Poverty Reduction and Environment Protection

An Evaluation of EGER and ABER Projects

Implemented in South Central Somalia

January-April 2013

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1 Household survey findings

To provide answers to some of the evaluation questions relating to EGER and ABER project outcomes and impact in Somalia, a household-based community survey was conducted. The sample was drawn from the population residing in households in parts of South Central Somalia. The sample was scientifically constructed to allow for separate estimates of key indicators for both projects, as well as for comparison of the intervention areas with controls in the absence of baseline data. The intervention sample was drawn from intervention districts while the control sample was drawn from adjacent non-intervention areas. The household survey targeted men and women within the labor force age (15-64 years). Out of the targeted Sample of 1,020 interviews, 655 interviews were done.

Table 1: Sample size- achieved vs targeted

	Intervention sites				Control sites				Total		
Project	EGER		ABER		EGER		ABER				
Region	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	% achieved
1. Banadir	51	64	0	0	51	11	0	0	102	75	73.5
2. Gedo	51	54	0	0	51	18	0	0	102	72	70.6
3. M. Shabelle	102	52	153	54	102	51	153	38	510	195	38.2
4. L. Shabelle	51	96	0	0	51	14	0	0	102	110	107.8
5. Bay	51	51	51	50	51	44	51	58	204	203	99.5
Total	*306*	*317*	*204*	*104*	*306*	*138*	*204*	*96*	*1020*	*655*	*64.2*

1.1 Section 1: EGER

This section presents the household survey findings that seek to test the impact of some EGER project implementation variables.

1.1.1 Outcome DO1: *Short and longer term employment and income generation opportunities are created and provided for both skilled and unskilled women and men*

Eight out of ten respondents (84.3%) interviewed in the intervention sites compared to a paltry 5.9% in the control sites had secured some employment by a local NGO/local administration to work on the project to rehabilitate public and social infrastructures within the period of 4 years preceding the evaluation. The difference between the two groups is highly significant (Pr= 0.0000) as observed in the table below. (Q202)

Table 2: Percent employed by a local NGO/local administration to assist in the rehabilitation of public and social infrastructures in the last 4 years

Table 3: People employed in rehabilitation of public/social infrastructures in the last 4 years (%)

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	84.3	5.9	249
No	15.7	94.1	156
Total (n)	287	118	405
Pearson chi2(1) = 216.9692 Pr = 0.0000			

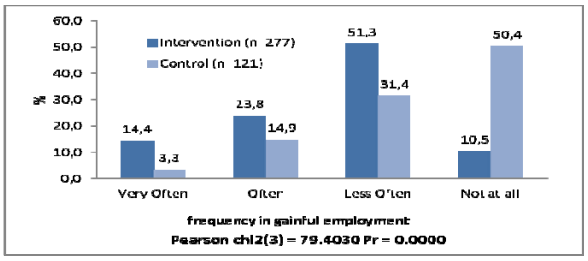
Four in ten (44.9%) and 44.4% of respondents from intervention and control sites were retained after completion to continue working for the projects (maintenance) after completion. The difference between the two groups is not significant. (Q205)

Table 4: Percent who continued working on the project after its completion

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	44.89	44.4	105
No	55.11	55.6	129
Total(n)	225	9	234
Pearson chi2(1) = 0.0007 Pr = 0.9790			

Asked how frequent they have been in gainful employment in the last four years (project period), 38.2% of respondents from the intervention sites said very often or often compared to 18.2% of their counterparts from non-intervention sites. A chi square significance test shows that the frequency of being in employment is significantly associated with presence or absence of EGER project intervention with those from project areas having a higher chance of being in gainful employment most of the time. The chart below displays the details. (Q207)

Figure 1: Frequency in gainful employment in the last 4 years

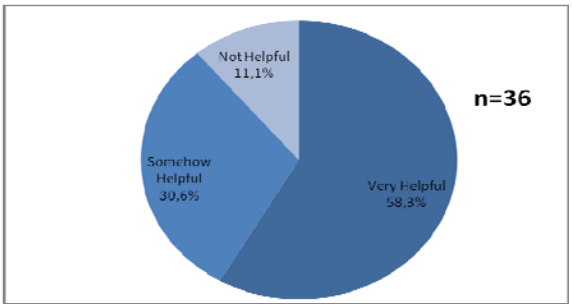


1.1.2 Outcome DO3: *A great number of families provided with alternative sources of income*

Slightly more than half (52.3%) and none (0%) of the respondents in the intervention and control sites respectively were provided with tools to start and run alternative sources of income. These included physical assets, tools (e.g. fishing gear), seed grant (for business startup) or market space (from a constructed/renovated market place). (Q213)

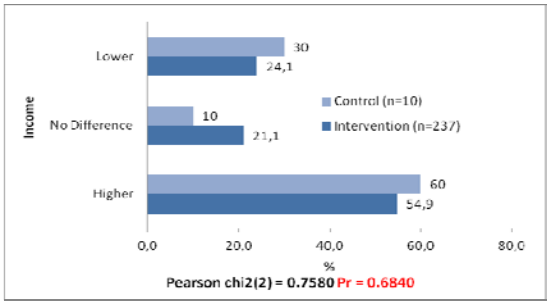
About six out of ten respondents (58.3%) interviewed and a third (30.6%) from the intervention sites feel the support provided to them was very helpful or helpful in enabling them to venture into alternative sources of income. Only 11.1% found the assistance not helpful at all. (Q214)

Figure 2: Extent to which support received helped in accessing alternative sources of income (%)



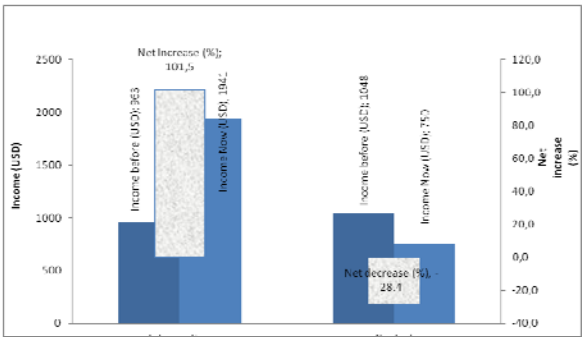
A comparison of the income before and after the project shows that 54.9% of respondents and 60% of respondent in the intervention and control sites respectively witnessed an increase in income before and after the project. The difference between the two groups is not significant. (Q206)

Figure 3: Comparison of income at the time of the project and after the project completion (%)



The EGER project interventions resulted into a double digit rise in average household income in USD (101%) for assisted households compared to 28% reduction in income (-28%) for the households in control areas over the same period. The comparative analysis is shown in the table below. (Q215 & Q216)

Figure 4: Average % increase in revenues (USD per month) for assisted households



1.1.3 Outcome C: *Vocational training, skills enhancement and capacity development*

The percentage vocational training participation rate for the intervention group was 39.2% compared to 4.2% among the intervention group. The difference in vocational training participation rates among the two groups is highly significant (Pr = 0.0000). (Q209)

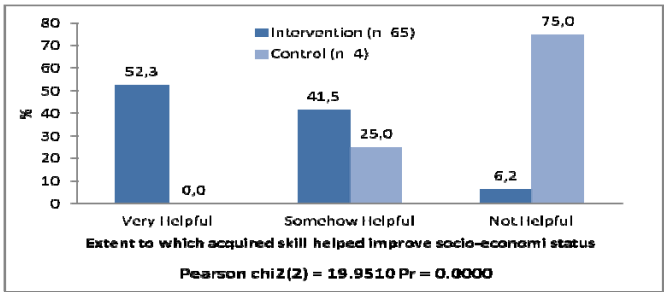
Percent undertaking vocational training organized by a local NGO in the last 4 years

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	39.2	4.2	67
No	60.8	95.8	147
Total(n)	166	48	214
Pearson chi2(1) = 21.196 Pr = 0.0000			

The impact of vocational skills training was estimated by evaluating the extent to which the acquired skill has helped the respondent in improving his/her socio-economic condition. Nine out of ten (93.8%) of respondents receiving vocational training from intervention areas say the training has been helpful in some way compared to 25% in the control sites. (Q211)

Of those who had undergone vocational training in the intervention sites, 61.5% secured a related job, 15.4% started related business, 4.6% got attachment, while 1.5% developed a related business plan. (Q212)

Figure 5: Extent to which the acquired skill helped in improving the socio-economic condition (%)

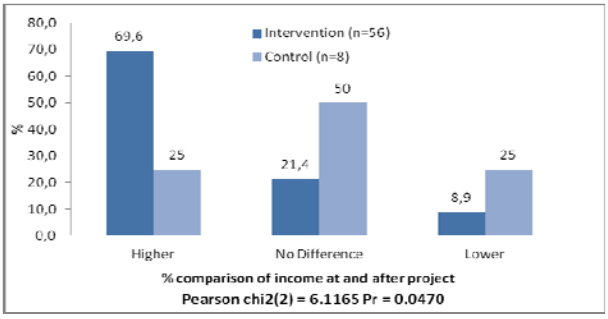


1.2 Section 2: ABER

1.2.1 Outcome DO1: *Vulnerable communities have increased income from equitable and sustainable employment opportunities*

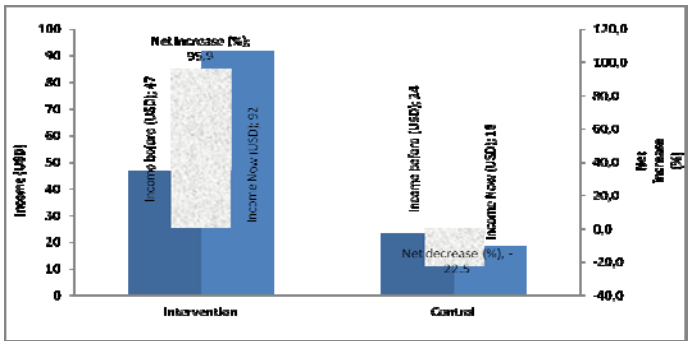
A comparison of the income before and after the ABER project shows that 69.6% of respondents in the intervention sites compared to 25% of respondent in the control sites experienced an increase in income before and after the project. The difference between the two groups is statistically significant (Pr = 0.0470). (Q306)

Equation 1: Comparison of income at the time of the project and after the project completion (%)



On average, the revenue of households in the intervention group increased by 95% after the intervention, compared to the control group which had a drop instead (-22.5%). (Q322 &Q323)

Figure 6: Average % increase in revenues (USD per month) for assisted households



1.2.2 Outcome IB4.1: *Capacity of local administrations and communities to manage and maintain community and public infrastructures*

By involving communities in the rehabilitation public infrastructures, you effectively built their capacity to manage and maintain such because they would have acquired necessary skills to do so. Of the respondents interviewed in the intervention and control areas, 67.8% and 13.6% had been employed by a local NGO/local administration to assist in the rehabilitation of public and social infrastructures within the last 4 years respectively. The difference between the two groups was statistically significant (Pr = 0.0000) with the intervention group being more likely to have been employed compared to their control counterparts. (Q302)

Table 5: Percent employed by a local NGO/local administration to assist in the rehabilitation of public and social infrastructures in the last 4 years

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	67.8	13.6	68
No	32.2	86.4	85
Total (n)	87	66	153
Pearson chi2(1) = 44.617 Pr = 0.000			

Among those who were employed by a local NGO/local administration to assist in the rehabilitation of public and social infrastructures in the last 4 years, 93.0% in the intervention group and 100% in the control group had received job related training before being employed. On this indicator, there's no significant difference between the two groups. (Q303)

Table 6: Percent taken through some form of job related training before embarking on the project

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	93.0	100	61
No	7.02	0	4
Total(n)	57	8	65
Pearson chi2(1) = 0.5982 Pr = 0.4390			

Nine out of ten (94.4%) of respondents in the intervention group continued working on the project after its completion compared to 50% in the control group. Respondents in the intervention group were significantly more likely to continue working on the project after its completion compared to their control counterparts (Pr = 0.0000). (Q305)

Table 7: Percent who continued working on the project after its completion

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	94.4	50	56
No	5.6	50	8
Total (n)	54	10	64
Pearson chi2(1) = 15.2381 Pr = 0.000			

1.2.3 Outcome B.4: Introduction and training of technical and vocational skills for increased productivity and improved land use

As part of the initiative of ABER project to reduce poverty and unemployment, the key drivers of conflict in Somalia, the youth are taken through vocational skills training. The evaluation sought to assess the participation rates of Somali youth in vocational training. The household survey results show that eight out of ten youth (84.1%) from the intervention areas have undergone vocational skills training organized by a local NGO in the last 4 years compared to one in ten (11.1%) at the control sites. This difference is statistically significant (Pr = 0.0000). (Q316)

Table 8: Percent who have undergone vocational training conducted by a local NGO in the last 4 years

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	84.1	11.1	56
No	15.9	88.9	34
Total (n)	63	27	90
Pearson chi2(1) = 42.8661 Pr = 0.0000			

A proxy indicator of the effectiveness of vocational training is the proportion of trained youth who feel the skills acquired have helped in improving their socio-economic conditions. In this assessment all the youth in both the intervention and control sites think the skill acquired has helped them in improving their socio-economic status. The difference between the two is therefore not significant (Pr = 0.9510). (Q318)

Following the training about a third of respondents from the intervention site have secured a job (29.6%) or gotten a skill (33.3%) related attachment. A further 11.1% have started skill related business, 7.4% developed business related plan, while 3.7% have been granted extended training. (Q319)

1.2.4 Outcome C.1*: Introduction of systems related to hazards, disaster prevention or control*

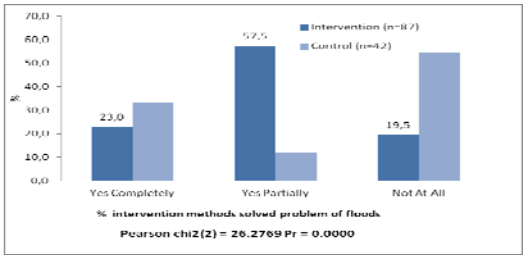
To effectively control and mitigate floods and associated disaster, ABER runs projects in Somalia to build new dykes and rehabilitate existing ones. The evaluation mission sought to find out communities that have benefitted from such interventions. About two thirds (66.7%) of respondents interviewed from ABER project target areas reside in villages where there has been an intervention to control floods in the last 4 years compared to 16.1% of their counterparts from non-project areas. The difference is statistically significant (Pr = 0.0000). (Q308)

Table 9: Percent from villages where there has been an intervention to control floods in the last 4 years

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	66.7	16.1	63
No	33.3	83.9	74
Total (n)	81	56	137
Pearson chi2(1) = 34.1225 Pr = 0.0000			

Eight over ten of respondents in intervention areas feel the intervention efforts have partially or completely solved the problem compared to 45.2% of their control counterparts. The feeling of the two groups on the effectiveness of interventions to mitigate floods are significantly different (Pr = 0.0000). (Q309)

Figure 7: Perception of the community on the effectiveness of the interventions in controlling floods



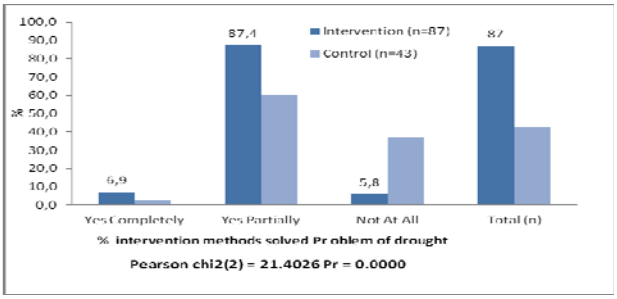
Interventions to mitigate drought includes a range of activities including early warning systems, construction of water tanks and water trucking, establishment of alternative sources of livelihoods, restocking among others. Drought mitigation activities have been carried out in villages of 79% of respondents interviewed from the project sites compared to 24% of respondents in non-project sites. The difference between these two groups is statistically significant (Pr = 0.0000). (Q311)

Table 10: Percent from villages where there has been an intervention to mitigate drought problem in the last 4

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	79.0	24	76
No	21.0	76	55
Total (n)	81	50	131
Pearson chi2(1) = 38.4123 Pr = 0.0000			

Asked to rate the effectiveness of drought mitigation interventions, 94.3% of the intervention group and 62.8% of the control groups thought such interventions were either partially or completely effective. However, majority of the respondents from both groups feel the interventions are partially effective. The results show a statistically significant difference between the two groups (Pr = 0.0000). (Q312)

Figure 8: Perception of the community on the effectiveness of the interventions in mitigating drought problem



Outcome C.2: *Development of community-based financial and social protection schemes*

Close to two thirds (64%) and none (13.3%) of the respondents in the intervention and control sites respectively had received financial assistance from a local NGO in the last 4 years. A significantly higher proportion of the intervention group received financial assistance compared to the control group (Pr = 0.0000). (Q313)

Table 11: Percent whose households have received financial assistance from a local NGO in the last 4 years

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	64.0	13.3	63
No	36.1	86.7	83
Total (n)	86	60	146
Pearson chi2(1) = 36.9174 Pr = 0.0000			

Nine out of ten respondents from the intervention group were provided with physical assets, tools, grants, or market space by a local NGO to help obtain an alternative source of income compared to only 8.2% of respondents in the control group. The respondents from the intervention group were therefore significantly likely to receive this kind of support from local NGOs compared to their control counterparts (Pr = 0.0000). (Q320)

Table 12: Percent provided with physical assets, tools, grants, or market space by a local NGO to help obtain an alternative source of income

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Yes	96.5	8.2	88
No	3.5	91.8	59
Total	86	61	147
Pearson chi2(1) = 115.8454 Pr = 0.0000			

More than half of the intervention group (51.8%) thought the support was very helpful in helping them access alternative sources of income, while none thought so in the control group. None of the respondents from both groups dismissed the importance of the support received in helping start

alternative sources of income. The difference between the two groups is however statistically significant. (Q321)

Table 13: Extent to which support received helped in accessing alternative sources of income (%)

	Intervention	Control	Total(n)
Very Helpful	51.8	0	43
Somehow Helpful	48.2	100	45
Total(n)	83	5	88
Pearson chi2(1) = 5.0656 Pr = 0.0240			