

Korma Jarso, the animal doctor of Bulbul, Liben, Guji Zone, Ethiopia Save the Children/US, January 2010

Korma Jarso was a well regarded traditional animal healer in his Bulbul community, and so in 2006 when Save the Children US in Ethiopia offered to train Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), he gladly registered. Under the Enhanced Livelihood in Southern Ethiopia (ELSE) program in 2009 he also had a chance to be one of the first CAHWs selected in the area for camel husbandry and health training.

"I attended the camel husbandry training in October 2009 and learnt about new diseases like camel sudden death and also the causes of abortion in livestock" says Jarso "I also learnt about treatment options, for example previously for I would treat wiry neck with a hot iron; however I learnt that penstrip was the appropriate treatment. I own camels myself so the knowledge has helped me with my own animals too."

Jarso also learnt that multi-vitamins were good for emaciated camels as well as many other treatments. Since the training he has treated a total of about 200 camels. *"In the past week I treated 50 goats, 30 cattle and 10 camels, but the numbers vary depending on disease outbreaks"* explains Jarso.

Although Jarso doesn't make a lot of income from being a CAHW at the moment, he is happy to help his community. *"I earn about ETH 15Birr (About USD 1.5) per week which isn't much but it's a useful complement to my main source of income which is from my livestock"* says Jarso.

Jarso works together with another CAHW in his PA. She was originally trained by SC/US as a tick and mastitis control worker, but was very active so she was selected to be trained as a CAHW recently under the ELSE project. He sometimes helps her e.g. in restraining aggressive camels, however he says that she is very capable and can treat everything that he can. He says that they need continuous refresher trainings especially on new viral diseases and botulism. *"We are only two in a wide area and so we would be glad to have one more trained CAHW in the PA"* he adds.