Drought Early Warning Surveillance

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- Recurring droughts in southern Ethiopia
- Vulnerable communities are often affected by repeated shocks resulting in reduced coping mechanisms
- Early warning information frequently does not reflect local contexts.
- Information sharing with communities with limited feedback and can influence decision making.
- Timely disaster response is a challenge
- Affected communities & stakeholders engagement are key to successful DRR activities & effective response.

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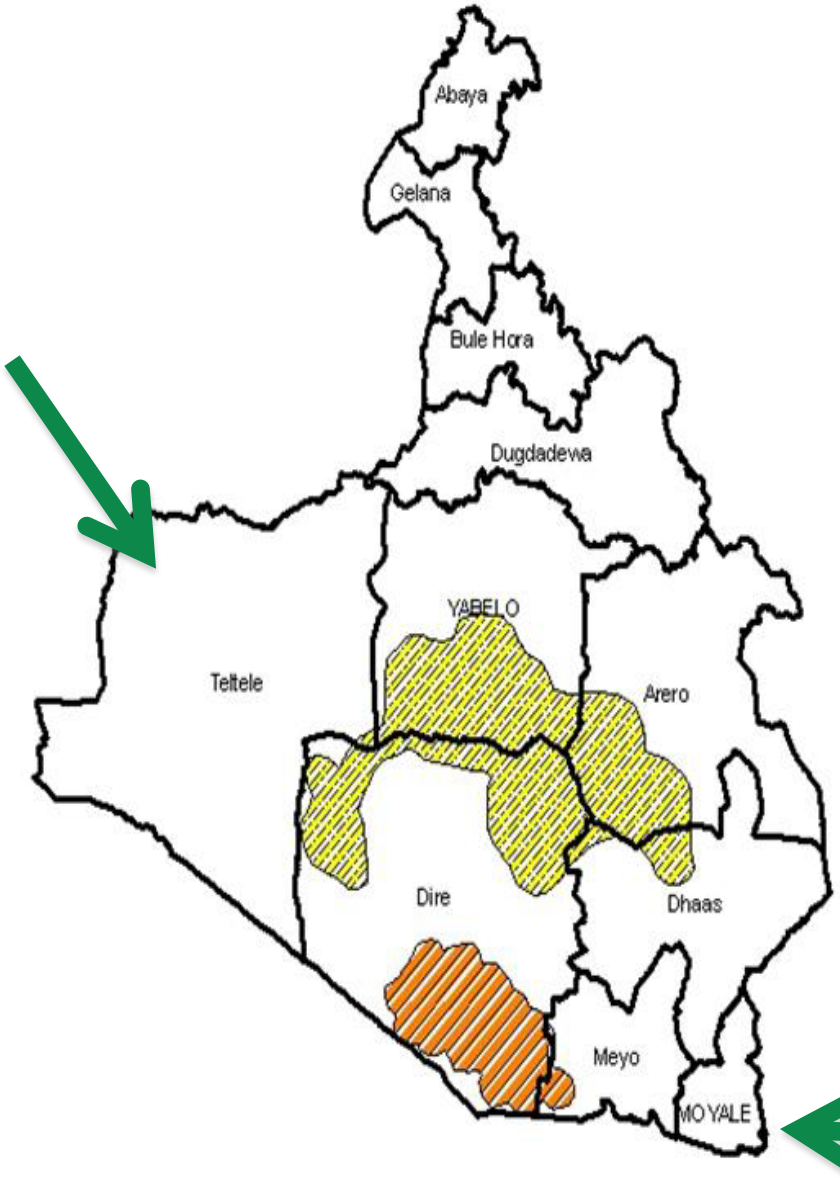
Established in 2007 in Southern Ethiopia with academic partner & local NGO GPDI
Pastoralist & agro-pastoralist communities



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Approach

- Use a community-based approach to support communities to identify and share early warning signs of impending drought.
- Bring stakeholders together through two-way information exchange to identify ongoing needs & facilitate decision-making for action.
- Leverage the DEWS system to identify the need for emergency assessments & take the next steps toward early response.
- Use DEWS to inform disaster risk-reduction activities
- Enhance capacity building at many stakeholder levels

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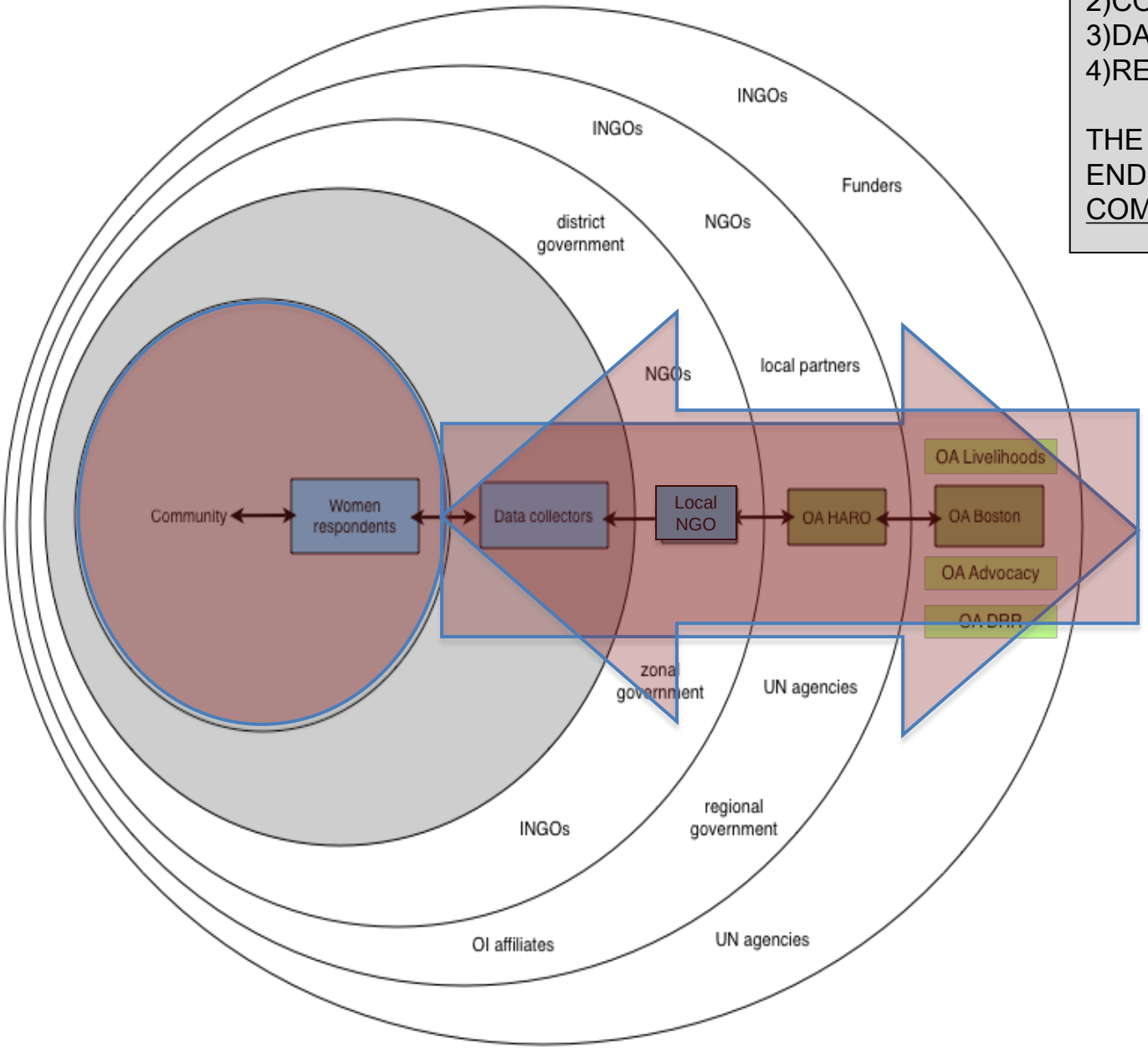
Community-Based Surveillance



SYSTEM OF:
1)COMMUNICATION
2)COORDINATION
3)DATA COLLECTION
4)RESPONSE

THE SYSTEM BEGINS AND ENDS WITH THE COMMUNITY

QUARTERLY FEEDBACK MEETINGS

DECISION MAKING
ACTION PLANS
RESPONSE

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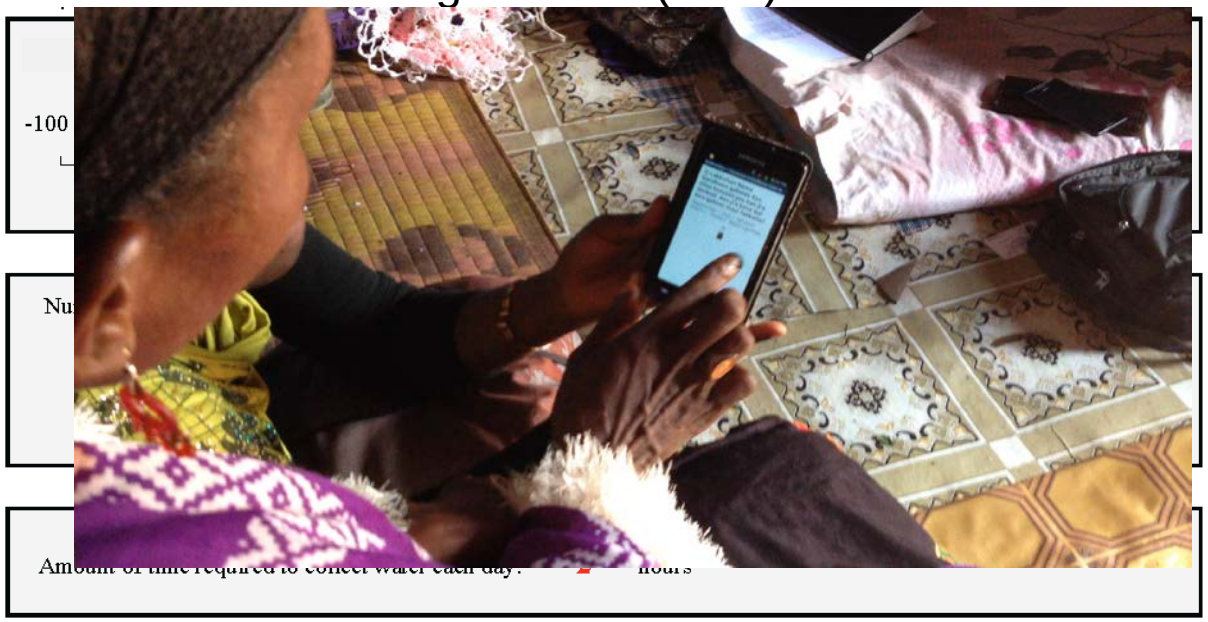
Community-base data collection

Visual analogue scale (VAS)



- Health
- WASH
- Livelihoods
- Food Security
- Migration

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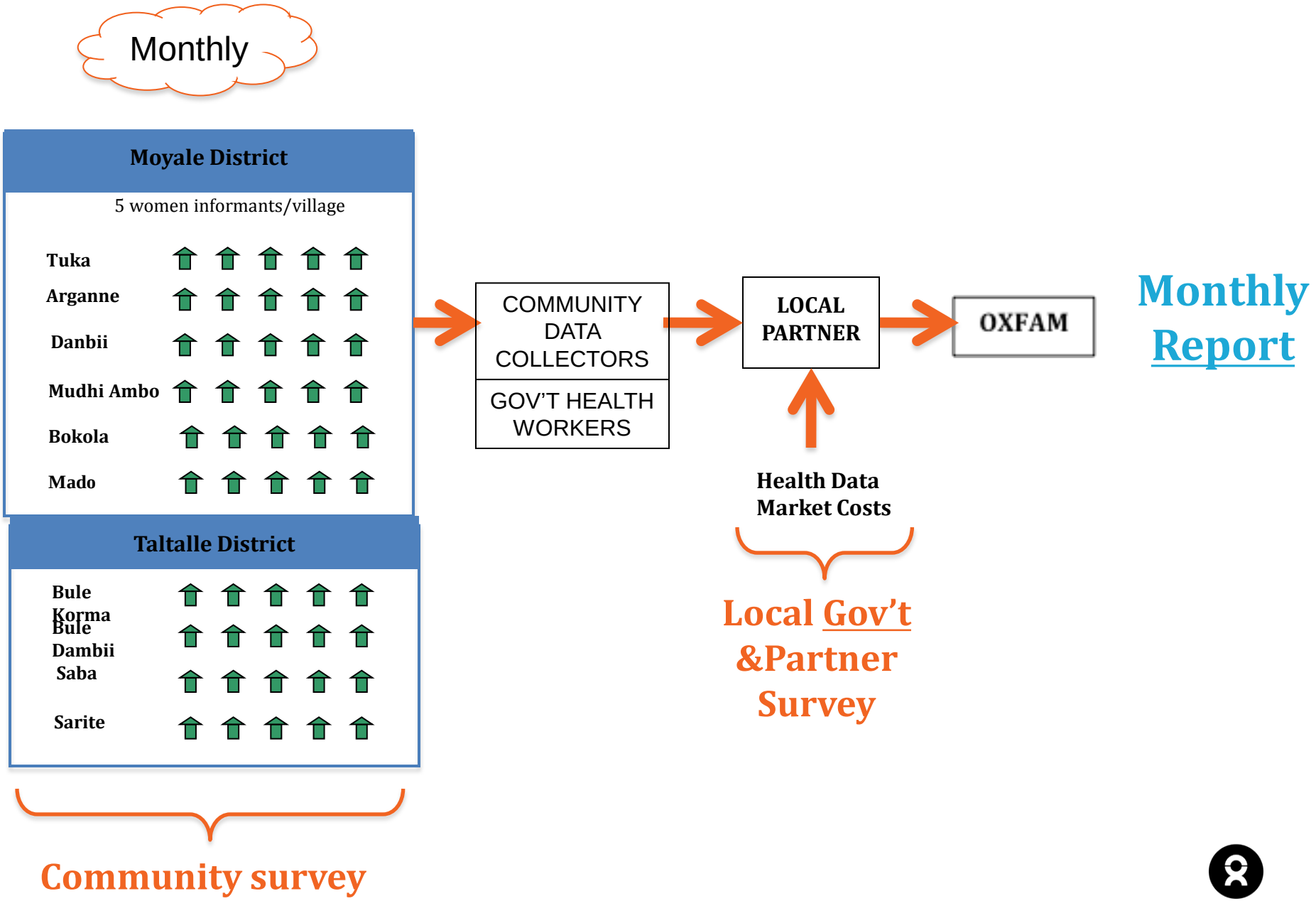

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Community Stakeholders

DATA COLLECTORS

LOCAL PARTNER

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Monthly Feedback

Monthly Report

District/Zonal Stakeholders

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DEWS is a system
which focuses on feedback loops to communities and local government stakeholders for decision-making and early action

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USING DATA & INFORMATION

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NGOs

Local Partner

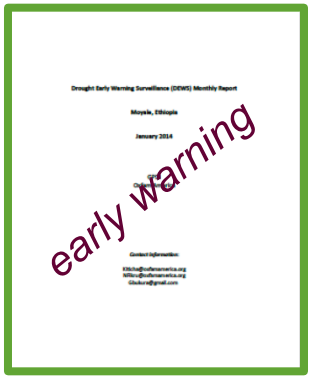
Monthly Report Validation
Sector/NGO/Community Updates
Prioritize problems
Create Action Plans
Agree upon Action Plans

Government Offices

PA Leaders

early response
DRR projects
early communication

QUARTERLY MEETINGS



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