

## Group 1: The Borena

---

**Instructions:** With your group members, read the description below and answer the questions that follow on a separate piece of paper. Be sure to answer the questions from the perspective of your stakeholder group.

### The Borena

The Borena people live in a region of southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya. The Borena are pastoralists, which means that they raise livestock. While traditionally they are semi-nomadic, moving across the region with their animals, some Borena now raise agricultural crops and move less frequently. With few substantial water sources in the region, the Borena depend on deep, hand-dug wells for their water supply. These “tula wells” are often close to 100 feet deep and have been used by people in the region for more than 500 years. They are the Borena’s most reliable water source, providing water even during periods of prolonged drought. Without these wells, the Borena would not be able to keep their cattle alive during the dry season. The Borena depend on these wells for all of their other water needs as well. But in recent years, extended drought and a drop in the water table have forced the Borena to dig the tula wells even deeper to reach the water. Most families face difficulty accessing adequate water for their herds and personal consumption. Some have begun raising camels rather than cattle because the camels require less water. The tula wells are managed by different clans who control access, usage, and maintenance. If someone wants to use a well that is owned by a different clan, they must ask permission, and the amount of access granted will depend on the water level of the well. A change in administrative boundaries by the federal government has provoked disputes over who has authority over wells. The Borena have been involved in armed conflict with the Guji and other neighboring groups over diminishing resources and fertile land.

### Questions

1. From the perspective of the Borena, what is the problem? What issues are causing or contributing to the problem?
2. How has this problem affected your stakeholder group?
3. From the perspective of the Borena, how should this problem be solved? Who should be involved in resolving this problem? Consider local actors as well as national or international groups that might play a role.
4. What are the obstacles to your proposed solution? What will be the effect of your proposed solution on other stakeholders?
5. What will happen to your stakeholder group if this problem is not resolved?

## Group 2: The Guji

---

**Instructions:** With your group members, read the description below and answer the questions that follow on a separate piece of paper. Be sure to answer the questions from the perspective of your stakeholder group.

### The Guji

The Guji people live in southern Ethiopia. They are both pastoralists (meaning that they raise livestock) and farmers. Some are semi-nomadic, moving across the region with their animals. The Guji are neighbors of the Borena, and the climate and landscape in which they live, herd their cattle and grow crops is very similar. The ancient, deep hand-dug wells upon which they rely for water during the dry season are drying up, and families face increasing difficulty in finding water for themselves, their herds, and their crops. Population growth of both people and livestock, along with deforestation, may have contributed to the recent drought. But there are other changes that are less easy to explain, such as diminished rainfall and increasing temperatures, that also are affecting the water supply significantly. A change in administrative boundaries by the federal government has provoked disputes over who has authority over wells. The Guji have been involved in armed conflict with the Borana and other neighboring tribes over diminishing resources and fertile land.

### Questions

1. From the perspective of the Guji, what is the problem? What issues are causing or contributing to the problem?
2. How has this problem affected your stakeholder group?
3. From the perspective of the Guji, how should this problem be solved? Who should be involved in resolving this problem? Consider local actors as well as national or international groups that might play a role.
4. What are the obstacles to your proposed solution? What will be the effect of your proposed solution on other stakeholders?
5. What will happen to your stakeholder group if this problem is not resolved?

## Group 3: The Ethiopian Red Cross Society

---

**Instructions:** With your group members, read the description below and answer the questions that follow on a separate piece of paper. Be sure to answer the questions from the perspective of your stakeholder group.

### The Ethiopian Red Cross Society

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) was established in 1935 and works to improve food security and health, fight HIV/AIDS, promote disaster preparedness, and provide assistance during disasters. One of Ethiopia's most common natural disasters is drought. Poverty, as well as reliance on and close contact to the natural environment, makes many Ethiopians susceptible to hardship during droughts. In recent years, increased environmental degradation due to growing human and livestock populations have made many people increasingly vulnerable. During a drought in 2006, 13.5 million people in Ethiopia were dependent upon emergency relief. Over that period, the ERCS and its partners provided relief to over one million people. By acting quickly and distributing water by truck, the ERCS and partners were able to deliver water to households once every four days, allowing people to remain at their homes, rather than move away and search for water elsewhere, and preventing the widespread death of livestock. The ERCS continues to work with local communities, fighting the effects of drought, implementing programs to decrease vulnerability to shortages of water and food among Ethiopians, minimizing the effects of disasters, and promoting peace and prosperity.

### Questions

1. From the perspective of the Ethiopian Red Cross, what is the problem? What issues are causing or contributing to the problem?
2. How has this problem affected your stakeholder group?
3. From the perspective of the Ethiopian Red Cross, how should this problem be solved? Who should be involved in resolving this problem? Consider local actors as well as national or international groups that might play a role.
4. What are the obstacles to your proposed solution? What will be the effect of your proposed solution on other stakeholders?
5. What will happen to your stakeholder group if this problem is not resolved?

## Group 4: The United Nations

---

**Instructions:** With your group members, read the description below and answer the questions that follow on a separate piece of paper. Be sure to answer the questions from the perspective of your stakeholder group.

### The United Nations

The United Nations supports a large number of ongoing aid efforts in Ethiopia. Several are focused on improving access to clean water. The UN's 2007 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Africa include reducing the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by half. Other goals include reducing health risks from water, developing sustainable water resources and modern water management systems and infrastructure, and promoting peaceful negotiations of disputes over water and other resources. In July 2008, the UN Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs published, "Situation Report: Drought/Food Crisis in Ethiopia," detailing the extraordinary risks of famine due to water shortage in the near and long-term future in Ethiopia. In 2007, the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a report that forecast that Africa would be the continent placed at greatest risk by climate change, despite the fact that Africa has caused the least greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, the UN provides peacekeeping forces in Ethiopia to monitor compliance with the 2000 peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Ongoing aid efforts supported by the UN can be put at risk by the violence that flares up over scarce land and water. While the success of these programs can help alleviate the conflict over resources, violence can undermine the progress and capabilities of the programs.

### Questions

1. From the perspective of the UN, what is the problem? What issues are causing or contributing to the problem?
2. How has this problem affected your stakeholder group?
3. From the perspective of the UN, how should this problem be solved? Who should be involved in resolving this problem? Consider local actors as well as national or international groups that might play a role.
4. What are the obstacles to your proposed solution? What will be the effect of your proposed solution on other stakeholders?
5. What will happen to your stakeholder group if this problem is not resolved?

## Group 5: Ethiopia's National Government

---

**Instructions:** With your group members, read the description below and answer the questions that follow on a separate piece of paper. Be sure to answer the questions from the perspective of your stakeholder group.

### Ethiopia's National Government

Ethiopia is a federal republic, led by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi and the the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF). Zenawi has been in power since 1991, first as president of Ethiopia and later as prime minister. Monitoring groups such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have accused the Ethiopian government of human rights abuses, including the violent suppression and detention of members of opposition groups. Economic growth in the country has varied widely from year to year. This is largely because agriculture, which is a major contributor to the country's economic health, is depends heavily on rainfall and has suffered greatly during droughts. Although Ethiopia has access to a large amount of water, much of that water is in river basins that are located on Ethiopia's borders with its neighbors. In order to make full use of this water, the government must negotiate with its neighbors. In some cases, this has been somewhat successful. For example, Ethiopia has been working with Sudan and Egypt to implement cooperative development projects that will benefit all three nations which share the Eastern Nile's waters. Other borders are more problematic, as Ethiopia has been involved in recent conflicts with both Eritrea and Somalia that displaced large portions of the local population. Displaced populations, including those displaced from conflicts over water and other resources, are of particular concern for the government because they are even more vulnerable to food and water shortages and can increase pressure on local resources. Some have argued that Ethiopia has enough water but that water management, collection, and irrigation techniques are not sufficient to provide water security for the country's population and industries. Others point out that there is great potential for Ethiopia to develop hydro-electric plants and export energy resources to its neighbors.

### Questions

1. From the perspective of the Ethiopian government, what is the problem? What issues are causing or contributing to the problem?
2. How has this problem affected your stakeholder group?
3. From the perspective of the Ethiopian government, how should this problem be solved? Who should be involved in resolving this problem? Consider local actors as well as national or international groups that might play a role.
4. What are the obstacles to your proposed solution? What will be the effect of your proposed solution on other stakeholders?
5. What will happen to your stakeholder group if this problem is not resolved?