Adding to the global livelihoods database

FEG has been providing technical support to the Southern Africa Development Community’s (SADC) Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) Programme and FEWS NET in Malawi to ensure the completion of country-wide, high quality HEA livelihood baselines in Tanzania, Malawi and Angola. This initiative, which began in 2014, has been especially challenging in Tanzania, one of the largest and most diverse countries on the continent, where 78 zones will be covered. By employing a time-tested iterative capacity building approach, FEG has enabled the Tanzania Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis committee (MUCHALI) to take full ownership of the HEA baselines, while ensuring high quality results with targeted technical support.

The global HEA database consists of over 500 baselines from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. The HEA baselines in southern Africa have already been used for emergency needs projections, and are intended for use in DfID’s Climate Smart Initiative Project, for disaster risk assessment, poverty analysis, and resilience measurement, among other applications.

FEG continues to support HEA baseline work around the world. Over the past two years, sixty-three new HEA baselines were completed in southern Africa, helping to increase our collective understanding of local livelihood systems.
**Household Economy Analysis (HEA)** is a unique livelihoods-based framework designed to provide a clear and accurate representation of the inside workings of household livelihood systems at different levels of a wealth continuum, and the connections between these livelihoods and the wider economy. HEA translates these complicated systems into readily accessible information for donors, policy makers, program managers and planners to help them: understand household constraints and opportunities in the short and longer term; design appropriate projects to meet a range of objectives; and measure the real impact of a program or policy in livelihood terms.

**HEA Tools**

A number of HEA tools have been developed by FEG over the past 20 years in order to provide flexible and customized answers to decision makers from a wide range of sectors. They include the **Livelihoods Impact Analysis Sheet (LIAS)**, The **HEA Dashboard**, the **Analysis of Herd Dynamics (AHEaD) tool**, the **Graduation Prediction System (GPS) tool**, the **Water and Livelihoods Analysis Spreadsheet (WELS)**, and the **Baseline Storage Spreadsheet (BSS)**, among others.

**HEA Baseline + Hazard or Intervention = Outcome Analysis**

An HEA baseline translates household economic realities into standard quantified results. HEA uses data from existing monitoring systems or projects to develop 'problem specifications', which are a quantified statement of the hazard or of the intervention. Hazards are translated into discrete impacts on the household economy. HEA Outcome Analyses are customized to meet the needs of specific decision makers or information systems.

- **Drought**
  - 75% loss of own crops
  - 50% decline in livestock prices
  - 200% increase in staple grain prices

This Outcome Analysis shows the percentage of households facing a survival deficit in Tigray, Ethiopia (by woreda) given an increase in staple food prices. A survival deficit is the gap between the amount of food households can grow or buy on their own, and what they need to meet minimum food requirements.

This Outcome Analysis shows the results of an HEA-based Resilience Analysis, comparing different levels of household resilience given different project interventions in Amhara, Ethiopia. The higher the score, the more household resilience the project creates.