

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The third quarter of the year 2016 was challenging for AgroBIG. Most of the activities planned have been somewhat conducted however, some with a low accomplishment rate. For example, multi-stakeholder platform meeting on market linkage was not organized at all. On the other hand, it must be noted that some activities were accomplished more than planned.

These delays are due to the civil unrest that occurred in the early August in Bahir Dar and our intervention kebeles Fogera and Mecha. The situation continued since and has affected the organization of trainings and events.

It should be noted that no AgroBIG grant investments have been damaged in the recent unrest. This is an indication of the ownership of the created assets by the beneficiaries. However, the grant project to help smallholders to participate as out-growers for export production through private investor company *Koga Veg* is seriously affected. A first advance payment had been made and export production was to start however, during the unrest, the farm was destroyed and they will not be able to continue the grant project in the near future. The project was agreed to be terminated officially in the next quarter.

Additionally, due to the civil unrest affecting working condition in the woredas, the process of awarding the 2016 grants is delayed.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE THREE COMPONENTS

COMPONENT I

- The plant Quarantine Agency has been supported in field inspections resulting that 32 farmers have been qualified for onion seed certified production.
- Seventy eight quintals of certified onion seed has been produced out of which 27 sold through market linkage facilitated with Koga Union and WoA
- Youth group in Abnomener has produced 50 quintals of potato tuber seeds under irrigation out of which 8 quintals will be distributed to seed producing cooperatives
- Trainings on onion seed production organized for 40 farmers
- TOT trainings on GAP in onion and potato production for 78 model farmer and 26 experts

COMPONENT II

- Youth groups have been trained on threshing machine maintenance so that they do not need to outsource the maintenance work
- Construction of the Bikolo Abay Horticulture Center has progressed as planned whereas the Fogera meeting hall construction has been slow due to low contractor performance
- Bahir Dar Terminal market construction (2 blocks financed by AgroBIG) is progressing very well.

COMPONENT III

- Grant fund projects from 2014 and 2015 are on-going, while some are already completed
- 77 grant projects have been audited and completed, but process delayed for 33 projects
- Awarding of grant projects 2016 is being delayed
- Family Financial Literacy training by ACSI progressing well with 2 226 participants trained