

Pilot Project Proposal on Multi Story Garden.

SHIMELBA REFUGEE CAMP



July 16, 2008

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In order to improve the nutritional conditions and meet the nutritional needs of refugees worldwide, UNHCR is focusing on the idea of undertaking nutritional support in the context of food security.

As part of UNHCR's ongoing program in Ethiopia to address malnutrition, a training workshop on food security was organized by the UNHCR Head Quarters Senior Food Security officer and the Regional Nutritionist. The workshop held for UNHCR staff, staff of implementing partners at the camp level and the concerned district bureau of agriculture. The primary intention of the workshop was to raise awareness among participants in regards to ideas and techniques that may help to meet the food security requirements of households, specifically in terms of micronutrients and the nutritional needs of refugees and there by reducing malnutrition in a refugee set up.

The development of pilot project proposal has been undertaken through two major steps:

- a) reviewing the overall situation and the importance of the response mechanism during a brain storming session held at Queen Sheba Hotel of Addis
- b) through the development of a camp specific pilot project proposal on multi story garden at camp level which mainly focuses on preparation of a detailed work plan to mitigate the existing high malnutrition rate in Shimelba camp. The pilot project is designed to introduce 5 multi story gardens and poultry farming per 200 households (HHs) in Shimelba and 100 HHs in Mayini camp.

2. BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

- **Background information on Shimelba and Mayini refugee camps.**

According to statistics derived as of 2004, more than 17,000 Eritrean refugees are currently hosted in Shimelba and Mayini camp. Approximately 17, 000 and 600 refugees are living in both camps respectively. The first Eritrean refugees crossed in to Ethiopia soon after the Ethio-Eritrean war started in May 2000. The refugees were initially settled in northern Ethiopia Tigray Regional State at make shift camp known as Walanibi, located 13 kms north of Shiraro town. The camp was later relocated to Shimelba (western zone of Tigray Region) in May 2004. Then in May 2008, a second camp was opened in Tselemt District of Tigray Regional State at a place called Mayini, 70 km along the main road to Gondar. The two camps are located 203 kms apart from each other.

Shimelba Refugee Camp is located 33 kilometres South West of district administrative centre Shiraro town, in Western Tigray, approximately 25 kilometres (air distance) from the disputed Ethio – Eritrean boarder and 1,333 Kms from the capital Addis Ababa. The total number of local community members living in four villages within 25 Kilometres radius of the camp is 5,466. The major economic activity in the area is crop production and animal rearing. The climate of the area is semi arid, ranging from 700 to 1100 Mt above sea level.

The major ethnic groups are Tigrinya and Kunama. The Tigrinya are mainly young, educated males from the urban centres of Eritrea. Kunamas are from Gash – Barka region and mainly from a traditional society. They tend to focus on agricultural practices, primarily animal rearing. They came to Ethiopia with their animals and practice back yard farming, poultry and duck keeping. Some of them stay for a long time outside the camp with their animals searching for grazing land near the Tekeze River.

The Kunama ethnic group own larger plots of land compared to the Tigrinya and others ethnic groups. Even though the Tigrigna ethnic groups were given the same size of plot at the beginning, it has become increasingly crowded by new arrivals who prefer to join their friends or relatives by constructing the traditional houses, tukuls on the existing plot instead of constructing their own houses at the other side of the camp. The urban style of life the Tigrinyas are accustomed to is another contributing factor to the current lay out of the camp.

Mayaini camp is a new camp with a steadily growing refugee population. Currently more than 700 refugees are hosted in Mayaini camp. The monthly new arrival rate is at an average 300 to 500.

Comment: Needs something specific for Mayini, i.e no Kunamas there???

3. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Shimelba refugee camp is one of the camps in Ethiopia where the highest malnutrition rates have been recorded within the last four years. Though the malnutrition rate has shown a decrease since 2003, it still remains high and above the acceptable range.

The refugee situation in Shimelba and Mayini camp is considered to be protracted. The Government does not allow to work and their movement is limited which in turn leaves them without alternatives to supplement their household economy.

Malnutrition in Shimelba refugee camp is related to underlying causes such as insufficient household food availability, environmental sanitation, mother/child health and poor infant and young child feeding practices. The immediate cause of malnutrition as in most of the refugee camps are related to diseases like malaria and diarrhoea, which are common in all camps throughout Ethiopia. Other causes of malnutrition in the camp are due to sharing of supplementary food within the family and insufficient none food items that force the refugee to sell or exchange part of the general ration to fulfil their additional needs, such as clothing.

There is a high rate of anaemia prevalence (> 35 %) among the refugee community.

According to the Joint Nutrition carried out by UNHCR and WFP in June 2007, the malnutrition rate was as follows.

Camp Name	Sample size	Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) <-2Z-score and/or oedema			Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) <-3Z-score and/or oedema			Remark
		No	%	95% CI	No	%	95% CI	
Shimelba	855	115	(13.5%)	[exhaustive]	9	(1.1%)	[exhaustive]	Serious

NB- Oedema was detected in the survey at Shimelba and Sherkole refugee camps.

The prevalence of iron deficiency and anaemia (haemoglobin level <11g.dl) was higher >35%, which is a public health problem. If the prevalence of IDA exceeds 20%, there is a need to intervene.

Prevalence of acute malnutrition by age group based on WHZ-score and /or oedema

Camp	6-29 months		30-59months		SAM (<-3W/H Z-score)		GAM (<-2W/H Z-score)	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Shimelba	6	(1.5%)	59	(14.4%)	3	(0.7%)	56	(12.6%)

Prevalence of acute malnutrition distribution by sexes based on WHZ-score and /or oedema

Comparison of the consecutive three years nutrition survey result 2005, 2006 & 2007.

Camp	Sever Acute Malnutrition			Global acute Malnutrition		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Shimelba	1.1%		1.1	16.4%	14.3%	13.5%

4. INTERVENTIONS

- **Introduction of Multi Story Garden to 300 vulnerable refugees and host community in Shimelba and Mayini camps.**

Although there are many types of interventions, some of the interventions like nutrition education, sanitation, therapeutic feeding, income generating activities... etc. are already being undertaken in various sectors and programs in the camp. As indicated on the conceptual frame work below, this proposal will focus only on one of food security component which is availability of food. The implementation of this pilot project on multi-story vegetable gardens will be expected to serve as a spring board for a sustainable food security program.

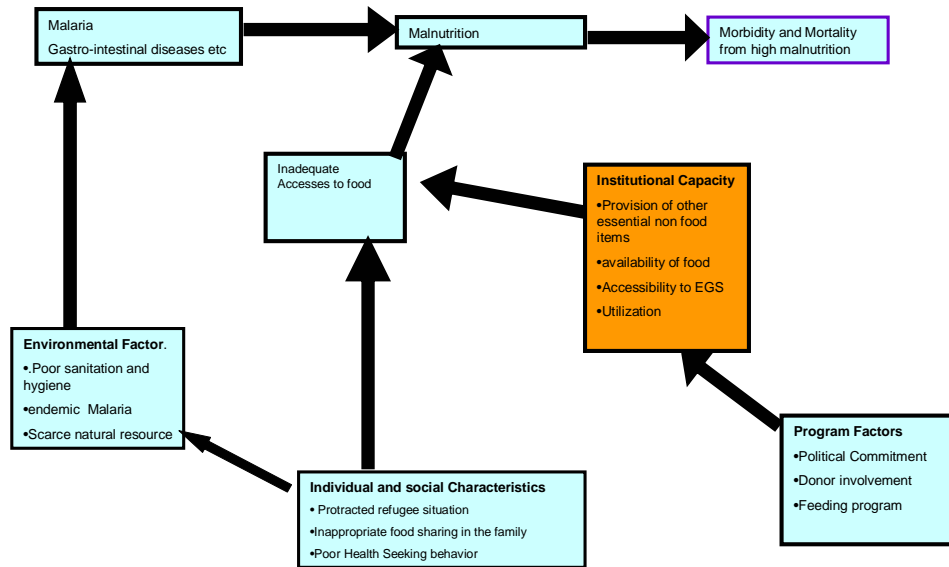
5. GOAL

Increase **AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE FOOD** and there by reduce the high malnutrition rate among Eritrean refugees in Shimelba and Mayini camp.

6. OBJECTIVE

- Increase availability of food through diversifying the source of food for selected 225 HHs in Shimelba camp and Mayini, as well as 75 HHs in the local community living around both camps by the end of December 2008.
- Increase availability of food through vegetable production at the HH level which may result in a 50% reduction on the sale of portion of the monthly ration (to cover other needs) by the end of December 2008.
- Improve food utilization at the HH level through the micronutrients supplied from the multi-story garden ensuring year round accesses to adequate food leading to eradication of malnutrition among the selected households by July 2009.

Malnutrition Conceptual Framework for Shimelba camp



7. OPERATIONAL PHASES

7.1 Preparation

7.1.1. Objective one

- To identify the partner agency that has the experience and commitment to implement the pilot project.

Activities:

- Assign focal person both from UNHCR and the implementing partner
- Recruit one multi-story garden (MSG) supervisor (for both camps)
- Recruit six animators (three for Shimelba and two for Mayini)
- Train animators
- Prepare a reporting format that will enable focal person to report progress

7.1.2. Objective two

- Select 300 HHs as target beneficiaries for the pilot project.

Activities:

- Establish specific criteria of targeting beneficiaries both from the refugee and local community.
- Identify the HHs on the basis of the criteria established.
- Identify and procure the necessary equipment tools and stockpile accordingly.

- Provide training on multi-story gardening and poultry farming to selected HHs.

8. IMPLEMENTATION

8.1 Objective one

Start establishing MSG and poultry farming

Activities

- Acquiring demonstration site, tools, seed etc
- Compost preparation/identify source of soil rich in organic matter.
- Demonstration
- Distributing tools, materials and inputs to selected target groups
- Select appropriate place in the compound with the beneficiary
- Daily supervision and monitoring.
- Recording progress

Log Frame

Current situation	Objective	Target by end 2008	Performance indicator	Impact indicator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Shimelba Camp Global Acute malnutrition rate is 16.4% WFH<-2 z-score; the acceptable range is below 10% WFH <-2 z-score. Is 16, 4% the rate in the camp?? What about Mayini?? ❖ Monthly ration distribution constitute:16 kg wheat, 900gram oil, 450 gram sugar, 1.5 kg famix,150 gram salt, 259 gram soap ❖ Refugees are not allowed to work outside the camp. ❖ Plots allocated to refugee are not sufficient for backyard gardening. ❖ Refugees are selling 35 to 40% of their ration to cover other needs. ❖ Limited non-food item distribution e.g. cloth, shoes, ❖ Limited employment opportunities in form of income generating activities in the camp. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Increase availability of food through diversifying the source of food for selected 200 HHs in Shimelba, and ❖ ?? HHs in Mayini camp by the end of December 2008 Mayini is missing ❖ Increase availability of food through vegetable production at the house hold level resulting 50% reduction on the sale of portion of the monthly ration (to cover other needs) by the end of December 2008. ❖ Improve food Utilization at the HH level through the micronutrients supplied from the multi story garden they own year round accesses to 	<p>300 HHs in the two camps successfully implemented MSG 300 HHs in the two camps implemented poultry farming.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 50 kg of different vegetable seeds distributed. ❖ 900 different farm tools distributed ❖ 1200 Cockerel provided ❖ 23 M3 of organic matter and Humus will be provided ❖ 300 HHs will be supported with materials for poultry farming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Average quantity of vegetable produced by a HH ❖ Number of successful multi-story gardens in place. ❖ Number of demonstration sites ❖ Number of trainings of beneficiaries ❖ Amount of compost production. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Number of malnourished individuals among the selected HHs. ❖ Number of meals per day per HHs. ❖ Amount of proceed from sale of vegetables. ❖ % of monthly ration sold.

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

Input	Process	Output	Outcome		
			Short Term	Long Term	Impact
Seed, tools, compost and training	demonstration	1500 MSG	Successful MSG established	Replication of the program	Low rate of malnutrition

9.1. Indicators

1. Number of malnourished individuals among the selected HHs.
2. Number of meals per day per HHs.
3. Amount of proceed from sale of vegetables.
4. % of monthly ration sold.

9.2. Information System

Indicator	Information System	Validity/Reliability
Number of malnourished individuals among the selected HHs	Health centre report Follow up reports	Valid
Number of meals per day per HHs	Survey on income generated and production	Valid
Amount of proceed from sale of vegetables.	Survey on records maintained for HHs	Valid

9.3. Evaluation Plan

9.3.1. Outcome attributed to the program

1. Improved availability of food at house hold level.
2. Increase in house hold income
3. Minimizes malnutrition

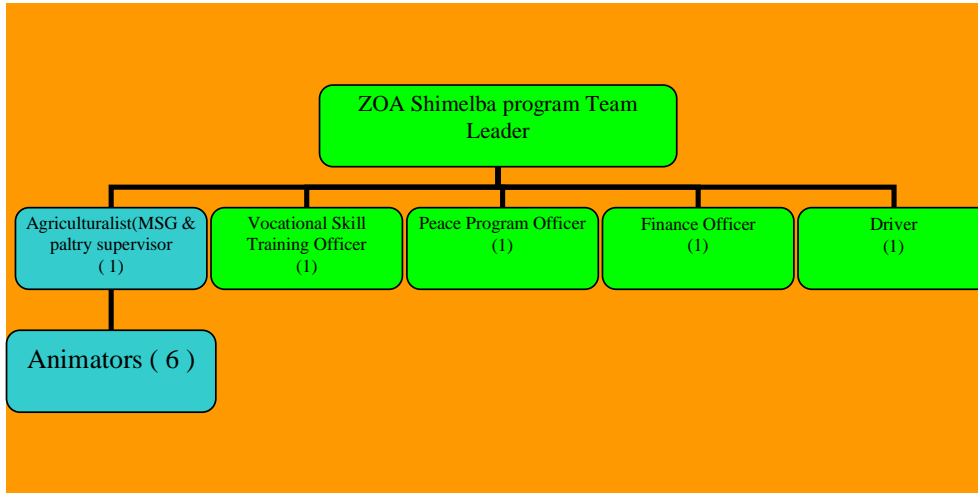
9.3.2. Method of Investigation

1. Survey on households food availability.
2. Review of reports.
3. Nutritional Survey

10. BUDGET

Budget Description		Estimated unit Cost In USD	Total Estimated cost. ET.Birr	Total Estimated cost USD
Input				
1	Seed	73	35000	3650
2	Tools	3.15	27000	2835
3	Pullet and Cockerels	21	60000	6300
4	Poultry materials and feed.	21	60000	6300
5	Essential drugs	5.5	15000	1100
5	Humus	104	23500	2392
Technical Support				
1	Training on MSG on management		30000	3124
2	Training on improved poultry management		30000	3124
3	Supervision/Follow up.			
	❖ Incentive to animators.	43.75	15120	1575
	❖ Agriculturalist	581.25	33480	3487.5
4	Stationary materials		3000	312.5
5	Vehicle Running Cost		18,000	1875
6	Travel cost		12,000	1250
7	Medical Insurance		3000	312.5
Monitoring and Evaluation.			10,000	1041.5
Assessment and review workshop				
Sub-total			375100	38,679
Management cost 7%				2,708
Total				41,387

11. Organization Structure: ZOA Refugee care Shimelba office



Existing Organizational Structure



Additions to the existing organizational structure for MSG pilot project

Expected Challenges:

- ❖ As Mayini is a new camp populated with very young Eritrean refugees who need time to settle down, without the basic camp infrastructures it might be too early to start a pilot project
- ❖ So far no implementing partner has started the project and deploying one of IPs currently working in Shimelba will incur additional operational cost which may go far beyond the estimated costs
- ❖ Should Shimelba camp be relocated in the near future (less than one year), it may not be feasible to start a pilot project that is neither replicable nor sustainable.