

Sustainable Water Supply for Drought Affected Areas in Somali and Afar Regions

Progress Report Prepared for the Government of Italy –
Italian Development Cooperation Agency



©UNICEF Ethiopia/2016/Balasundaram/Erebt/Afar/Ethiopia: 13-year-old Aysha's days are consumed with getting water, one among many children in Afar who travel long distance to get water.

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ACRONYMS

HRDHumanitarian Requirements Document

IODIndian Ocean Dipole

IDCAItalian Development Cooperation Agency

NFINon-Food Items

SNNPR Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region

1. Programme Summary

Country	Ethiopia
Project Name	Sustainable Water Supply for Drought Affected Areas in Somali and Afar Regions
Donor	The Government of Italy (Italian Development Cooperation Agency)
Grant Reference	SM160303
Total Contribution	\$ 2,254,791.43
Total Contributed to Date	\$ 2,254,791.43
Total Programmable	\$ 2,087,769.84
Duration of grant	16 June 2016 to 31 December 2017
Report Type	Status update
Reporting Period	16 June– 28 February 2017
Report due date	15 March 2017
Report prepared	February 2017
Geographic focus areas	Afar and Somali regions
Focus Population	10,000-15,000 drought-affected people in Ethiopia with focus on Afar and Somali regions
Program Partners	Afar and Somali Regional Water Bureaus
Strategic Partners	UNESCO, EU-JRC, private consultants, private contractors
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2. Background

In 2015/16 Ethiopia endured the worst drought in decades caused by the El Nino weather phenomenon. An estimated 10.2 million people were identified in need of emergency assistance during 2016. The drought devastated livelihoods and greatly increased malnutrition rates in Afar, Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) and Somali regions. Shortage of water also resulted in displacement, gender-based violence, child labour, and water borne and water related diseases. In addition, during the rainy season the country experienced flooding in several parts of the country followed by outbreaks of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD).

Recognizing the gravity of the situation and the increased needs, the Government presented the 2016 Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) requesting US\$ 1.4 billion for relief efforts. The revised HRD in August 2016 estimated that 9.7 million people were in need of food aid, of which 5.8 million people were in need of access to clean drinking water and basic latrine facilities. The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNet) described the drought situation as the worst in 50 years.

Most of the communities in need of water live in chronically affected areas, where impacts of drought further aggravate/deteriorate the already delicate situation. Somali, Afar, parts of Oromia and SNNP regions are the low lying arid areas of Ethiopia, with complex hydrogeological formations resulting in chronic water shortages and difficulties in accessing ground water. The average access to safe water in these areas is far below the national average of 55 per cent.

Adding to an already dire situation, during the second half of 2016, a strong negative impact of the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) resulted in below-average rainfall in those four regions. The greatest impact of the drought are seen in the south and southern eastern parts of the country, in particular throughout Somali Region (67 woredas out of 93 rural woredas are priority one), in 43 woredas of Bale, Guji, Borena and lowlands of East and West Harege zones of southern Oromia Region, in 23 out of 32 rural woredas on Afar Region and nine woredas of SNNP (mainly SouthOmo, Gedeo and GamoGofa zones). Estimates for 2017 show that 9.2 million people are still in need of critical WASH services in the country as whole.

In 2016, UNICEF with support of its development partners provided access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene services to 3,188,065 drought-affected beneficiaries, which was 32 per cent of the total beneficiaries addressed by the whole WASH Cluster or 33 per cent of the overall HRD target. UNICEF's response included water trucking (1,060,342 people), distribution of household water treatment chemicals (771,604 people), distribution of WASH non-food items (NFIs) (743,404 people), emergency water supply system with water storage tanks (74,288 people), rehabilitation of existing schemes (1,153,856 people), and construction of new schemes (70,969 people). Over 71,730 people were also reached through hygiene education and capacity building training activities.

During the first six months of the drought emergency response, UNICEF gave emphasis to critical lifesaving interventions, like water trucking, whereas focus as of June 2016 it shifted to WASH interventions that address chronic WASH problems and contribute to resilience building. The project funded by the Italian Development Cooperation Agency (IDCA) in Afar and Somali regions forms part of this effort. Therefore, this report presents the highlights of the main progresses made so far and some of the challenges faced during the reporting period.

3. Progress update

The IDCA's grant was officially released June 2016. Since then various preparatory activities have been undertaken which lay the foundation for the smooth implementation of the project. These included discussions with key stakeholders at different levels, target areas selection, water source identification, ground fact verification, staff recruitment and deployment, feasibility and design work, bid floating and agreement signing with contractors.

The IDCA's grant co-finances the following five multi-village schemes listed below in Afar and Somali regions.

1. **Suula-Manda Bure Multi-village water supply scheme** (Afar region: Elidar *woredain* Zone One). The main components of the scheme include: three reservoirs (510m³, 200m³ and 150m³) and 40km pipe network (Scheme Drawing attached in Annex 1).
2. **Afdera Multi-village Water supply scheme** (Afar region: Afdera *woreda* in Zone Two). The scheme has 2 reservoirs (400m³ and 100m³), 35km pipeline, 11 water points and three cattletroughs (Scheme Drawing attached in Annex 1).
3. **Burka Multi-village water supply scheme** (Afar region: Gelealo *woredain* Zone Three). The main components of the scheme are: 2 reservoirs (200m³ and 100m³), 7 water points and three cattle troughs (Scheme Drawing attached in Annex 1).
4. **Musli Multi-village water supply scheme** (Afar Region: Kori *woreda* in Zone). The main components of the scheme include: 2 reservoirs (100m³ and 200m³), 13km pipe network, 6 water points and three cattle troughs (Scheme Drawing attached in Annex 1).
5. **Ayliso Multi-village water supply scheme** (Somali region: Hadhigala *woreda* in Shinile Zone). The scheme has 3 reservoirs (200m³ and two 100m³), 9km pipeline, 6 water points and 4 cattle troughs (Scheme Drawing attached in Annex 1).

As most of these multi-villages schemes are large in scale and require longer period of time and significant financing, they are all co-financed with other development partners, including DFID, and the Government of Germany/KFW. In areas like Somali and Afar, where the context is challenging and source of water are limited, the co-financing arrangement enables UNICEF to address chronic needs through large scale projects and provide sustainable services to more beneficiaries.

In addition to the five multi-village water supply schemes, IDCA funding supported the drilling of Teo and Haiten boreholes in Afar region (Bidu and Erepti *woredas* respectively). Currently, one borehole is under drilling in Afdera *woreda*, which will be connected to the multi-village system to ensure sustained water supply for the system.

Table 1 below presents the detailed activity progress and some of the results achieved so far.

Table 1: Summary of activities and results achieved so far

S/N	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	PROGRESS/RESULTS ACHIEVED	Remark
1	Drilling and development of up to 5 deep wells in areas affected by the current drought and whose potential is confirmed through the satellite imagery analysis and verification studies on the ground.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two boreholes were drilled in Teo and Haiten <i>Kebeles</i> in Bidu and Ereptiworedas, Afar region, and pump testing is completed for Teo borehole. Currently, reparations are underway to undertake pump test for Haiten borehole. When all the drilling and post drilling works are fully completed, an estimated 10,000 people will get access to clean water. These boreholes are fully funded by IDCA funds. Afdera borehole drilling is ongoing in Afderaworeda in Afar region. The drilling is co-financed by DFID and IDCA, and the borehole will be connected to the Afdera Multi-village water supply scheme. As of the end of February the drilling stands at 50m depth. 	Physical progress of works = 45 %
2	Construction of water supply systems for immediate service that can be easily upgraded to multi-village distribution systems, on the basis of field investigations and detailed design and feasibility studies.	<p><u>Afar region:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The design work of Suula-Manda Bure multi-village water supply scheme in Elidarworeda is completed and potential contractors identified. The progress is estimated to be around 5 percent. When completed, the schemes will serve 16,000 people. The feasibility & appraisal for the expansion of Afdera Multi-Village water supply scheme is completed in Afderaworeda. The Bid was floated and contract awarded to Yifredew General Building and Water Works. The contractor has finalized the construction of camp and store, and deployed the necessary staff. Now construction materials and machineries under mobilization. Up on completion the scheme will benefit 25,000 people. The feasibility & appraisal of Burka Multi-village water supply scheme in Gelealoworeda is finalized and contract awarded to the first winner. Unfortunately, the contractor resigned from the contract recently and the contract is given to the second winner. Currently, site is handed over and the contractor is under preparation to mobilize material and the necessary human resource. The scheme is expected to benefit 16,000 people. The feasibility and design work for Musli Multi-village water supply scheme was completed and given to a contractor. However, due to the resignation of the contractor the project is awarded to another contractor and currently, the design is under revision due to the need to amend some of the structures in the system. Upon completion the scheme will benefit an estimated 10,000 people. <p><u>Somali region:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The technical assessment, design and cost estimate of Ayliso multi-village water supply scheme in Hadhigalais completed. Bidding process has been concluded and 	Physical progress of works = 10 %

		contract signed with the contractor. Currently material and human resource mobilization has commenced. An estimated 5,000 people will get access to water from the scheme.	
3	Together with regional water bureaus (RWBs), ensure the developed sources are handed over to communities/operators and managed properly for sustained service during the drought season, and beyond – this component include management training to local communities/operators.	<p>UNICEF has been discussing with Afar and Somali regional water bureaus on the possible community management arrangements for the multi-village water supply schemes. Different options are under consideration and a conclusion has not been reached yet. In the coming months, one of the agreed models will be applied and UNICEF will accordingly build the capacity of the communities and the local government to enable them sustainably manage the schemes.</p> <p>In addition, discussions were also made with Italian NGOs working in the target areas (COOPI, LVIA and VIS) for possible complementarity and synergy on local government and community capacity building activities. A consensus is reached to coordinate actions and a joint plan of action is under preparation.</p>	ongoing

As shown in the above table, significant progress has been made in the drilling activities with an estimated progress of 45 percent. However, implementation of the multi-village schemes is slightly behind schedule. This is why UNICEF requested for a one year non-cost extension. There were three main reasons for this delay:

1. The intervention area selection and the feasibility and design work took more time than expected due to the scale of the schemes as well as the need to coordinate with Italian NGOs working in Afar and Somali regions. As it was initially agreed, UNICEF has been regularly in consultation with Italian NGOs and IDCA to coordinate the areas of intervention of this project with that of the Italian NGOs and look for complementarity. Also, the feasibility study and design work was very complex and it took longer period than it was initially planned
2. For over six months Ethiopia has been going through widespread political unrest that was followed by the declaration of the State of Emergency in October 2016. Even if the unrest did not happen in Afar and Somali regions, the situation in Amara and Oromia regions and the state of emergency had an indirect impact limiting the travels and normal functioning of UNICEF staff during field monitoring exercise as well as contractors and consultants. Due to fear of the fast turn of events and the uncertain condition during the unrest, most of the contractors and consultants halted their work and even some declined to take the contract. Moreover, most of the public offices were not properly functioning further dragging the support, project appraisal, and decision making process at the water bureaus.
3. The limited capacity of regional water bureaus in Afar and Somali regions as well as the limited capacity of local contractors to deploy the required human and material resources on time has been also a key challenge that contributed for the slow progress in the multi village schemes.

Now most of the above challenges are eased and the project implementation is back on truck. The implementation is expected to progress in a much faster rate as of now.

4. Fund utilization

The Italian Development Cooperation Agency funded UNICEF emergency WASH response to El-Niño has a total budget of \$2,254,791.43, of which \$ 2,087,769.84 is programmable amount. From 16 June 2016 to 25 February 2017, UNICEF has spent US\$ 671,022.39 (including actual incurred expenses, cash advance payments and commitments) which constitutes 30 percent of the total fund. The financial utilization summary against budget is presented below and the detail expenditure list is attached in Annex 2.

Description of activities	Estimated cost (EUR)	UNICEF share (%)	UNICEF Share (EUR)	IDCA share (EUR)	Expenditure*	% Utilization
Staff and personnel				152,000		
Senior WASH Specialist with experience in drilling - international (salary and DSA costs)	342,000	10 month	190,000	152,000	30,226.47	20 %
Works and supplies				1,510,000		
Remote sensing analysis / mapping	125,000	100%	125,000	0.00	0.00	0 %
Ground water feasibility study using geological and hydrogeological field investigations	135,000	0%		135,000	11,585.15	9 %
Drilling and construction of deep boreholes (>300meters) including productivity and water quality tests	625,000	0%		625,000	203,012.45	32%
Supply and installation of electromechanical equipment (pumps, generators and accessories)	500,000	0%		500,000	0.00	0 %
Construction/rehabilitation of a water storage and distribution systems for resilient services (including on-spot water delivery in emergency conditions)	250,000	0%		250,000	349,106.59	140%
Quality Assurance and Sustainability				19,000		
Design and Work Supervision Consultancy	19,185	0%		19,185	0.00	0 %
Costs for arranging training of operators, administrations and communities	4,000	0%		4,000	0.00	0 %
Cross sectoral coordination, monitoring and supervision				166,667		
Operational costs for UNICEF field offices (Semera and Jigjiga) to support phasing out strategy		0%		100,000	63,075.01	63 %
Operational costs at UNICEF AA level for logistics and monitoring		0%		66,667	0.00	0 %
Subtotal	1,499,500			1,851,852	657,005.67	
Recovery cost		0		148,148	14,016.72	9 %
Total			315,000	2,000,000	671,022.39	34 %

* Actual incurred expenses, cash advance payments and commitments

As shown in the above table, the fund utilization summary shows 34 percent which is higher the overall progress in the work. The main reason is the advance payments and commitments made to the drilling and multi village scheme contractors. In the coming months as the infrastructure work will significantly advance the expenditure will balance.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

Regular monitoring has been carried out by UNICEF staff both at federal and regional levels to ensure rapid implementation and quality of deliverables. Information on implementation progress was regularly gathered and analysed at regional and Addis levels to inform programme staff to make swift and informed decisions.

WASH Programme Officers from UNICEF regional offices in Somali and Afar regions has been supervising the drilling and the construction works. Also, UNICEF's Emergency WASH specialist and Geologist at federal level carried out regular field visits to monitor the overall progress of the interventions and provided technical backstopping to the field officers.

6. Future Plans

As most of the preparatory work is finalized and all the contracts are awarded for the multi-village schemes, in the coming months UNICEF will accelerate the implementation of the ongoing infrastructure works with particular emphasis to the multi-village schemes. Detailed plans, implementation modalities and strategies are clearly laid out both for contractors and UNICEF Afar and Somali regional offices in such a way that the project will be finalized within the timetable agreed in the no-cost extension. The project monitoring will also be intensified from the Addis Ababa Office as well as regional offices to make sure the planned activities are fully accomplished.

7. Expression of Thanks

UNICEF Ethiopia is extremely grateful to the Government of Italy/IDCA, for its continued and generous support to the drought-affected people in Ethiopia. The support from IDCA during this critical time has enabled UNICEF to address the most affected regions with strategic water supply interventions that contribute to long *term* and sustainable solutions.

Donor Report Feedback Form

UNICEF is working to improve the quality of our reports and would highly appreciate your feedback. Kindly answer the questions below for the above-mentioned report and return to the Public Sector Alliances and Resource Mobilization Office (PARMO) who will share your input with relevant colleagues in the field and in headquarters. Thank you!

Please return the completed form back to UNICEF by email to:

Name: Muna Mohamed Ahmed

Email: mmohamedahmed@unicef.org

SCORING: 5 indicates "highest level of satisfaction" while 0 indicates "complete dissatisfaction"

1. To what extent did the narrative content of the report conform to your reporting expectations? (For example, the overall analysis and identification of challenges and solutions)

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what did we miss or what could we do better next time?

2. To what extent did the fund utilization part of the report meet your reporting expectations?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what did we miss or what could we do better next time?

3. To what extent does the report meet your expectations in regard to the analysis provided, including identification of difficulties and shortcomings as well as remedies to these?

5

4

3

2

1

0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what could we do better next time?

4. To what extent does the report meet your expectations with regard to reporting on results?

5

4

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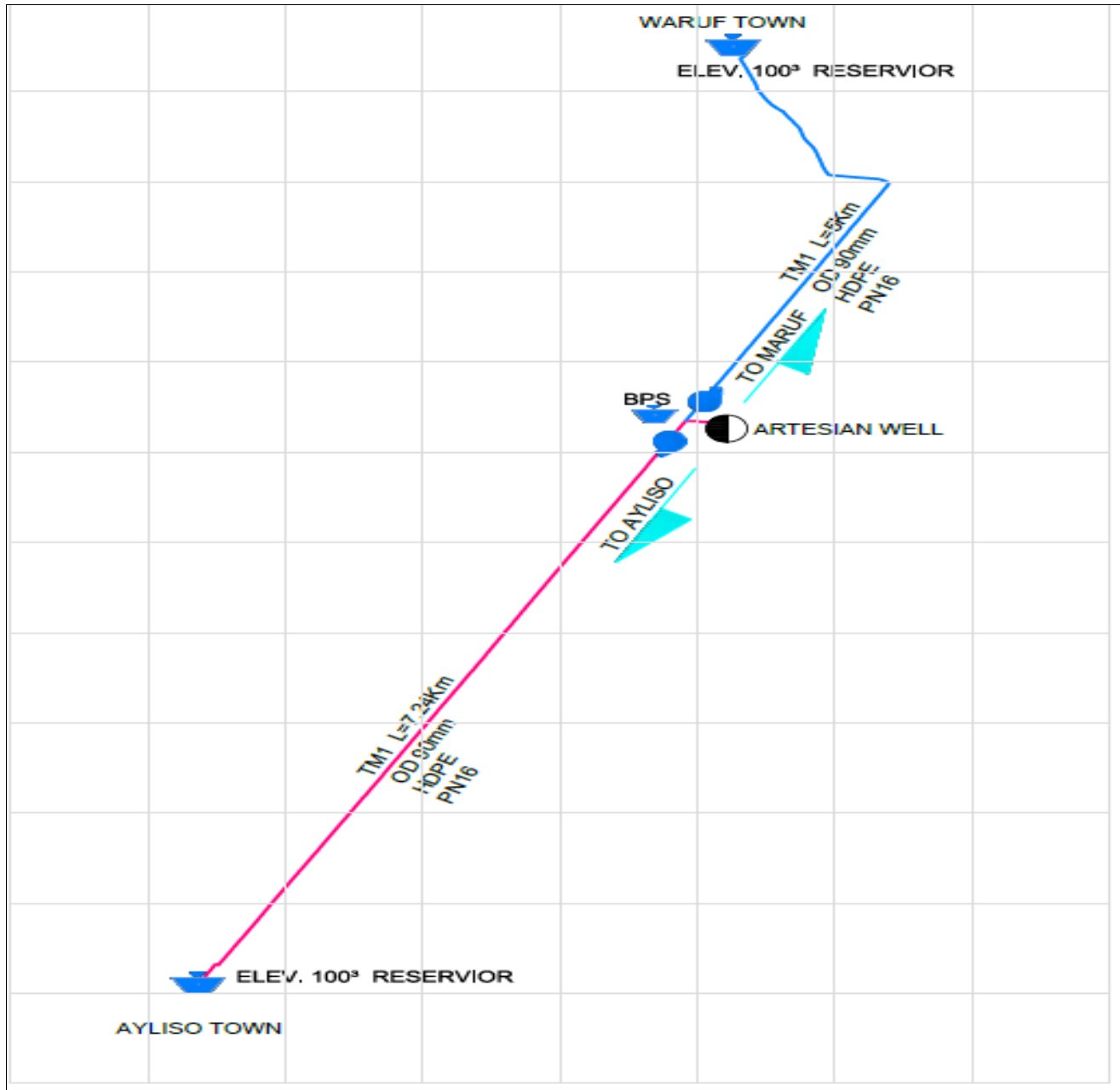
If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what did we miss or what could we do better next time?

5. Please provide us with your suggestions on how this report could be improved to meet your expectations.

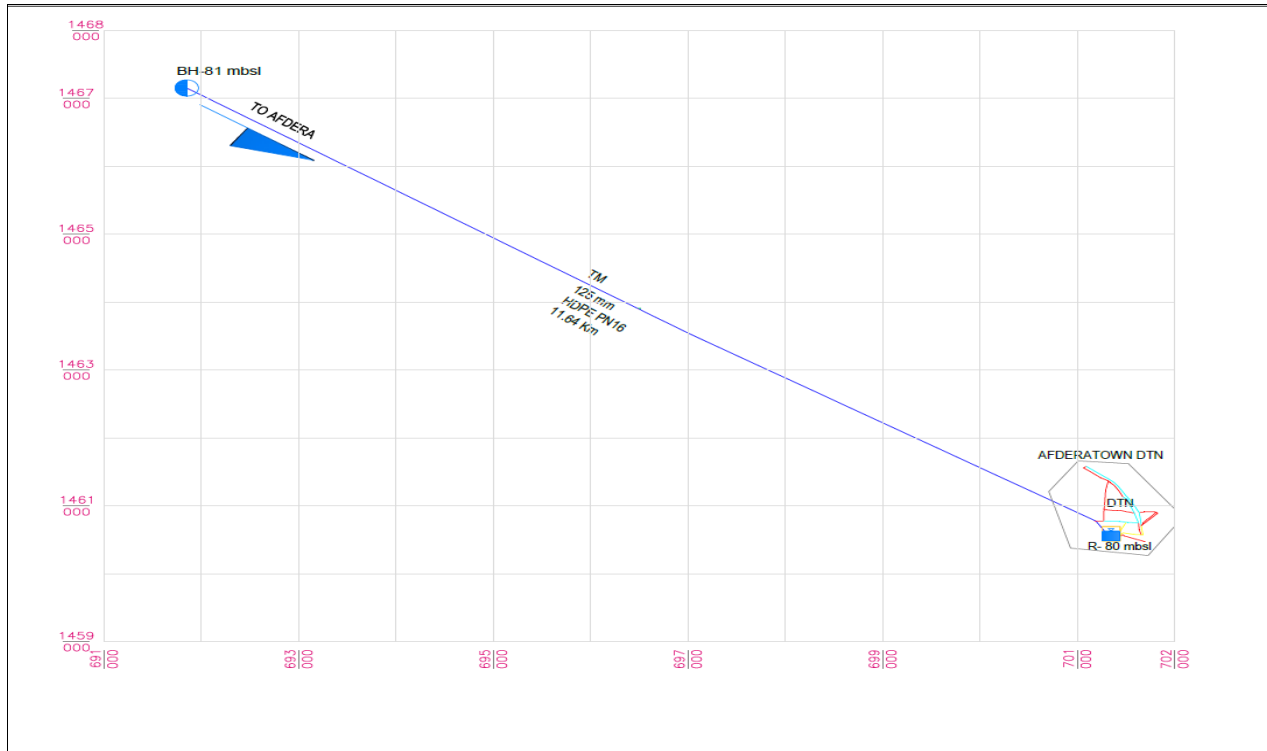
6. Are there any other comments that you would like to share with us?

Annex 1: Multi –Village Water Supply Schemes Drawings

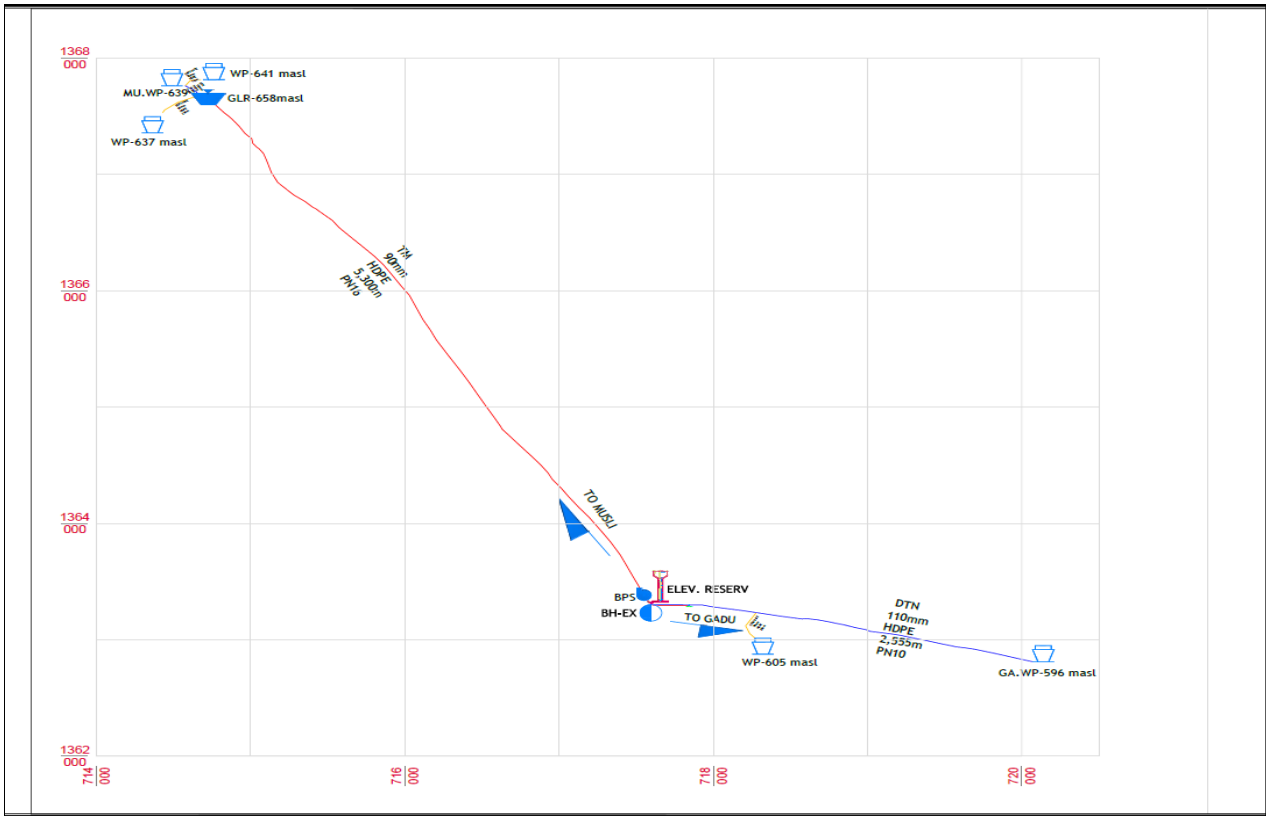
1. Ayliso Multi-village Water Supply Scheme Drawing



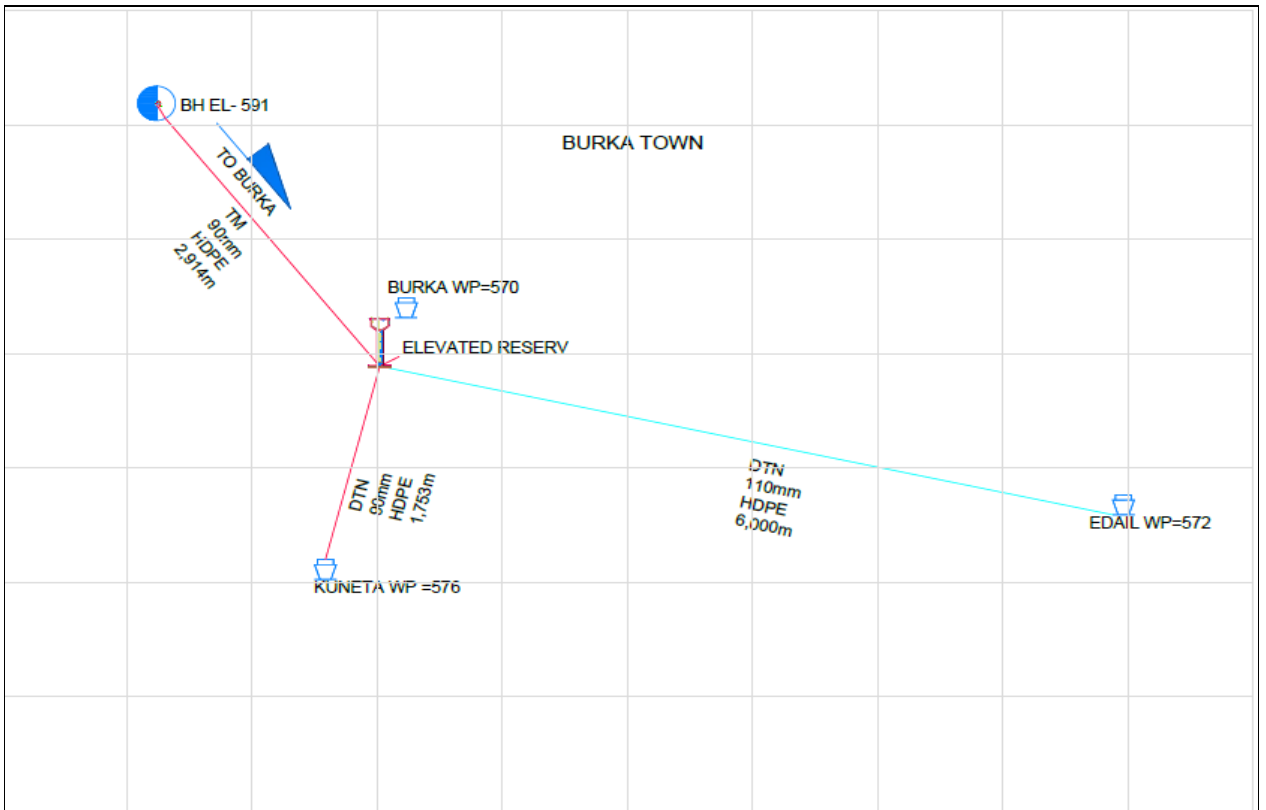
2. Afdera-Multi-village Water Supply Scheme Drawing



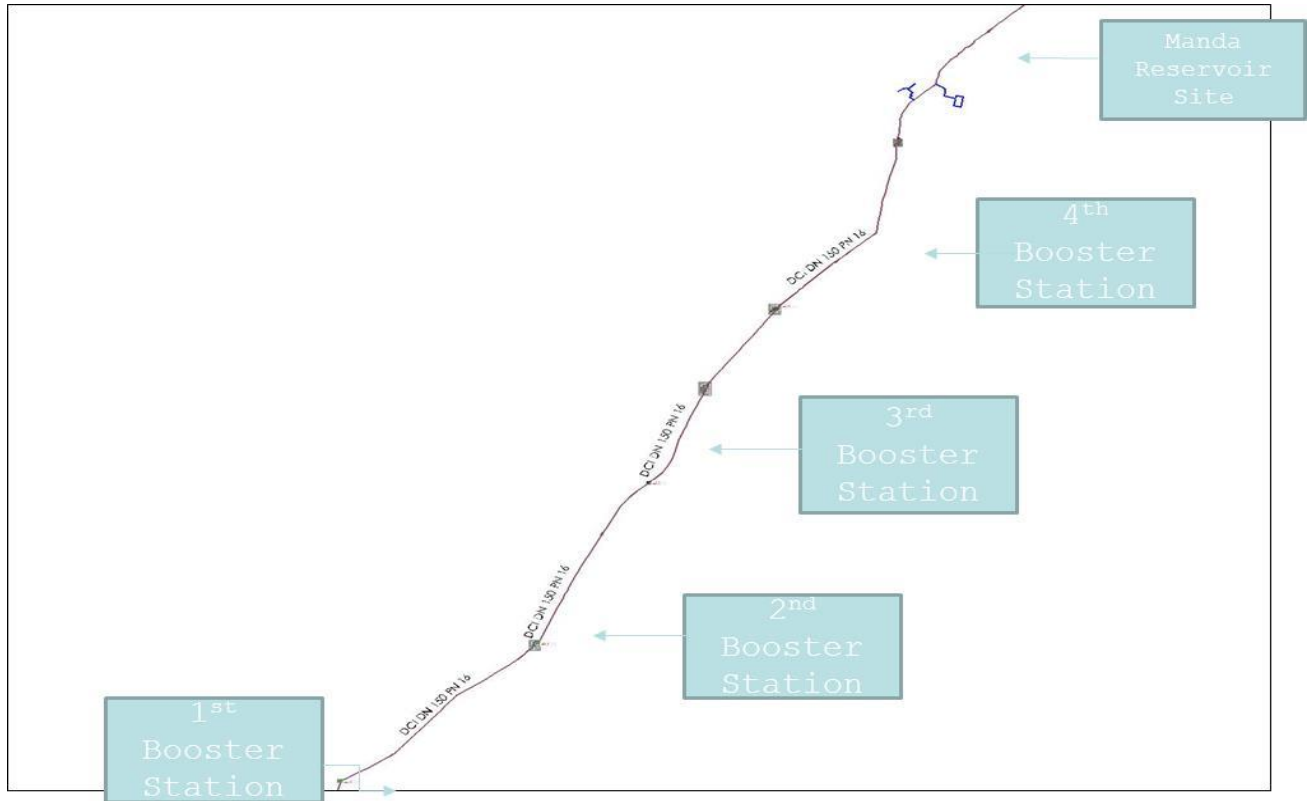
3. Musli Multi-village Water Supply Scheme Drawing



4. Burka Multi-Village Water Supply Scheme Drawing



5. Suula-Manda-Bure Multi-Village Water Supply Scheme Drawing



Annex 2: Detailed Expenditure List