Drought Anticipatory Action Pilot in Somali Region, Ethiopia
Anticipating Climate Shocks
WFP Executive Board side event, 16th November 2021
Why anticipatory actions in Somali Region, Ethiopia?

- Low rainfall received in Oct – Dec 2020 season
- Livestock & crop production was affected
- Food and nutrition security at crisis level
- A second below average rainfall season forecasted
- Increased risk of further livelihood losses and more food insecure people

**Food security outcomes December 2020 - January 2021.**
Source: FEWS NET

**2021 Tercile probability climate Outlook**

Rainfall as a percent of normal for October 1 to December 31 based on CHIRPS and GEFS forecast. Source: USGS/UCSB

March to May 2021 seasonal rainfall forecast. Source: Ethiopia National Meteorological Agency
Drought Anticipatory Actions implemented

- WFP triggered pilot Anticipatory Actions in March 2021
- Funding for the AAs pilot – USD 750,000 from the DANIDA regional AAs contingency fund
- Mobile cash transfers (USD 168 per household from March to June 2021) to 20,768 people in pastoral communities – to protect their livestock from drought impacts and to access nutritious food
- Early warning information to reach at least 16,002 people – forecasts and advisories on drought mitigation actions they can take e.g. store fodder, secure water access
From saving lives to changing lives

- Elba received drought anticipatory cash from WFP
- AA cash + sold one goat to establish a small shop (sells vegetable and packaged food) to cover her HH expenses.
- Can now take care of a family of 15!
Key lessons and messages

• **Readiness for action is critical** – systems & procedures need to be in place for rapid action before a drought-driven crisis

• **Layering of anticipatory actions** – cash + early warning is more impactful than cash alone in the short timing for action
  
  ➢ 91% of Cash + EW recipients reported Food Consumption Scores at ‘acceptable’ level, vs. only 70% of the ‘cash only’ recipients

• **Increased flexible funding is needed to target & cover more people** – “needy people were two times more than the target beneficiaries”
THANK YOU!

WFP REMAINS COMMITTED TO:

SUSTAINABILITY

SCALABILITY

JOINT ACTION