



Qafar Ummattah Party

Afar People's Party

Afar Region in Ethiopia has been hit by drought and flooding simultaneously

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It's well known that the Afar pastoralist have been exposed to the recent drought and lost the majority of their livestock capital. Without recovery from the drought they are now victims of a sudden heavy and snowy rain that flooded the area. The double burden of drought and flooding left both the pastoralist community and small scale irrigation based farmers in extremely vulnerable situation. The loss of human life, livestock and properties have been reported in entire Awash valley. This incident left thousands of households without shelter and basic necessities. Therefore, humanitarian aid and reconstruction of the area is essential more than ever.

In early 1960 the Awash River and the Awash Valley was considered as crucial for national development schemes including the construction of the Koka hydroelectric dam, Wonji Sugar Factory and Sate Farms. Since then, the impact and the frequency of flooding of areas near the Awash River has increased. The process of dam construction both in upper awash and lower Awash has made it difficult to regulate water flow during rainy season resulting in a regular flooding with devastating social, economic and environmental consequences. The extreme weather condition is only one part of the equation with regard to Afar pastoralists. The regulation of the water level and the early warning system has never been in place to protect both human life and huge investments in the areas.

Thus the APP calls on local and intentional communities to provide necessary humanitarian aid to affected population.

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