

Appendix A

Screening Phase: Key Outcomes

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A1 ACTIVITIES IN SCREENING PHASE

A1.1 ACTIVITIES IN FIELD - FIELD NOTES FOR SCREENING TRIP

Dates of Field Trip: 11 to 15 November 2013

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A series of notes were taken during the field trip which included observations on the settlements visited in the area. In addition the perception of Yara was noted during any engagement conducted.

A1.2 SETTLEMENTS

During the Screening phase key settlements in the area were visited. The settlements identified below were visited between 11 and 15 November 2013.

A1.2.1 Asabuya (Dallol Woreda)

The settlement is located off the main road, on a left-hand turning for the road construction camp. It is located approximately 2.6km from the main road driving towards the escarpment (Balakiya Mountains). During the visit approximately six structures indicating four households were identified. The elder of the village reported that another eight households lived closer to a river (residents named it Asabuya River) but were part of the same village. The population of Asabuya (in the location visited) was reported to be approximately 43 people (including children) however approximately ten people were present when the settlement was visited (mainly women, children and an elder). It was reported that approximately another 50 people lived closer to the Asabuya River.

The Asabuya settlement sources its water from a hand dug well located approximately 0.6km from the settlement that sits further up the escarpment.

The predominant livelihoods were reported to be rearing and herding livestock, artisanal salt mining, formal employment through a mining company working in the Danakil Depression and collection of palms with palm products sold at market (Badda).

Key livestock identified were goats and camels, with goats being identified as a key 'savings and support system' and are sold during periods of economic struggle or festivals. The camels are used to transport salt which is normally sold in Adaquwa. Residents reported that they were both involved in the artisanal salt mining at Lake Assale, as well as small scale salt collection stretching east along the main road (i.e. running between the military camp opposite Yara's camp to the road construction camp). Collection of honey was

also reported as a livelihood however residents reported that this activity was intermittent and collection of honey was most likely following the rainy season.

A1.2.2 Bada Town (Dallol Woreda)

Bada is located north of the Yara concession and is approximately 34km from the Yara camp. It is one of the northern towns that sit on the Ethiopian-Eritrean border.

Two Kebeles encompass Bada Town namely Bada Irmile and Bada Admeruq; the commercial centre is located in Bada Admeruq. According to a Kebele spokesperson the population of Bada Admeruq is 4,927 including children. It was also reported that approximately 700 households in this Kebele were supported by the Productive Safety Net Programme.

It should be noted that population figures for Bada Town will be confirmed during the Scoping and Baseline Collection phase.

It was reported that two towns existed – one in Ethiopia and the other in Eritrea. According to residents Bada was one town prior to the Italian occupation but was split following this period.

Water in the Bada Town is sourced from the adjacent Ragele River with many diseases being reported to originate from the drinking of river water which is contaminated. Waste management was noted to be minimal in the town. Piped water was observed to exist however this was reported to be used by G&B mining company whose camp is located on the outskirts of Bada.

No electricity was observed in the town however it was reported that some residents own diesel powered generators (mainly shops in the town). One health centre exists in Bada however the Kebele spokesperson reported that due to the lack of electricity in the town storage of medication was an issue. A school (grades 1 – 8) is also present in Bada Town, following which students will travel to Adaquwa to continue their education providing households can afford this.

Key livelihoods were reported to be agriculture, livestock and trade and commerce. Key crops reported included sorghum, maize, and watermelon). In addition to goats, traditionally observed across the Danakil Depression, cattle were also commonly observed in Bada Town. Bada was identified to be an important centre for trade in the area, and a large open market was observed during the trip. Other settlements visited also reported that it was common for them to travel to Bada to buy and sell goods. It was also reported that a considerable amount of products sold in Bada are transported from Eritrea.

A1.2.3 Musley (Dallol Woreda)

Musley is located approximately 2.7km from the main road. To access it a left turn was taken off the main road adjacent to the military camp opposite the

Yara camp. Musley is located off a dirt track and is accessible by foot (walking from the dirt track).

The dirt track is commonly used by the military as they extract water from a surface water body further towards the escarpment (Balakiya Mountains), and likely supplied by Musley River.

Musley is currently composed of one household with approximately nine people – composed of a mother, father and seven children. During the fieldwork the mother and children were present and it was reported that the husband was in Berahale for medical treatment. However other points raised during the discussion potentially indicate that the household is a female headed household.

Prior to their current location, Musley were located further up the mountain and lived closer to other settlements, all falling under the name of Musley. Other relatives of Musley were identified to live in Enkefla, Bada and Hamad Ela. The main reasons indicated for moving were to seek employment opportunities with the mining companies operating in the area, as well as the military.

The woman present reported that livestock and the collection of palms were the key livelihoods practiced. However she reported that her ability to collect palms was limited due to the fact that she has to attend to her goats on a daily basis. Thus time permitting she will collect palms in the area identified as Aga. The collected palms were used to make products that are sold at Bada and Hamad Ela markets. In addition palm products are also used for the construction of housing.

Key water sources were identified to be the surface water area used by military, and it was reported that it is common for the military to deliver water for Musley. An additional water source was reported to be a place called Finikiya springs located further up the escarpment.

Closest healthcare facilities were reported to be Bada however due to lack of services and medication present in the health centre in Bada it is reportedly common for residents to travel Mekele and Adigrat. Yara were also identified as an important source for healthcare services.

A1.2.4 *Geharto (Dallol Woreda)*

This settlement was not visited during the Screening trip however two men were encountered during fieldwork. The men were encountered close to the area identified to be called Aga (key area used for the collection of palms). It was reported that Aga is of primary importance to Geharto and several other settlements some of which live further up towards the Balakiya Mountains. The settlements identified to use Aga included:

- Gerset;
- Elifen;

- Behaitu;
- Adaquwa;
- Adboda; and
- Ermile

The men reported that they had walked four hours to reach Aga and would make the walk one to two times a month, sometimes more (customarily this would be women). In addition to the collection of palms the men reported that they would also collect salt (termed small scale salt collection) as well. This is used both for household and livestock consumption, as well as being sold to people travelling through their settlement, customarily on their way to Adaquwa and Berahale from Bada, Hamad Ela and elsewhere.

Ture'hai was also identified to an important area that is used to water their camels and goats. These were identified to be surface water bodies located east of the main road travelling towards Bada (close to the road construction camp).

A1.3

PERCEPTIONS AND PERCEIVED IMPACTS

On the whole Yara were reported to have a positive influence in the area. Stakeholders identified that Yara have maintained regular communication with local government officials, and were broadly aware of Yara's activities in the area. A key positive impact to date identified by stakeholders is Yara's provision of healthcare to local residents.

The key concerns raised during Screening (noting that this stage of engagement was preliminary engagement) was in relation to labour. In addition expectations are high, and it is anticipated by stakeholders that current positive impacts at exploration phase will translate into larger positive impacts during the construction and operations phase. Stakeholders indicated that they would expect local people to benefit from direct employment, as well the hope that Yara would assist in improving education and healthcare services in the local area.

A summary of the issues raised as well as responses provided by the ESIA team are provided in *Table A1.1* below.

Table A1.1 Preliminary Issues and Comments

Issue Category	Issue	Further on the Issue	Stakeholder Raising Issue	ESIA Team Response
Existing impacts	Labour	Many of the issues raised by local communities related to Yara’s labour practices (real or perceived). These include issues related to: differences in salaries between Afaris and other Ethiopians (mainly people originating from the highlands); temporary employment and how contracting of temporary labour is managed; dismissal practices (i.e., it was alleged that correct compensation has not been made in the past following employees being dismissed).	Local communities Local government	These points will be communicated to Yara for their consideration
	Existing exploration impacts and potential future impacts	Concerns were raised with regards to future proposed Project activities that may lead to the disturbance of areas that are important for resource use including grazing and palm collection areas. This comment was made in light of current activities that are occurring close to common community resource areas. Concerns were raised about the proposed Project to potentially impact access routes (for livestock and corridors used to travel between Bada and Hamad Ela).	Local communities	These points will be communicated to Yara for their consideration. These points will also be considered in the ESIA specialist studies going forward.
Anticipated benefits	General	Local stakeholders have expectations of significant benefits from the Yara development and the expectation is that these will be shared with them or created for them. Local stakeholders recognised that there are already benefits being experienced, in particular healthcare services. However as the proposed Project moves into operations phase, there are expectations that the benefits will also scale up. It was also identified that there is an expectation that local people should benefit from the proposed Project to a higher degree than other Ethiopians, in particular in terms of employment.	Local communities Local government	These points will be communicated to Yara for their consideration. These points will also be considered in the ESIA specialist studies going forward.