

## Story of hope – Loko Gufu



Loko lives in southern Ethiopia and she has 6 children. She is a widow which means that her husband has died. Loko's story is a story of hope. Her eldest son is at University in Hawassa and this is because Loko has worked hard and because she received help from a SCIAF project. Loko learned business skills and joined a business Co-operative. She saves money through the co-operative and also took out a small loan so that she could set up her own business buying goats to fatten up and sell at market.



Life has been very hard for Loko and her family. The climate is making farming very difficult. Loko said "In the dry season there's a shortage of rain. We don't have enough water or pasture for our cattle. There is no food for humans or animals." After her husband died, life was even more difficult. SCIAF was able help Loko and now she is able to earn her own money and provide all that her children need.



Loko is pictured with three of her children here. From right Kenamasa, Batatu, Loko and Galma. Because of the help that SCIAF were able to give, Loko now is self-sufficient. She and other women in the business cooperative save money each week and this helps them to grow the business. Loko is now able to feed her children three times a day and they all go to school. Her eldest son Dida Wario (pictured below) is now at University and he says that this would not be possible without the hard work of his mum. She is respected in her community and we think she is a great example for others too.

