of canal 2 completed and 1 reservoir rehabilitated. Middle Shabelle 5.9 km of Kali Dere Completed. 4 intakes at Bayahow village complete. 1.2 km Farnole drainage canal in Jowhar Town completed. 3 sections totalling 179 m of river embankment repaired at Bayahow.		B		
Revenue from fees and its use, schedule and cost of maintenance	Farmers who grow rice in Deyr 2003 will pay SoSh 160,000 and for maize and other crop SoSh 80,000		B		

Result 3		A	B	C	D
Hectares irrigated by canals and number of beneficiaries	Keli Dere 520 ha irrigable (165 ha irrigated during Gu 2003) 285 farmers benefiting from Jowhar town, Bananey & Libega Bayahow 1,500 ha can be irrigated from 10 protected primary canals (xx cropped during gu 2003) 200 farmers benefiting in Bayahaw		B		
Results 4 and 5		**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
Nr. of farmers trained and crops tested	*Crops tested* The number of crops tested (at least once after which a selection was made): 3 Sunflower, 10 Safflower, 7 rice, 98 wheat, 3 maize varieties. Nim Tree, Rough Lemon, Guava, Kaserine and Mango Total: 126 different crops tested *Nr. of farmers trained* For both MSR and LSR about 400 farmers trained in various training sessions on new crops and improved crop practices stemming from 39 different villagers		B		
Results drawn from the trial farms	Janaale CEFA managed trial plot 1st growing season: 10 Safflower and 3 Sunflower varieties trial planted in Lower Shabelle, data collected and analysed		B		
Quality harvest and its quantities of the tested crops	Analysis of crops tested in above trials/spot checks completed		B		
Nr of farmers taking up the proposed new crop off the traditional farming	In MSR 79 and in LSR 55 farmers initiated farmer managed trial plots taking up the proposed new crops off the traditional farming Total: 134 farmers		B		

Figure 6. Activities Analysis of Strengthening of Agricultural Activities in Shabelle Valley

Both projects display a level of professionalism and operational performance of a high standard, with the activities meeting the planned expectations in the logframes. This does not mean that every activity is a success. On the contrary, the teams are confident enough to admit failure when it occurs.

The projects are increasingly process-led, with a real attempt to promote partnership with local organisations and communities.

Comments on CIDPM Activities

Cefa is evolving a sophisticated crop improvement system involving the full spectrum of introducing new varieties, carrying out demonstration trials and training of farmers on improved cultivation techniques. Over previous phases they have reintroduced rice cultivation to Jowhar area and attempted to introduce rice into the Lower Shabelle area. Their experience of this has been that the use of paddy rice has technical problems involving the seepage of irrigation water into adjacent fields of farmers who are not producing rice This leads to reduction of yield of other crops due to water logging. In order to address this issue they are testing the use of upland rice.

They are making good progress in the introduction of oil crops and wheat, although this is still at an early stage and will require continued work over a further period of 3-4 years to be able to make firm conclusions. Processing and marketing activities that are relatively new are important if farmers are to be encouraged to persevere with diversifying their production.

It would be valuable to diversify the recently introduced agro-forestry approach in Lower and Middle Shabelle and to include a relative mixture of crops, grasses for soil conservation, and fodder and tree crops for firewood, construction, mulch, fodder and shade purposes.

The CIDP project which is focused on agricultural training and the introduction of alternative crops has so far initiated and concluded trials on various crops, including various varieties of wheat, paddy rice, safflower, sunflower and upland rice, among others, in an attempt to determine the best crops to be introduced and recommended to farmers to enable crop diversification.

Demonstration both at farmer-managed and CEFA-managed plots have been used as tools to train farmers on how to grow some of the post trials selected diversification crops which include somtax maize, simsim, groundnuts, and selected varieties of wheat, upland rice, and paddy rice.

The farmer training has also been conducted through organised groups such as the Golweyne women's group, Qoryoley IIDA women's group for rice growing in Lower Shabelle, and through individual contact farmers, of whom 20% have been women for both rice and other crops. So far, 55 farmer-managed demonstration and training plots have been established and used to train farmers in Lower Shabelle.

In Jowhar (Middle Shabelle) agricultural training has been focused on the individual farmer level, of whom 20% have also been women farmers. At the same time, CEFA is involved in school children training in agriculture, where 20 girl and 20 boy students are participating in growing of vegetables, sunflower, and upland rice at the CEFA demonstration plot. The CIDP components on processing and marketing have been taken up in Bananey Village through the purchase and installation of a maize mill able to produce maize flour and dough that is used to make maize flour based cake (mufow). The mill is run and operated by Bananey Women's Group, who have been trained in its operation, maintenance and book keeping. In marketing, CEFA is currently working with SAACID, a local NGO in the market research for locally produced sunflower cooking oil. WOCA (Women's Care) a local NGO who have been involved in the production and use of neem tree extract, and possess their own neem tree extractor, have also been involved in the production and supply of neem tree extract that was used as a deterrent to maize stock borer during the trial conducted by CEFA – and in the farmer-managed demonstration and training plots. In Jowhar, so far 79 farmer-managed demonstration and training plots have been established and used to train farmers in Middle Shabelle.

Comments on SAASV Activities

The CEFA project is focusing on the rehabilitation of large irrigation systems that require machinery for their maintenance and rehabilitation. The main justification for this is the fact that crops being grown were not profitable enough to support the maintenance of the systems.

"Without a market for such products the farmers went back to traditional crops, mainly maize and sorghum, and the irrigation network quickly became silted and unusable. For this reason most of the irrigated land has gradually become rain-fed areas." [6]

To the project team the irrigation system has essentially been rehabilitated to bring previously irrigated land back into irrigation; while, due to the problem with marketing of bananas, processing of sugar cane, cotton and other crops for which the irrigation systems were designed, crop diversification and marketing have become the key focus areas for the SAASV project. **"Diversification of crop production, processing and marketing will**

[6] Cefa Project Proposal

increase the income of farmers and provide the means for servicing and maintaining the irrigation infrastructure."[7]

The main focus of the project is to provide the means and structures that can ensure continued maintenance of the system.

It is widely known that among the agricultural communities in the Shabelle basin vegetable growing, including various gourds, pumpkins, lettuce and local spinach, among others, have been grown and used for many generations. Among the landless (squatters, labour camp inhabitants) in Lower Shabelle are the poorest persons, which the Cefa rehabilitation exercise will directly benefit (they are the major producers of vegetables on parcels of land that are provided/given by the land owners especially on the large banana plantations where these camps still survive).

There have been new farming communities formed from people who either moved from their original "home" areas after the civil war due to loss of property on which they could sustain themselves, or those who have been settled through INGO implemented projects as a means of disarmament of the militia exercise. In some cases newcomers have claimed farms abandoned by their owners after the collapse of the Somalia government.

The training process is built in to the participatory approach being used and the data given in the activity analysis indicates the progress being made to date.

Cefa's SAASV project focuses at the irrigation system and the need to put together the necessary ingredients that can assure sustainability of the rehabilitated systems.

Banana farmers have been able to provide maintenance of the Primo Secondario (canal 1 from Cessare Maria) since it was rehabilitated by Cefa in 2000. With the institution being established for the large canals and systems such as the Cessare Maria system committee, organized maintenance and occasional rehabilitation will be organized at the farmer's level. In Middle Shabelle, the RGA has stepped into this role of organizing for maintenance and repairs.

Cessare Maria Canal (Lower Shabelle)
The canal, Cessare Maria, is one of the primary canals benefiting from the Janaale barrage. Other canals benefiting from the barrage are Asayle, Digwirire and numerous small canals on both sides of the river. Cessare Maria has six large secondary canals, namely 1st Secondario, 2nd Secondario, 3rd Secondario, 4th Secondario, 5th Secondario and 6th Secondario and a total of 21 small (less than 2 m top width) group feeder or farm feeder secondary canals.

Cessare Maria has an intake at Janaale village and discharges any excess flow through the 5th Secondario into low-lying areas near the dunes. However, through the Primo Secondario, the system discharges its excess water in the low lying area of Shangani, a distance of 32 km from its intake off the Cessare Maria. Cessare Maria has three gated cross regulators, which when crossed should allow water to flow into the secondary canals.

The secondary canals listed below in Figure 6 were identified as priorities for rehabilitation within the SAASV activities, as a result of the initial baseline studies.

[7] Ibid

Canal name	Length
Canal 2nd secondario	7.3 km
Canal 3rd secondario	4.2 km
Canal 4th secondario	4.5 km

Figure 7. Priority Secondary Canal Rehabilitation Targets

Implementation Process

To allow for participation of the farmers during the rehabilitation process, meetings with representative farmers from Bufow, Janaale and Shalamboot were held. An overall committee of 15 members – Cessare Maria Canal Committee – has so far established a set of regulations that will govern the committee operation and irrigation water distribution to ensure appropriate management and operation of the Cessare Maria Irrigation System. The committee has also ensured smooth collaboration with CEFA during the project rehabilitation.

Contribution Agreements between farmers and the community on Canal Cessare Maria and Secondary Canals 2nd, 3rd and 4th (Bufow, Falestine and Afraad) have been made and are shown below in Figure 7.

Item	Farmers'	Project's
Bulldozer	20%	80%
Excavator	-	100%
Casual labour/support to skilled labour	100%	-
Opening small sub-canals	100%	-
Material for hydraulic structure	-	100%
Skilled labour	20%	80%

Figure 8. Community Contribution Agreements

Keli Dere Canal (Middle Shabelle)

The canal Keli Dere is a primary canal, taking water straight from the river. It serves eleven secondary canals. All secondary canal intakes use fixed division flow, where secondary canal size and irrigation water needed for the irrigated area are directly proportional. The canal has three regulating structures, the intake sluice gate and two cross regulators with movable gates that can be closed when irrigation is required upstream of the cross regulator. Besides cross regulators, the water in the canal passes two bridges. When the water level in the river is high, all irrigation is by gravity. If the river levels fall (below the level of the main canal intake), farmers use hired pump sets to fill the main canal.

The committee has one water distributor (gate keeper) who works together with the secondary canal water distributors. The functions of the canal committee include organizing for excavation of the canal by hand at the start of every season.

The project cost incurred in rehabilitation is shown below in Figure 8.

Item	Total Cost US$	SAASV costs (US$)	Farmers costs (US$)
Earth Works			
Embankment leveling	400.00	-	400.00
Canal embankment forming (in-fill section)	5,561.75	5,561.75	
Canal excavation	8,398.00	8,398.00	
Secondary canals	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
Structures			
Head regulator (Intake structure + gate)	7,430.80	6,469.00	961.80
1st & 2nd cross regulator (gates)	717.50	667.50	50.00
Sub-Total	24,508.05	21,096.25	3,411.80
Contingency (15%)	3,676.20	3,676.20	-
Total	28,184.25	24,772.45	3,411.80

Figure 9. Costs incurred in rehabilitating Keli Dere Canal

Achievements in Canal Rehabilitation by October

The status of infrastructure rehabilitation is shown below in figure 9.

Result 3	Achievements
Quantity and quality of rehabilitation works implemented	Surveyed, designed and implemented 179 m length Bayahaw flood protection infrastructure, 4 intakes in Bayahaw constructed.
	Design for irrigation canals with safe drainage areas e.g. Shikhaal, Cessare Maria, Canal 3 and 4 has incorporated a necessary capacity to allow surges caused by river high flow.
	Implemented 1.2 Km drainage works near Johwar town
	5.9 km of Keli Dere canal constructed in Bananey village
	15.5 km of Cessare Maria canal completed
	4.2 km of Canal 3 completed
	4.5 km canal 4 completed
	7.3 km Canal 2 completed
	5 box culverts repaired ,3 cross regulators repaired,12 gates fixed in the cross regulators
	3 reservoirs of capacity 3,000.2000.and5,000 cubic meters constructed

Figure 10. Status of Infrastructure Rehabilitation

The following baseline data was collected at the start of the project:

- Irrigation infrastructure and crop production status;
- Canal and irrigable area details;
- Cropping patterns, irrigation water management, operation and maintenance;
- Flood protection infrastructure.

Two data collection questionnaires where developed. These questionnaires were to be tested for the common technical approach of the collaborating NGOs. The whole process of data collection was inclusive with active participation of the communities. The analysis of the data has not yet been finalized

Demonstration Plot

In Jowhar a demonstration plot was established in the CEFA compound for both crop demonstrations and irrigation canals maintenance.

Backstopping of Technical Staff

Irrigation Design Manual
The infrastructural manager has developed an irrigation design manual. The aim of the manual is to provide a tool that can be used to standardize the irrigation data collection, irrigation system design and guide the implementers so as to establish similar methodologies and considerations during rehabilitation.

The manual covers the following topics:

1. Investigations,
2. Irrigation System,
3. Drainage System,
4. Structures,
5. Irrigation Canals Design,

An irrigation design course was conducted in August and attended by 12 participants from the SHARP Partner Agencies. The training was beneficial and it has tried to improve the skills of the technical staff .The participants also included staff from ICRC
Trainings of staff and farmers conducted are listed in Figure 10 below:

Result 4	Achievement
Training of staff and farmers	• Training sessions for 5 CEFA staff members on Canal Operation and Maintenance (O&M) • 15 participants of Keli Dere Management Committees and farmers attended 6 training sessions on O&M • 40 participants from Keli Dere Management and Village Committees attended 1 training session • 15 participants including the sole contractor and village committees attended 2 training sessions in Jowhar • 10 participants of the Jowhar Administration attended 1 training session • 30 participants (management committees, farmers, administration and local contractor) of 3 villages comprising of the Keli Dere Canal beneficiaries trained over a 2 month period on canal rehabilitation • Over a 6 week period about 15 participants (management committees, farmers and contractor) were trained on river embankment rehabilitation and gate construction in Bayahow • In 5 consecutive sessions with an average of 20 participants (management committees, farmers, machine owners) cum beneficiaries of Cessare Maria canal system were sensitized/trained on canal rehabilitation • 60 participants from Bananey, Bayahaw, Jowhar Somali, Kalundi, Barrey, Jowhar town attended 1 session on canal maintenance

Figure 11. Training of Staff and Farmers

Irrigation Infrastructure
A tender committee with a membership comprising of the local administration, the farmers and CEFA was established to open, analyze and select a contractor to provide machinery to be used during the rehabilitation of Keli dere and Cessare Maria canal

The design of physical infrastructures is well done but the quality of construction (concrete and masonry) works particularly in Bayahaw village need to be improved. The quality of construction of river bank protection embankment in Bayahaw village is good.

Cefa has developed formats for recording all the ongoing activities during rehabilitation of the projects. The recording include details such as all the materials used, cost of the materials, quantities of earthworks excavated by the various machinery, condition of the machinery etc. The format is simple and comprehensive and the project staff, together with the community, fill them in. The whole process of project implementation is participatory and the farmers clearly understand their roles and also the role of the NGO. This has created confidence among the farmers because they are able to understand how all the projects resources are utilized.

The operation and maintenance of the canals is not adequate; the farmers are not able to maintain the canals adequately. For example it was found that in most of the canals in Bananey and Bayahaw villages the desilting of the canals is only partly done .The excavator only does part of the canal due to the cost involved, since the farmers are not able to meet the whole cost of excavation due to low economic status .The farmers have to be aware that the entire system needs to be operational in order to draw optimal benefits from it.

Observations

Although the agreement between the Cefa and the farmers state that the farmers are responsible for fixing all the structures along the secondary canals, it is difficult to see that the farmers will be in a position to do this within the next two to three years due to their low economic status. This means that if the structures and, in particular, the division structures from the main canal to the secondary canal are not fixed soon there will be a lot of interference when farmers try to cut the banks of the main canal. This factor needs to be reconsidered so that the agreement can be met within the capacity of the farmers.

- It was noted that data storage especially of the various maps and drawings and baseline data is not adequate. This should be improved in order to ensure future access.

- When hydraulic structures such as culverts and sluice gates are being constructed it is important to do a detailed profile survey at the intake site so as to accurately determine the invert level of the culvert with the bed level at the inlet and the outlet level.

- The issue of canal maintenance seems to be not properly understood in terms of the actual time costs involved. It is necessary to make clear to the farmers what is really needed (number of days needed to desilt one kilometre of canal) in order for them to adequately maintain the canals. This will assist them in adequately maintaining the condition of the whole irrigation system.

- If the farmers are to achieve tangible benefits from irrigated agriculture there is need to improve techniques of water application at the field level. There is need therefore to intensify training in water application for the trainers and the farmers.

- In order to assist the irrigation trainers and the Water Users Associations (Canal Committees) to know the actual amount of water being abstracted from the river and to help them appreciate the possible water losses from the conveyance system there is need to install simple water measuring devices such as ruled gauges or Parshall measuring flumes at some sections of the canal. This will also facilitate better water sharing amongst the farmers.

- One of the criteria for ranking canals to be rehabilitated should be an economic analysis.

- The irrigation designs need to be more comprehensive; in particular they should include a scheme layout showing the water distribution between farmers sharing one secondary canal and an illustration of the drainage network.

- The training of technical staff should be intensified so as to improve their skills in the design of hydraulic structures, surveying, tendering and management of construction supervision.

- The formats developed by Cefa for contract hiring and recording for work in progress should be shared with the partner NGOs in order to improve their own procedures and practice.

- An attempt has been made to harmonise the pricing of materials among the NGOs. It is suggested that this should include the pricing of transport to site.

3.2 Means and Costs

Revised budgets and expenditure to end of October 2003 are shown below in Figures 11 and 12.

CIDPM

Budget Item	Total Project Budget €	Percent of Budget	Expenditure at 31st Aug 03 €	Percent Expenditure
1.Works	252,828	20.9	32,889	13
2. Expat Staff	264,000	21.8	189,661	71.8
Technical Assistant	40,000	3.3	8,008	20
Coordination Cost	70,800	5.8	61,950	87.5
Local Staff	159,228	13.1	103,730	65.1
Travel	6,000	<1	3,975	66.3
Supplies and Equipment	16,000	1.3	4,337	27.1
Logistics (car and office rent/ travel)	132,176	11.57	104,178	78.8
Allowances	8,000	<1	21	<1
Training Workshop	15,000	1.2	6,446	43.0
Backstopping	111,000	9.1	97,125	87.5
Financial Management Cost	7,000	<1	225	3.2
Finance and Administration	75,742	6.2	38,115	50.32
Contingencies	53,428	4.4	0	0
Total	1,211,202	100	652,075	53.8

Figure 12. CDPM Budget and Expenditure to end of October

SAASV

Budget Item	Total Project Budget	Percent of Budget Total	Expend. to 31st Aug. 03	Percent of Expenditure
National Personnel	210,240	13	155,210	73.8
Expatriate Staff	220,800	13.6	178,400	80.8
Evaluation	60,000	3.7	0	0
Coordination	12,000	<1	13,500	100
Benefits	48,000	3	42,005	87.5
Per diems	15,000	<1	914	6
Operational Costs	48,000	3	40,000	83.3
Equipment, Works and Supplies	**804,720**	49.5	401,339	49.87

Int. Travel	6,000	<1	912	15.2
Financial Costs	25,000	1.5	5,529	22
Contingency	**71,538**	**4.4**	**0**	**0**
Admin.	**101,483**	**6.2**	**49,016**	**48.2**
Total	**1,622,781**	**100**	**886,826**	**54.6**

Figure 13. Revised Budget and Expenditure for SAASV to end of October 2003

3.3 Cost Management

SAASV is in month 20 out of 24, or 83.3% of time allocation, and CIDPM is in the 21st month or 87.5%. This will mean either the discontinuation of some staff and essential overhead costs before month 24 or considerable revision of the budget as overall expenditures are only 50-55%.

3.4 Organisation and Management

The organogram in Figure 13 below illustrates the joint structure of both SAASV and CIDPM. Expatriates fill the first four positions and the rest are all national staff. The team is designed to cope with the unpredictable security situation so that if the expatriates have to pull out the rest of the team can still function.

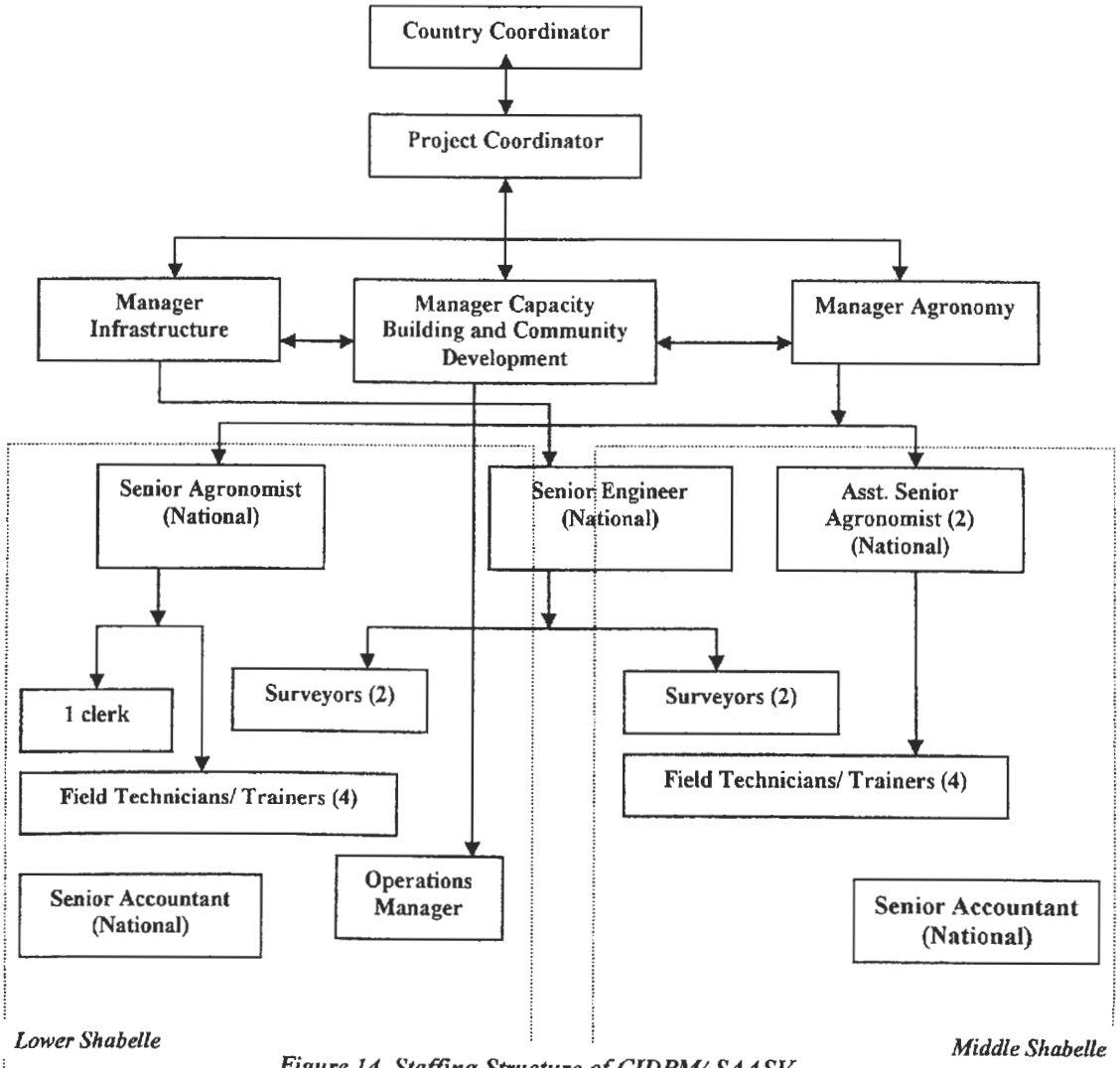

Figure 14. Staffing Structure of CIDPM/ SAASV

4. Effectiveness[8]

4.1 Overall Effectiveness

CIDPM/SAASV

It is difficult to achieve long-term results within a short two-year framework. The evidence of the Cefa projects demonstrates this assertion. Both Cefa projects are based on the lessons learnt from earlier projects in the same area and in the same sectoral field. Good working relationships with the communities and with local authorities have been built up.
Cefa has managed to build a good operational team in both the areas of infrastructure rehabilitation and in agricultural development.

The project design is sound and the bringing together of two separate projects into a more integrated approach including a strong focus of promoting participatory methods is creating visible effectiveness that has clarified the logic of project focus.

Basically farmers cannot hope to sustainably improve crop production or diversification of production without reliable access to irrigation water. The baseline studies at the start of the project therefore focused on which primary canals to rehabilitate. The intention was to rehabilitate those that brought the highest number of hectares (the highest number of farmers) back into production. With these options identified it was possible to identify which communities used those areas, and baseline socio-economic baselines were carried out with respect to these potential users. It is very important not to carry out baselines and PRAs amongst communities who may not directly benefit from future investments, so the order of precedence is demonstrated in the Cefa projects. First identify the canals, then identify the communities that use the canals and then carry out PRAs with only those communities. Everything else follows from this pattern.

This pattern continues beyond individual canals and demonstrates the essential networking nature of canal systems. Opening up canals that are critical to the system leads to the need to promote joint management canal committees and this leads to the core problem of coordination, management and sustainability of sharing natural resources amongst Somali communities. Although it is proving productive to rehabilitate canals and to introduce improved crop production these technical interventions cannot become sustainable without the promotion and appropriate training in inter-family, inter sub-clan communication, cooperation and collaboration. By using a strong focus on capacity building skills both within the project staff and amongst stakeholder groups the projects are showing significant progress in achieving results and moving towards achieving project purpose.

The crop trials being developed are comprehensive and appropriate. Large quantities of palm oil are imported into Somalia and the market for this is high. However, consumer studies being carried out by Cefa show that palm oil is not popular and the small quantities of sunflower and safflower being trialed by Cefa and being tested on the market are creating a positive demand. The potential for import substitution is apparently very high.

[8] An assessment of the contribution made by Results to achievement of the project Purpose, and how assumptions have affected project achievements.

There is a steady increase of areas under cultivation because of these activities, and if maintained can lead significantly to achieving good results and the described project purpose.

4.2 Effect of Assumptions on Implementation

Local political socio-stability remains at acceptable levels
Although the situation has been relatively stable in Middle Shabelle, allowing the project to make considerable progress, this is more of a constraint in Lower Shabelle. This factor remains the biggest risk to the long-term sustainability of the projects.

Farmers are allowed to form groups and participate in activities
In both MSR and LSR groups are able to form but with more confidence in MSR. The current general situation in LSR is preventing widespread confidence of farmers to develop.

No major climatic constraints
Drought conditions in the upper catchment in Ethiopia mean the river levels are very low, negatively affecting production activities in the project area at this time.

Market conditions stable and not influenced by external factors
Market conditions are not stable and are being influenced by external factors. Advocacy at the SACB level on these issues is poorly organised and producing zero results up to now.

No large-scale food distribution takes place in project areas
The continuing delivery of relief and food for work in Somalia continues to impact on the market for poor farmers' production efforts and is negatively affecting the results and purpose of the SHARP projects. There are hidden agendas in the international community here which are not being discussed and addressed at SACB level and so will continue to be an uncontrolled constraint.

The details below in Figures 14 and 15 are from CARE work in the area during 1999-2003.

Free Food Distribution			
Year	MT	Beneficiaries	Region
1999	5,921	39,477	Bay, Bakool, Gedo
2000	14,610	60,385	Gedo region
2001	11,154	46,101	Gedo region
2002	19,765	46,632	Gedo region
2003	14,074	25,000	Gedo region

Figure 15. Free Food Distribution

Food for Work			
Year	MT	Beneficiaries	Region
1999	7,445	114,544	Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle and Hiran
2000	4,708	72,434	Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle,Hiran, Bay, Bakool
2001	7,532	70,000	Middle Shabelle,Hiran, Bay, Bakool
2002	6,663	44,759	Middle Shabelle,Hiran, Bay, Bakool
2003	6,200	33,480	Middle Shabelle,Hiran, Bay, Bakool, Gedo

Figure 16. Food for Work Distribution

Security in the regions allow for field activities to be implemented
Sporadic incidence of insecurity especially in LSR continues to constrain project performance.

4.3 Institutional Issues

The integration of the CIDP and SAAV working teams and work plans is having a significant positive affect on understanding local conditions and bringing together the logic of which canals to rehabilitate, as well as improved crop production activities. The major focus on participatory planning and implementation methods and the development of community institutions such as joint canal committees and water users associations is having significant effect on joint project performance.

4.4 Environmental Aspects

The movement towards higher levels of canal network rehabilitation and management is generating the possibility of working at still higher levels within the SHARP framework. As repeated elsewhere ultimately there are two key issues that are not being addressed that have the capacity for SHARP to succeed or fail. The first is the continuing absence of a reliable law and order system and the second is the absence of any attempt to promote environmental rehabilitation at the catchment level. At present the FAO land and water-mapping work is seen as something remote to the business of fixing canals and improving agricultural productivity, but ultimately it has the potential to form the basis of a catchment wide natural resource management programme. Failure to address this now continues to undermine the long-term viability of a farmer led irrigated agriculture industry.

5. Impact[9]

The CIDPM/SAASV project(s) are demonstrating the potential to achieve key aspects that contribute to the Overall Objectives of SHARP.

1. Longer-term investments create impact unlike short-term isolated micro-projects.
2. There is a logical order to rehabilitating irrigation systems - fix key primary canals that communities cannot cope with and a ripple effect response from farmers in secondary and tertiary canal rehabilitation is likely to happen.
3. Once the canals are clear farmers are interested in improved farming methods and increased productivity.
4. When productivity and diversification begins to happen there will be problems of processing and marketing. Business minded people in the area (men and women) can respond to the processing, but they have constraints related to market development they cannot deal with – and Cefa needs to concentrate on these.
5. There are limits to the extent that an individual project can create a lasting impact on a particular district or region, and it is necessary to develop a sub-catchment wide approach if long-term objectives are to be met.
6. The introduction, in a serious way, to using participatory methods to develop working partnerships is enabling the more technical aspects of project work to integrate and create real impact.

[9] The effect of the project on its wider environment, and its contribution to the wider sectoral objectives summarised in the projects Overall Objectives.

6. Sustainability[10]

The progress of the CIDPM/ SAASV projects is significant. There are lessons being learned that have implications for basic principles on how to make a transition from rehabilitation to development in Somalia in the Food Security sub sector.

Ultimately, however, individual projects find it difficult to make sustainable impact alone in individual regions. There is a very clear need to develop a natural resource based sub-catchment approach involving a network of complementary organisations implementing all the key sectors (clean water and sanitation, primary health and education and gender equity) in order to promote food security and improved livelihoods in the Shabelle basin.

[10] The likelihood of a continuation in the stream of benefits produced by the project, particularly continuation of the projects activities and achievement of results, and with particular reference to development factors of policy support, economic and financial factors, socio-cultural aspects, gender, appropriateness of technology, ecological aspects, and institutional capacity.

7. Conclusions and Recommendations

7.1 Overall Outcomes to Date

During earlier phases, Cefa used a cautious, step-by step learning approach to engaging with the communities in Jowhar area. They did not come with a menu of what Cefa was planning to do and give out during the project. Instead they listened to the farmers and observed what they were doing. It was the farmers who suggested a re-establishment of rice production because they knew it from before and requested help to get it going again. Cefa recruited local extensionists and trained them in all elements of rice production. They in turn developed this into a comprehensive extension package.

The introduction of new varieties and improved cultivation methods was done using a Farmers Participatory Research approach with farmers taking part in each stage of the growing cycle and participating in decisions about how to do things.
This has resulted in a high level of uptake of methods and practice.

Five vital ingredients have been added to this phase of work:

1. The training of Cefa staff across both CIDMP and SAASV in participatory methods.
2. The integration of participatory methodologies into the infrastructure rehabilitation work as well as the crop development work
3. The linkage between rehabilitated canals with maximum participation of communities and their committees in that process. Involvement of communities in the self-management of secondary and tertiary canals (opening primary canals gives the confidence that work on the rest of the sub-network will be productive).
4. The introduction of crop diversification methods, experimental level processing and test marketing of new products
5. The in-depth training of canal committees on maintenance and management work and the promotion of the RGA as a provider of farming inputs based on farmer demand.

These ingredients are shifting the goal posts of agricultural rehabilitation in Middle Shabelle and to a lesser extent in Lower Shabelle. From being two independently operating projects synergies are being created that reinforce the individual activities of each. The project is shifting from being a blue print project towards being process oriented.

The CIDPM/ SAASV projects are shifting from being rehabilitation projects with local beneficiaries to being participatory development projects with stakeholder partners. This means that both project staff and local partners need to learn to negotiate with each other in ways that strengthen understanding and agreement whilst not being pressured to invest in activities that do not benefit sustainability. The Cefa staff have adopted a way of working with local partners that sets out clearly the conditions for cooperation and investment in particular villages/ canals/ communities and requires that significant investments in time or cash must be made by the concerned group before the project will invest its own resources. When work has been done and maintenance agreements have been made the communities must meet their obligations otherwise Cefa work stops. In other words community participation in the full CAP implementation cycle must be demonstrated and agreed obligations must be met. Communities are required to hire their own machinery and supervise the work themselves with Cefa backstopping.

Although this progress is creating real impact the sustainability is threatened because there are other agencies operating in MSR and LSR that are still functioning on a relief/ humanitarian basis and providing free goods including tractor hours for land preparation, paying lip service to community "contribution" and documenting it as having been achieved when in fact it hasn't. This is a serious challenge but it is one which can be tackled if the SHARP partners can clarify the important principles involved and work together to influence the behaviour of other organisations to promote harmony of approach. This of course would have to involve UN organisations as well as international and local NGOs. It would also require awareness creation amongst local authorities in order to encourage support for the partnership approach.

The overall assessment of the project (Cefa Jowhar) is given below in Figure 16.

Community involvement in planning and implementation	Quality of infrastructure constructed	Community values the project	Contribution to food security
A	B	B	B
Quality and effectiveness of training	Gender considerations	Project cost efficiency	Impact and sustainability potential
B	B	B	B

Figure 17. Overall Project Assessment for Cefa Jowhar

7.2 Future Developments

The work of Cefa has reached a critical stage and it should not be left to the hurried conclusions of a MTR team to make decisions on next steps. The best that can be done by the RT is to highlight key issues that need to be analysed in depth by the project staff and their local partners as well as the other partners of SHARP.

Essentially, it would be possible for Cefas' continued involvement to take the form of three discrete but related projects:

1. An integrated canal rehabilitation/crop improvement project (where the communities involved are directly benefiting from improved access to water).
2. A sub-catchment based processing and marketing project that provides support to all SHARP partners by providing marketing development information and ideas related to the diversification of crop production. This would be in collaboration with Regional Authority staff with a view to the eventual involvement of future Regional Government staff in providing similar services.
3. A specialised centre for providing technical training of Somali professionals in community driven development, hydraulic infrastructure design, and participatory extension methods.

Recommendation 1

Cefa as an organisation should hold a strategic review of their involvement in Somalia and define a medium term strategic plan using outside facilitation in order to inform its future project planning and direction. This plan would specifically seek to encourage other donors to participate in project development with a view to reducing dependency of EC funding.

Recommendation 2
The project management cycle time frame of planning should by five years. The new cycle should include a six-month transition phase between present activities and future activities. The focus should be on the needs of the project not the limitation of EC two year planning constraints. If EC cannot support longer-term projects then they should be encouraged to see their two-year projects in a longer-term framework.

Recommendation 3
The planning of a future project should utilise the full the capacity that is being created amongst farmer's institutions (village committees, canal committees etc.). It should begin with a stakeholder analysis and all key stakeholders including local authorities should be invited to participate. The outline proposal should be generated in the project areas with the participation of local stakeholders. Problem analysis, solution analysis, identification of project objectives and project purpose should all be done locally. Nairobi based staff should be invited to attend this process. This approach takes time so the planning process should begin as soon as possible and not delayed to the last minute in order to meet an EC call for proposals deadline.

Recommendation 4
Some critical decisions will need to be made in this planning process for Cefa's role in a new phase. There comes a time when the teacher has to step back and let the students do what they have been trained to do. Probably Cefa's role will need to move towards a backstopping function and less of a direct hands on role. Some examples are list below.

Rehabilitation of critical primary canals
a) There is still considerable amount of work to do regarding the cleaning of critical canals both in MSR and in LSR beyond the present concentration areas. It will be important therefore for Cefa to maintain a stand-alone engineering capability but within an integrated project. However the engineering unit should adopt more of a systems approach and continue to develop baseline information about other sub-systems, their links to different command areas and to specific community user groups. They are already demonstrating the potential for participant communities to organise themselves at the lowest levels, to make significant contributions to preparing for rehabilitation work and to identify contract hire machinery and to supervise such work with Cefa's help. This process should be pushed further with all new work built on the same process and with maximum responsibility being given to communities.

b) Vital to this process is the engagement with canal committees and concentrated PRA/ CAP training being given in new areas of engagement whilst backstopping those that have previously been trained. The systems approach will require engaging in advocacy for individual committees to come together in order to promote higher level self-maintenance and management. This can be encouraged through joint training activities between canal committees using the present methods.

Working with existing institutions in crop production and diversification
a) Cefa should facilitate the RGA in MSR to take on increasing responsibility for input supply management, Rice milling management, involvement in crop extension services eventually by hiring their own staff. This will take longer in LSR.. Considerable good quality training has been carried out on Rice cultivation methods. Cefa should discontinue its present

role in rice production but continue to support processing and marketing of rice through the RGA in Middle Shabelle.

b) Cefa should take on less of the 'doing' part of the work and more of the supporting and facilitating role in MSR. Institution building should be a major focus. This has implications for staffing structure. Some of the extension staff employed by Cefa could become part of RGA so that RGA can gain the experience of providing such services. As long as Cefa is doing it RGA will not gain the experience it needs.

c) In Lower Shabelle the story is different and any further work by Cefa would need to maintain its present form and approach.

Recommendation 5
Processing and marketing work
This work is still new and at an early stage, so Cefa needs to maintain a direct involvement in this area of work. But this could be done at a higher/wider level involving Hiran Region, MSR and LSR. Whilst formulating, testing and developing specific work in specific areas market research and market development work could be developed that provides ideas and opportunities within the SHARP network and at SACB level. A specific log frame could be developed for this function and may be funded as a separate programme linked to the main future project.

Recommendation 6
National staff skill training
It is evident that throughout the SHARP operating area and indeed throughout Somalia Agencies and Local NGOs rely a great deal on the skills of local engineers and local agronomists. However the skill level of these is clearly wanting. Discussions with SHARP partner agency staff, with LNGO staff and by RT observation demonstrate the need to make a serious effort to upgrade the skill levels of national staff. At present this is either not done or it is done on the job. A review of all the SHARP log frames indicates there are no activities and no budget for such work and yet it is a clear need to improve the quality of work and to increase the technology transfer to farmers.

Cefa as an organisation carries out such work in other parts of the world and could design a separate project to establish a specialised training unit that can receive trainees from other organisations in different parts of Somalia and provide quality in-depth training over a six to nine month period with a recognised certificate. This task would be carried out by specialists in such training and contribute to SHARP but as a separate project. Individual projects could contribute to this by budgeting for staff training in their own projects and recommending trainees to undergo the course.

Such training of course would provide not only technical training on hydraulics and agronomy but also participatory planning methods.

Recommendation 7
Cefa should advocate for a Results to Purpose Review workshop involving other SHARP partners that would involve an in depth discussion about the extent to which individual project activities are contributing to individual Results and the extent to which these are contributing to the projects Goal and Purpose.