

AGRICULTURAL GROWTH PROGRAM (AGP-II)

SOCIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

FINAL

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ACRONYMS

ADPLAC	Agricultural Development Partner's Linkage Advisory Councils
AGP	Agricultural Growth Program
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
CIG	Common Interest Groups
CLPP	Community Level Participatory Planning
DA	Development Agents
DRS	Developing Regional States
EFY	Ethiopian Fiscal Year
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
FREG	Farmers' Research and Extension Group
FTC	Farmers Training Center
FY	Fiscal Year
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GTP	Growth and Transformation Plan
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICWM	Integrated Crop and Water Management
IG	Innovative Groups
KDC	<i>Kebele</i> Development Committees
KII	Key Informant Interviews
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MoFA	Ministry of Federal Affairs
MoFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PAD	Project Appraisal Document
PASDEP	Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty
PDO	Program Development Objective
PIC	Physical and Cultural Resources
PIF	Policy and Investment Framework
PIM	Program Implementation Manual
PME	Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
RDPS	Development Policy and Strategy
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework

SA	Social Assessment
SC	Screening Committee
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region
TC	Technical Committee
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
URRAP	Universal Rural Roads Access Program
WB	World Bank

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In October 2010, a five-year Agricultural Growth Program (AGP-I) was signed between the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), and the World Bank (IDA) including other development partners. The program, financed on the basis of this agreement, has been under implementation in 96 high potential agriculture *woredas* of four regions: Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR and Tigray.

With AGP-I due to be completed in September 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is currently developing the second phase of the program, AGP-II which will be implemented in the existing four regions (Oromia, Amhara, Tigray and Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), plus in Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, Harari and Dire Dawa Administrative Council as newly included areas. It should be noted that in the new areas, there will only be a total of six *woredas* (two in Gambella, two in Benishangul-Gumuz and one in each of Harari and Dire Dawa. The proposed second phase of the program will follow-on from AGP-I in three respects: (i) scale-up the program in 61 additional geographic areas, and thereby expand the implementation from the existing 96 *woredas* to a total of 157; (ii) consolidate the activities being undertaken in the existing AGP-I *woredas*; and (iii) refine the intervention approach for increased impacts. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to increase agricultural productivity¹ and commercialization² of small holder farmers targeted by the project.

The primary target of the project is small holder farmers, who live in areas of Ethiopia with the highest potential for agricultural growth. Small holder farmers are defined as farmers living in a village, registered as a resident in Kebele administration, conducting agricultural production activities (crop production, livestock husbandry and agro-forestry) and owning land of variable size; the average holding sizes of land per household in Ethiopia is 1.22 hectares with an average cropland area of 0.99 hectares. The potential for agricultural growth is primary based on agro-ecological conditions and access to market.

As far as program methodology/approach is concerned, the planning and implementation of AGP-II is to be carried out in a decentralized and participatory manner. Thus, greater powers will be given to *kebeles* and *woredas* in the planning process, making sure that farmers, women, youths and their organizations play an important role in identifying and prioritizing program

¹ Agricultural productivity is defined (by a proxy) as yield for selected key crops and animal products for the project. Agricultural productivity will be supported in a sustainable manner with: (i) environmentally sound technologies and practices being promoted; (ii) soil and water conservation being promoted; (iii) climate smart agriculture technologies being promoted; and (iv) human and physical capacity of institutions supporting agricultural productivity and commercialization being strengthened. Productivity is also approached through cross cutting issues: gender, nutrition and climate smart agriculture.

² Commercialization is defined in terms of proportion of marketed production of selected key crops and animal products for the project. Commercialization is supported by improved access to market, enhanced marketing of output and better access to crucial inputs.

activities. This approach helps guarantee that the program design and implementation will be bottom-up and demand driven. The second approach is that the program will be broad-based and comprehensive encompassing a wide range of activities in the production, processing and marketing of selected agricultural value chains designed to improve productivity. In addition, the focus of AGP-II is on selected geographic areas, aiming to scale up the achievements and experiences of AGP-I in an additional 61 *woredas*, thereby expanding the program coverage to 50% of high potential agricultural *woredas* in the country. The institutional arrangements for the implementation of AGP II comprise Coordination Units (CUs) and high level steering committees (SCs) in place at federal, regional and *woreda* levels. The arrangements are responsible for the coordination and oversight of program implementation, which would be supported by technical committees (TCs) at all levels. The TCs are made up of representative of the various implementing agencies and development partners.

As part of the preparation of AGP-II, it was necessary to conduct an enhanced Social Assessment (SA) in selected existing and new AGP *woredas*. The aim of the SA is to advise on the appropriate measures that need to be adopted in the design and development of the program through the generation of the required information. The inputs of the SA are deemed to be helpful in the following ways: i) to assess the possible adverse effects that may result from the implementation of AGP-II to vulnerable and underserved groups; ii) to enhance the positive program impacts; and, iii) to make sure that the project design reflects the needs of the target groups in the intervention *woredas* as per the World Bank's social safeguard policy of OP 4.10. This SA is complemented by a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) that establishes the principles and procedures to be applied in the event that involuntary resettlement, loss of land or other fixed assets, disturbance affecting livelihood or natural resource limitations leading to nonphysical displacement would arise as a result of the AGP-II implementation. The RPF is developed based on the World Bank Operational Policy 4.12 and the relevant national laws and regulations will form the basis for resettlement/land take planning. The RPF seeks to ensure that affected communities are meaningfully consulted, participated in the planning process, adequately compensated to the extent that their pre-displacement incomes have been restored, and the process is a fair and transparent.

For the purpose of the SA, seventeen *woredas* were selected through purposive sampling. Accordingly, four were selected from Oromia, four from SNNPR, three from Amhara, two from Tigray, and two from each of the newly included regions of Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella, which are the only *woredas* to be included in the project from these regions. A desk review was carried out to analyze existing gaps in the available literature relevant to AGP-II. Following the gap analysis, fieldwork was conducted using mixed data collection methods to generate the required largely qualitative information in respect to the key issues identified. The methods comprise community consultations with groups of male and female local residents, focus group discussions, and individual and group key informant interviews.

Most Vulnerable and Underserved Groups

This enhanced social assessment is prepared because the vast majority of people in the project area meet the criteria detailed in OP/BP 4.10. These criteria refer to a distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group, possessing the following characteristics, in varying degrees: (a) self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others; (b) collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories; (c) customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and (d) an indigenous language, often different from the official language of the country or region. The Ethiopian Constitution recognizes the presence of many ethnic groups, including historically disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, as well as the rights to their identity, culture, language, customary livelihoods, socioeconomic equity and justice. There are approximately 80 culturally distinct ethnic groups within Ethiopia, including: Afar, Agaw, Akisho, Amhara, Anuak, Avoup, Bertat, Borana, Daasanach, Dorze, Gngangaton, Gumuz, Gurage, Hamar, Jerberti, Kichapo, Konso, Me'en, Mun, Mursi, Nuer, Oromo, Qemant, Rer Bare, Shanqella, Sidama, Suri, Tigray-Tigrinya people, Tirma, Welayta and Zay, among others. The OP4.10 group of interest includes various nations, nationalities and peoples, pastoralists, and national minorities.

This Social Assessment also includes extensive consultations with potential project beneficiaries and project affected peoples, including those identified as vulnerable and historically underserved groups, meeting the OP4.10 requirements to seek broad support from these groups; and the findings and mitigation measures will form the social management plan for the program.

Vulnerability of Underserved and Culturally Distinct Ethnic Groups

Vulnerability and social inclusion are highly complex and context-related. Whilst they do not always overlap, individuals and households who are excluded or underserved are also more likely to be highly vulnerable to situations and events (for example, reduced quality of life; livelihood and educational opportunities, compromised health status and threat of disease), which compromise their well-being and compound their social exclusion³. The SA identified the following ethnic and or occupational minorities, which either because of historical reasons (e.g., war and slave trade) their numbers have significantly reduced or because of their occupation despised by the so-called mainstream communities. In addition to ethnic groups that meet the OP4.10 requirements, the following vulnerable groups are profiled in this report: the potters (Ottoman), tanners (**Degela**), smiths (**Gitaman**) and hunters (**Manja**) in Konta Special *Woreda*, of which the **Manja** are the most underserved and stigmatized social group in the program area. Though called slightly differently, i.e., **Manjo**, they are also found in Decha *Woreda*. In Decha *Woreda*, there is another minority group called **Chara** (also called **Tsara** in Konta). They speak their own Chara language and it is said that their number has significantly reduced because of

³ See the finding of Social Assessment for GEQIP, 2014.

war and slave trade in the past. In Enemorna Ener *Woreda* is found another most disadvantaged group, namely the *Fuga*. Although things have started to change for the better, the majority of these ethnic or occupational minorities still face economic deprivation and stigmatization by the dominant social groups.

Vulnerable Social Groups: In the context of the study *woredas*, women are a highly vulnerable population group, as a result of deeply embedded socio-cultural attitudes and practices. These sets of attitudes and views have led to socially constructed gender roles and responsibilities that keep women disproportionately engaged in productive, reproductive and community-related activities. Poverty in terms of time and income that results from their multiple commitments makes it difficult for them to balance their time and attention for different responsibilities including participation in AGP-II-related income generating activities.

Female-headed households are a particularly vulnerable social group because of one or more of the following factors: lack of access to farmland, shortage of farm labor, or not having draft animals. These problems reduce their sources of household income, resulting in their impoverishment.

Women in polygamous unions are highly vulnerable social groups. Not being entitled to land holding and other assets, resulting in economic insecurity, as observed in the SA *woredas* of Oromia, Konta, Ari, Decha, Gambella Zuria, Itang, Mandura, and Wombera)

Unemployed and underemployed rural youths are vulnerable social groups especially where land scarcity and land fragmentation are severe problems, with the consequence of minimal average land holdings.

Occupational minorities remain socially isolated and vulnerable groups, despite encouraging improvements in social attitudes and the conditions of the groups in recent years. The Manja in Konta and Decha *woredas* of SNNPR are a particularly disadvantaged group, despite their integration into the mainstream communities and growing participation in AGP-I common interest groups (CIGs) and innovative groups (IGs).

Ethnic minorities, who settled in the participating *woredas* over the years from their places of origin, are vulnerable because of being numerically small and practicing livelihood strategies different from those of the host communities. To be mentioned in this regard are the Irob, Saho and Kunama in Tahtay Adiabo and Kafta Humera *woredas* of Tigray, and the Gumz and Shinasha in Guangua *Woreda* of Awi Zone of Amhara Region.

Shifting cultivators/horticulturalists are historically disadvantaged livelihood groups as a result of the myths about their way of life which is different from the settled plough culture of the

highlands. These groups (Majanger, Gumz, and Mao-Komo) are found largely in AGP-II *woredas* of Benishangul-Gumz and Gambella regions.

Community Consultation and Involvement

Community consultations were conducted concerning AGP-II with different community groups, namely: male and female farmers, young men and women, school dropouts and unemployed youths, and members of disadvantaged occupational groups and ethnic minorities. The consultations helped to gauge the level of community awareness and understanding about aspects of the various components of AGP-II. Accordingly, community members expressed their knowledge that the program is agriculture focused and hence limited in scope. By this they meant that the program was not going to cover their other basic needs such as water and power supply, as they would have liked or expected. Community members were also informed concerning the composition of common interest groups (CIGs) in relation to sub-components 1.1: 'Institutional Strengthening and Development' and 4.2 'Strengthening of Farmers Organizations'. Hence, they knew the focus was on creating means of income for landless youths, women, and school dropouts by organizing them under mixed or women and youth groups. In connection with small-scale irrigation projects (Subcomponent 3.1: (Small-Scale Irrigation Infrastructure Development and Improvement), farmers expressed their hope that the schemes would help in increasing their crop production and productivity. In particular, women in social assessment *woredas* of Oromia and SNNPR, and those belonging to minority groups in Tigray, said that the irrigation projects would contribute to their economic empowerment in the form of increased income benefits. If the irrigation projects were to be implemented on communal/*kebele* lands, consultation participants mainly in SNNPR *woredas* expressed their awareness and expectations that priorities would be given to landless or poorest of the poor such as women and school dropouts, with per person allocation of up to 0.25 hectare. In the case of community investments (the construction of small-scale feeder roads, footbridges, roadside drainage, small-scale irrigation, and market centers), the expectation among consultation participants was that a minimum of 20 to 30 percent of women participation would be ensured in the committees to be established such as irrigation water users associations/groups (IWUG/As), road maintenance committees, and market center management committees. Moreover, women expressed their expectations in regards to extension services provided at farmer training centers (FTCs). They hoped that emphasis would be given to making them equal beneficiaries of the technology transfers, by tailoring the skill packages to their particular needs and demands. Thus, it was observed that community members had a high degree of expectation and understanding on what AGP-II will offer them for economic benefits and empowerment, as well as their rights and obligations associated with the program. They also expressed their readiness to participate in various program components when AGP-II is launched. The intervention approach of community level participatory planning (CLPP) was found to be instrumental in raising community awareness about the program and prioritizing their needs and securing their commitment and participation during implementation.

However, the SA team learned that the concerned local implementing government bodies had not conducted community consultations to introduce the program in the newly included AGP *woredas* of Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella. It is very important that the government implementing and responsible agencies undertaken intensive consultation in these *woredas* to elicit similar community consent and readiness for involvement in the program. This will be done prior to the project implementation. Furthermore, the Community Led Participatory Planning approach (CLPP), will be conducted in each year of the project to consult and create awareness among local communities. As part of the ToRs for social assessment, the consultants conducted extensive consultations in the participating communities, including in Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella, and explained the aims and expected results of the different components of AGP-II. The consultants discussed the need for the project and the potential impacts to the community members within the project area and their concerns and general thoughts were solicited and included in this report. The participants during the consultation, mainly elders, youths and women belonging to the Anuak, Gumz, and Majanger ethnic groups, affirmed that there is ample opportunity in the region for the successful implementation of initiatives such as AGP-II. They said that the region was endowed with abundant natural resources in the form of fertile land, water resources, and dense forests useful for farming, fishing, and honey production. If implemented in their region, the youths and women also pointed out that it would be helpful in addressing their main challenges involving pests, plant and animal diseases.

Grievance Handling Mechanisms: In the case of grievances arising in the course of program implementation, traditional and quasi-formal dispute settlement arrangements would be invoked to deal with the issues. Under these arrangements, in the first instance, aggrieved parties are encouraged to bring their complaints to the attention of local elders, who consult with the parties involved to resolve the dispute in an amicable fashion. Complainants not satisfied with the decision of village leaders are advised to resort to quasi-formal structures of *kebele* judicial tribunals, whose verdicts on the matters will be final. Although such grievance handling mechanisms exist, there are little signs of them being used by local people. Owing to lack of capacity or other problems, gaps are noticeably observed in all visited AGP-II *woredas*. The program should make sure that such traditional and quasi formal structures are consistently resorted to in the interest of smooth or fair settlement grievances.

The ‘arbitration or reconciliation by elders’ is a widely used indigenous mechanism in resolving conflicts in many parts of the country. Although the term has different name among different ethnic groups it has a common characteristic in that elders are the main people involved. For instance, among Gumuz ethnic group it is called Mangima. It is the most important traditional institution for preventing, resolving and managing ethnic conflicts of different scales and levels in different parts of the country. Through the application of the mangima institution, the inter-ethnic conflict between the Gumuz and other ethnic groups that were resettled in Metekel was somehow settled.

Gradually, however, these traditional conflict resolution mechanisms have started to erode for various reasons. According to some elders, Ethiopian State administration took conflict management responsibilities from clan and group leaders and placed it in the hands of the local ‘Kebele’ administrations.

Women involvement

In general, gender disparities are exacerbated by low participation in planning, implementation and post-implementation maintenance, especially of poor and socially excluded women (Teferra and Gebre Medhin, 2010). AGP I and AGP II place a heavy emphasis on the participation of women in all project activities, although some AGP activities aren’t necessarily adapted to the specific needs of women and women’s leadership is limited. Under AGP II, greater attention will be given to developing technologies and support mechanisms directly tailored to women’s needs. Data on the participation of women in the AGP-I program activities show varied experience. In some *woredas*, women are beneficiaries and active participants and are represented well in *Kebele* Development Committee (KDC). The fact that AGP-I treats women as a separate category highly enhanced their participation in the CIGs. In Amhara Region, women are encouraged to organize themselves, discuss and come up with innovative project proposals/ideas to benefit from the program. Their participation in program activities like sheep fattening, poultry, milk production, water and soil conservation is good. However, they are reluctant to participate in small scale irrigation because activities related to irrigation require intensive labor input for routine follow up and irrigation maintenance. Distance of the irrigation site and possession of land in some areas are other challenges which limit the participation of women [and female-headed households] in irrigation projects. However, women are more likely to benefit from household irrigation, which will be supported under AGP II.

AGP I and AGP II targets smallholder farmers either with landholdings, or have the potential to engage in productive agricultural activities. It does not target the poorest households, unlike other programs such as the Productive Safety Net Program. This needs to be clearly explained to communities under awareness creating activities. The SA found that destitute women were not considered as eligible in Welmera *Woreda* where the main criteria for participation in the AGP programs are ownership of land and money. There are female-headed households who do not have their own land, and therefore not eligible for support. When encouraged to form their own CIGs, women usually prefer to engage in those activities traditionally perceived as the domain of women (e.g., Guangua). CIGs/IGs composed of women only members may face difficulties in getting things done at both the *kebele* and *woreda* levels (e.g., AGP-I *woredas* in Oromia). Women experience difficulties in balancing participation in CIG/IG activities and their other household responsibilities. Under AGP II, more attention will be provided to promoting technologies specifically targeting women. Capacity development support to CIGs will be more in depth and longer term to support the sustainability of these groups.

Asset Loss and Loss of Access to Assets (OP 4.12 – Involuntary Resettlement)

As one of its major objectives, the Social Assessment was intended to determine and document cases of voluntary or involuntary resettlement and loss of assets or access to assets. The focus was on the identification of the problems particularly caused as a result of the implementation of project *Components 3 and 4*, and on the procedures adopted to address these scenarios. In this respect, the community consultations revealed that land acquisition or loss of access to assets was insignificant and managed as per the GoE's constitution and relevant laws. When there were cases where some subprojects, though small in their scale and linear by their nature, caused acquisition of small pieces of lands, the farmers and community provided the land voluntarily because these subprojects were demand driven by the community, benefiting the community, and are implemented by the community. It was also observed that indigenous local institutions are mobilized to settle the matter in the interest of the project and the farmers affected through the facilitation of proportional size of plots as replacements from the available community land.

The SA result also showed that there were some gaps in managing social safeguards issues related to land acquisition and property losses including limited capacity and experience in addressing land acquisition and property losses. During the remaining AGP I, it has been agreed that a full social audit be conducted to ensure that these gaps are fully identified and addressed as appropriate. Under the AGP-II implementation period, capacity support would be provided to preclude any social risk. The project has triggered *OP/BP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement*; a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been developed in light of this policy; and publically disclosed in-country and in the World Bank's InfoShop; and all grievances related to land acquisition impacts or reduced access to natural resources will follow provisions provided in the RPF.

Potential Impact on Physical and Cultural Resources (PCR) OP 4.11

AGP-II shall avoid adverse impact on the *Physical and Cultural Resources (PCR)* of historically underserved and ethnic minorities to the extent possible. No indication of such a threat was observed during the SA study and no such cases were reported during the implementation of AGP-I.

Nevertheless, where potential adverse impacts are unavoidable, AGP-II should consult the concerned communities to obtain their broad support and resolution for initiating land acquisition as per the provisions of the relevant Ethiopian laws and the World Bank's *OP 4.11*.

AGP and Commune Program: potential interface

GoE's Commune program has been going on in the two DRS of Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz since 2010/2011. According to the Gambella Regional Commune Coordinator, out of the total 94 Commune centers that have been established in the region, 12 are in Gambella Zuria *Woreda* and 3 in Itang Special *Woreda*. An additional 15 commune sites are planned for the

current fiscal year, of which five are in Itang Special *Woreda*. In Benishangul-Gumuz Region the establishment of the communes has already been completed, with only partially fulfilled infrastructures.

The Social Assessment findings indicate that, to date, AGP's funds have not been used or associated with the commune program and there is no plan for resettlement in sampled *woredas*, with the exception of the *woredas* visited in Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz regions. However, as observed from the views of the officials in the two DRS, it is expected that social relationship and resource utilization patterns will evolve as a result of external developments including but not limited to settlement of agro-pastoralists through the government commune program. This poses a risk of a likely geographic overlap of the commune program with AGP-II in Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions. In case of any adverse impact due to the program or other interventions, AGP-II's planning processes should take into consideration the safeguards policy of the **World Bank** and should not ignore the needs of the underserved and vulnerable groups, or any emerging issues as they arise.

Moreover, to ensure that AGP-II funds are not used for commune program, it is very important that AGP implementing structures at all levels in the two regional states are sufficiently informed about the program and unnecessary confusions and unrealistic expectations are avoided before AGP-II starts. Government has stated that no kebeles covered by the Government Commune Development Program will be considered in the AGPII project.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The need to build sustainable institutions at grassroots level can never be overemphasized. M&E should serve the intended purpose, and help the program implementers to learn from their weaknesses and further boost their strengths. Under AGP I, M&E is more of a regular reporting exercise to meet the reporting requirements rather than an integral component of the program in which the information generated through the M&E system is used to guide management decisions at all levels. For instance, *woreda* AGP officials report performance of a particular AGP component or sub-component based on the money dispersed (e.g., women's dairy farm IG in Addeele Miecha *Kebele* of Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*), rather than on what has been done with the money in view of the set objective of the component. The implication of this is that, monitoring of program performance based on information provided by the program implementers at the lower level of the AGP structure becomes of little significance when seen from the point of view of the purpose for which M&E system is put in place. The M&E system has been strengthened during AGP I, though further attention to this will be required in AGP II, including the strengthening of participatory M&E, and clearer responsibilities regarding the functioning of the system.

In some instances, the SA found some gaps between the expectations of what AGP-I planned and what was actually delivered. It is, therefore, important to monitor the relationship between what had been planned and what was delivered (or not delivered). Under AGP, the SC, the highest AGP-II structure at the *woreda* level, did not always meet as per the Project Implementation Manual (PIM) provisions, because all members of the SC are busy with their sector office regular works. When asked how the M&E system works, informants, especially those in the Steering Committee tend to describe what is in the PIM, rather than whether or not M&E is actually an inbuilt system of the AGP-I in practice. Under AGP II, clearer understanding of the importance of M&E, and clearer responsibilities for operating the system would be put in place.

M&E gaps are also observed in areas of safeguards, since as one AGP official in the SNNPR AGP-I implementing structure noted “all levels of the AGP-I implementation structures lack knowledge and commitment to keenly see to it that the safeguard instruments are implemented”. In this regard, the Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF), into which this SA fits, will indicate which AGP-II guiding documents have been revised to incorporate social and environmental safeguard issues at *operational* level and need to provide detail steps and templates for screening process. Under AGP II, additional resources will be utilized to support local capacity for safeguards monitoring, and periodically, studies would be conducted to ensure the safeguards issues are being properly addressed.

Programs such as AGP-II, which work with the local community and aim to increase production and productivity by creating value chain agricultural production and build the capacity of local development partners, need to adopt monitoring and evaluation system of a participatory nature, and this has been included in the AGP II design. Participatory monitoring and evaluation (PME) aims to empower local people to initiate, control and take corrective action and marrying this approach with more traditional results-oriented approaches is appropriate for AGP II since the deficiencies of one approach are made for by the strengths of the other.

Social Management Plan: Potential risks and challenges and recommendations

This social management plan as outlined below will ensure that the program and its implementing agencies will respect the dignity, rights and culture of groups meeting the OP4.10 requirements and ensure that these people benefit from the program in a sustainable manner. The plan could be redefined during implementation and further consultation undertaken for the underserved groups to ensure their full participation. In the light of what has been outlined in the foregoing paragraphs, the **Matrix** below provides the summary of potential risks and challenges and recommendations.

Components/Issues	Potential risks and Challenges	Recommendations
Component 1: <i>Increasing agricultural</i>	a) The risk that the implementation agencies will not respect the dignity,	a) The key instrument for communities to participate in the project in the consultative planning approach (CLPP). A detailed manual will be included as part of

<i>production and productivity</i>	<p>rights and culture of groups, resulting in the loss of cultural and social identity.</p> <p>b) Farmers Training Centres (FTC) serve as appropriate technology transfer hubs, but the prime beneficiaries are male farmers.</p> <p>c) Focus is on training, while regular follow-up and support is given very little attention.</p>	<p>the Project Implementation Manual describing the process to ensure full participation in the project resource allocation and planning in all project localities. The Capacity Development Support Facility will support the capacity of local officials who would facilitate the consultation process. Due attention will be given to ensure those officials, implementation agencies and project staff are sensitized to cultural and social issues to ensure that the underserved groups do not lose control over the land traditionally utilized by them as source of livelihood and basis for their cultural and social systems. Close monitoring will be included to ensure the proper application of the RPF.</p> <p>b) It is recommended that technologies that best fit to the needs of women farmers are studied and included in the packages of FTC technology transfer services. Screening will be applied to all technologies from agricultural research (component 2) to promote those which meet women's needs. Women's groups particularly needs special support because of their responsibility in the household (as mothers, wives, care givers, etc.) and the bureaucracy's unresponsiveness to some groups of the society such as women. Capacity development to implementation agencies will stress the sensitivity to gender concerns (as was done under AGP-I.</p> <p>c) Support and follow-up is of paramount importance as all CIGs are not of equal standing in the society. AGP II would provide more in depth and longer capacity building to CIGs (for women and youth), supported by the Capacity Development Support Facility. M&E system to be strengthened to allow regular feedback from groups.</p>
Component II: <i>agricultural research</i>	Technologies from research tend not to take into consideration the needs and demands of women.	Under AGP II, All technologies researched will include gender screening, and a specific target will be established for the number of technologies released which specifically address the needs of women.
Component III: <i>Small-scale rural infrastructure development and management</i>	<p>Weaker implementation capacity (e.g., small scale irrigation and rural feeder road construction) are the major challenges facing the implementing <i>woredas</i>. Irrigation schemes which use surface water might be a potential source of conflict between the watersheds communities settled in different areas along the</p>	<p>A watershed approach to planning will be adopted under the AGP-II, to be detailed in the Project Implementation Manual. This would take into account all users of water within the watershed and address cultural and social sensitivities. All affected communities would be consulted.</p> <p>In the event of conflict over the access to and use of water, there will be an intensive community consultation and awareness raising program and strengthen the use of indigenous local structures such as the <i>jaarsummaa</i>, <i>shimgilina</i>, <i>yewuhaabat</i>, etc in</p>

	<p>course of the river. Conflicts or tensions are likely to occur during implementing AGP II in relation to irrigable land. According to the Oromia <i>Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation</i> (Proclamation No. 130/2007), Art. 14(4), irrigation land could be redistributed in order to properly utilize water and irrigable land, and farmers would hold a maximum of 0.5 hectare in such areas.</p> <p>Sustainability of the projects built might be at risk because of weak sense of ownership by the community.</p>	<p>conflict resolution process. RPF to be fully applied where required.</p> <p>Ensure that project implementing agencies at different levels are culturally sensitivity to the underserved communities and provide adequate culturally sensitivity training to the officers, and more importantly, involve the beneficiary community in the implementation of the project from the outset and use approved RPF on issues of land take.</p>
<p>Component IV: Agricultural marketing and agri-business development</p>	<p>CIGs are not effectively connected to the market.</p> <p>No credit linkage was reported from the AGP <i>woredas</i>, consequently CIGs could encounter shortage of finance to start businesses in the case of the former and to expand their small-scale businesses in the case of the latter.</p> <p>One major challenge AGP-I encountered during implementation was land availability for CIGs and IGs to become operational and informants anticipate AGP-II will face the same problem.</p> <p>Rural youth unemployment and underemployment need to be supported under the project.</p>	<p>Under AGP-II the approach to supporting farmer groups is based on lessons from the on-going AGP-I. The changes are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) support is restricted to women and youth groups, with no further support to mixed CIGs which tended to be dominated by men and exclude women; ii) all CIGs would be eligible for support from technical assistance, capacity development and matching grants and IGs would be discontinued as this caused tension; iii) fewer groups would be supported but with enhanced support to increase sustainability; iv) guidelines for the establishment and support to groups have been revised and disseminated, including clarity on eligible members and transparent processes for selection; v) enhance support will be provided for identify viable economic activities and preparing good quality business plans, which match resource availability, including access to land so as to avoid situations where lack of land availability inhibits the groups from achieving their objectives; vi) specific support will be made to link CIGs to markets (eg through the support to value chains and seed multiplication); vii) under the Capacity Development Support Facility, support would be targeted at CIGs and to those agencies (including the Cooperative Agency), to provide support to CIGs; and vii) close monitoring of

		CIGs would be conducted to determine their performance and take corrective measures if required.
Component V: Program management and M&E	<p>Mismatch between expectation and capacity to deliver by the AGP-II.</p> <p>The tendency to consider AGP as an external project could jeopardise the implementation of AGP-II.</p> <p>Steering Committees need to meet regularly as per the PIM provision. If not, there is a risk of insufficient oversight and lack of ownership.</p> <p>Weak project technical support and follow up in almost all AGP <i>woredas</i> affects effectiveness of the program components in which various IGs and CIGs are organized.</p> <p>Low capacity at <i>woreda</i> and <i>kebele</i> levels to implement the project.</p> <p>AGP-II's grievance redress mechanism stipulated in the ESMF is not uniformly used during the implementation.</p> <p>Weaknesses in monitoring and evaluation.</p>	<p>A Communication Strategy would be prepared under AGP-II to clearly define the process, content and mechanisms for informing all project stakeholders (including direct and indirect beneficiaries) on the objectives, scope and implementation modalities of the project. The project would provide clear information in local language and make realistic promises to the underserved groups on program benefits. Plans would be based on the CLPP process with community participation.</p> <p>Through persistent awareness raising program, ensure that implementing structures at all levels know about AGP and commit themselves for proper implementation of the program in a culturally appropriate manner. This will be reflected in the AGP-II Communication Strategy.</p> <p>As principal owners of the program, Steering Committees should commit themselves to ensure there are proper planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of AGP activities; and ensure that members of the underserved groups are also included in the various leadership positions of the project</p> <p>Project will provide technical support, including TA, training, capacity building during the implementation of AGP-II and more information and analysis on the types of special needs and gendered inequalities within the population of underserved groups. In particular, AGP-II will establish the Capacity Development Support Facility to provide a holistic approach to capacity building at all levels, including capacity related to cultural and social sensitivities.</p> <p>It is vital that consistent and culturally appropriate capacity building trainings be conducted for members of the various AGP-related grassroots committees.</p> <p>To ensure transparency and make people build confidence in the system, it is important that AGP-II uses its own in-built grievance redress mechanism, in which PAPs have reasonably representation. Further, strengthen the capacity of the individuals who will be involved in grievance handling processes particularly at grassroots levels through appropriate trainings.</p> <p>In the interest of ensuring a more effective and fairer grievance redress system, it is deemed beneficial to</p>

		<p>strengthen the traditional dispute settlement institutions through trainings to those involved in the process on the basic elements of the law and gender sensitive issues, particularly women and girls rights.</p> <p>Introduce participatory monitoring and evaluation (PME) system and marrying it with more traditional results-oriented approaches to program management. Further, social and environmental safeguards issues should constitute the core of M & E exercise and ESMF need to provide detail steps and templates for screening process.</p>
Consultation	<p>Direct consultation with the whole <i>kebele</i> residents was observed to be rare in most of the <i>woredas</i> covered in this study. The <i>modus operandi</i> is conveying the message through representatives selected from the sub-<i>kebele</i> (zone).</p> <p>Danger of making consultation a onetime event or campaign. Existing information gap on provision of adequate agricultural services that will improve the quality of productivity for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups</p> <p>Newly included regions lack clarity on AGP-II's objectives and the basis of identifying potential beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Ensure direct and all inclusive community consultation about AGP II and the various program components and the criteria for identifying the potential beneficiaries. This should be included in the project's Communication Strategy, and also in the manual for the CLPP.</p> <p>Sensitize the underserved on the risk of the project development process</p> <p>Community consultation would be a continuous process engaging different target population groups to secure not only their consent, but their active involvement with the project ownership. The CLPP would be conducted annually with all communities as per the PIM. Develop an evidence-base and culturally appropriate information on differential usage, needs and constraints on agricultural services with a particular emphasis on gender, income and place within vulnerable and disadvantaged population groups.</p> <p>Through persistent awareness raising program, ensure that implementing structures at all levels are known and commit to proper implementation of the program.</p>

Potential Conflict	<p>Itang Special <i>Woreda</i> experts are of a strong opinion that AGP should include all the <i>kebeles</i> in the <i>woreda</i>. Missing out any <i>kebele</i> or an ethnic group could be a potential source of ethnic conflict.</p> <p>Among the Nuer and Anuak, male and female youths are socialized in different social and physical settings.</p>	<p>The program should fairly consider all ethnic groups during implementation. Consistent criteria will be applied for the selection of kebeles to be supported under the project. This includes agricultural potential and access to markets (consistent with the project's objective to increase productivity and commercialization). Project site selection at Woreda level would be done in a socially inclusive and transparent manner, with an agreed set of criteria linked to the targets and outcomes of the project.</p> <p>This program will conduct open and constructive discussion with the relevant stakeholders before engaging in organizing youth in CIGs and mobilizing people for the implementation of AGP-II.</p>
<i>Commune Development Program</i>	There is a high risk of the program to be associated with the government commune development program	<p>No Kebeles covered by the Government Commune Development Program will be considered in the project. To be eligible to the project, each individual investment will have to demonstrate (among others): “the existence of a management plan describing the operational, financial and institutional arrangements, <i>formalizing sustainable access to the investment and preventing new permanent government managed settlements of any population groups around the investment</i>”.</p> <p>Strategic investment will be identify and design through studies which will include, in addition to technical, social, environmental and economic feasibilities, a consultation process to ensure the agreement and full participation of the local communities. During these consultations, an agreement with the communities will be sought on key aspects of the investment and on preventing new permanent government managed settlements of any population groups around the investment.</p>
<i>Lack of basic physical and social infrastructure</i>	The project is about agriculture, but the prevailing lack of basic services and infrastructure in the participating communities can expose the project to high expectation beyond the mandate of the project.	Work with other WB's funded projects and donor projects in the areas to enhance other development opportunities in these communities beyond agriculture

Background and Context

1.1. Background

Over the past decade, Ethiopia has experienced significant economic growth and progress toward Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Government together with its development partners has been pushing for sustainable development model that will achieve a broad based equitable economic growth and social development that will eradicate poverty. As a result, over the last ten consecutive years, i.e., during 1996 – 2005 FY the economy has registered rapid growth. Accordingly, in this period the annual average growth rate of GDP was 10.9 %. The agriculture, industry and service sectors' annual average growth was 9.3%, 12.2% and 12.4 %; respectively. (MOFED, Finance and Development Bulletin Vol. 8, no 29) The agricultural sector, critically important to both overall economic performance and poverty alleviation, has performed strongly over most of the last decade.

These improvements reflect a strong commitment by the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) to invest in agriculture, health, and other pro-poor sectors. The GoE's current Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) aims to enhance productivity and production of smallholder farmers and pastoralists; strengthen marketing systems; improve participation and engagement of the private sector; expand the amount of land under irrigation; and reduce the number of chronically food insecure households. Spending on “pro-poor” sectors (health, education, agriculture and natural resources, and rural roads and urban construction) has increased from 52% of general government expenditure in FY 2003 to 70% in FY 2011/12 (MoFED).

These achievements could be attributed to the government commitment from the very beginning on implementation favorable policies, strategies and plans such as Rural Development Policy and Strategy (RDPS) 2003, Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) 2005/06–2009/10, Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) 2009, Policy and Investment Framework (PIF 2010-2020), and more importantly, the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) 2010/11–2014/15 (FY 2003-2007) etc.

The major aim of the GTP is to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and middle-income status for Ethiopia by 2020–23. GTP aims at growth rates of 11.2% per annum or higher during the plan period. In the last three years (2003-2005 FY) of GTP implementation period, the economy has registered robust growth. In this period, the GDP annual average growth rate was 10%. Agriculture, Industry and Service sectors have 7%, 16.9%, and 11% annual average growth rates, respectively (MOFED, Finance and Development Bulletin Vol. 8, no 29). The result so far obtained is very encouraging and indicates that the country can achieve most of the objectives and targets set on the plan.

To achieve the goals and objectives of these strategies, GoE has followed a “developmental state” model with a strong role for the government in many aspects of the economy, in which the

WB and other development partners are expected to have an active role. As a forerunner of this partnership, several projects and programs have been developed and being implemented. The Agricultural Growth Project (AGP) is one of these development programs among others, which have been designed to be consistent with the aforementioned government development policies, and strategies and is under implementation starting from 2011 with very promising results and will be completed in September 2015 (1st quarter of FY 2008).

AGP-I was developed in parallel with the GTP considering most of the areas of interventions indicated on the plan and is performing to fulfill the objectives of the agricultural sector activities of the GTP. According to the findings of the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of AGP-I, very promising and encouraging results have been registered by the program. To mention some of the achievements:-

- ✧ Extension service provision to farmers in most of the program implementation areas has improved as a result of various capacity building activities implemented by the program thereby increasing the production and productivity of smallholder farmers which is the core objective of the program.
- ✧ The service provision of various program implementing institution have been improved through provision of office materials, training materials and transportation facilities.
- ✧ The rehabilitated/upgraded SSI schemes have started functioning; and provided the water quantity required for continuous small-scale irrigation use during dry season and increased the yield, cropping intensity, and irrigated land area.
- ✧ Clear and measurable benefits in terms of productivity, household income, production diversification and increasing the availability of varied household diets as a result of construction and implementation of Water Harvesting and Micro Irrigation structures both at the household and community levels have been registered.
- ✧ The constructed feeder roads have: (i) shortened the travel time between the agricultural site and all-weather road; (ii) enabled community members to transport their agricultural produce to market; (iii) gave farmers easier access to extension services; and (iv) significantly improved the accessibility of rural *kebeles* during rainy season.⁴

Currently the Government is preparing the second phase Growth and Transformation Plan for the year 2015/16– 2019/20 (FY 2008 – 2012). In line with this, as the first AGP implementation phase will also be completed at similar period of GTP-I, this proposal for the development of AGP-II is prepared to immediately embark up on the implementation of the agricultural development intervention to realize the objectives of the envisaged GTP-II in the agricultural sector.

⁴MoA.Mid-Term Evaluation Report for AGP-I, April 2014. Addis Ababa.

AGP-II, focusing on small holder farmers, adopts an approach that aims at scaling up best agricultural practices among farming communities and value addition. In doing so, it focuses on the promotion of sustainable natural resource management and aims at strengthening the capacity of private and public sector institutions to respond to smallholder farmers' demand for new technologies, advice on improved practices and invest in rural infrastructure. AGP-II further focuses on improving knowledge and access to existing technologies that have proved effective among some farmers. AGP-II will also promote scaling up of innovation and investments such as the construction, maintenance and operation of small-scale irrigation schemes, watershed based soil and water conservation activities (e.g., water harvesting and micro-irrigation), rural (rural roads) and market infrastructure development and management.

The AGP-II recognizes that there are several obstacles to women's participation in economic activities that lower the economic potential in agriculture. In this connection, the program gives due attention to the inclusion of women in all the program components.

AGP-II, comprehensive and broad-based by design, attempts to improve the whole range of value chain such as input supply, production, marketing, processing and export of agricultural commodities of economic importance. AGP-II will be implemented in the 157 (96 existing and 61 new) selected AGP *Woredas* in the existing four Regional States of Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR, and Tigray; and three new Regional States of Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella and Harari and the Dire Dawa Administrative Council. The Project Development Objective (PDO) of AGP-II is to increase the productivity and commercialization of smallholder farmers. Its implementation will take place through the existing government structures and community institutions spanning from the Federal to the kebele levels.

The primary target of the project is small holder farmers, who live in areas of Ethiopia with the highest potential for agricultural growth. Small holder farmers are defined as farmers living in a village, registered as a resident in Kebele administration, conducting agricultural production activities (crop production, livestock husbandry and agro-forestry) and owning land of variable size. The average holding sizes of land per household in Ethiopia is 1.22 hectares with an average cropland area of 0.99 hectares. The potential for agricultural growth is primarily based on agro-ecological conditions and access to market.

1.2. Scope of the Social Assessment

This Social Assessment is a risk mitigation tool covering risks, challenges and recommendations that will impact the design and implementation of AGP-II. In particular, it will inform how the design and implementation arrangements for the next phase will be made to be appropriate for all target beneficiaries, including women and youth. The Social Assessment helps make the project responsive to social development concerns while minimizing or mitigating risk and adverse impacts. It analyzes distributional impacts of intended project benefits on different stakeholder groups, and identifies differences in assets and capabilities to access the project benefits. It also

addresses World Bank safeguards policies regarding Vulnerable Peoples/underserved groups (OP. 4.10 requirements) in addition to other social issues outside of social safeguards.

The Social Assessment consists of the *analysis* of context and social issues with a participatory *process* of stakeholder consultations and involvement, to provide *operational* guidance on developing project design, implementation, and a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework.

The Social Assessment also complements other safeguards policies triggered in this project, with the aim of preventing and mitigating undue harm to people and their environment in the development process. These policies provide guidelines for World Bank and Government staff in the identification, preparation, and implementation of programmes and projects; and more importantly, these policies provided a platform for the participation of stakeholders in this project design, and have been an important instrument for building ownership among local populations.

1.3. Objectives

This social assessment assesses the social characteristics of local communities likely to be impacted by the project, including determining the nature and characteristics of underserved groups in the AGP-II intervention areas, with special emphasis on their unique identity, language, other cultural characteristics, geographical location, social institutions and organization and establish that the project will not negatively impact the way of life of these people. It also assesses the impact of the proposed interventions of AGP-II on the more vulnerable and underserved populations/groups, meeting the OP4.10 criteria with a view to ensuring that the programme design reflects the needs of all beneficiaries in the most appropriate manner by identifying the key stakeholder groups in the programme areas (including their livelihood and socio-cultural characteristics, etc.); recording their opinions and perceptions about the programme; assessing the potential social impacts; determining how relationships between stakeholder groups will affect or be affected by the programme; assessing implications for programme design and implementation; and providing practical recommendations for dealing with the challenges and risks identified.

In addition, the SA comprises a gender analysis of the opportunities and constraints of women and men to participate in agricultural growth and in local organizations; an analysis of youth and their opportunities and constraints to participate in agricultural growth and in local organizations; and establish socioeconomic baseline information. Finally, the SA assesses potential adverse social impacts of the AGP-II and make recommendations on steps to be taken to mitigate these during the design and implementation of the project. More importantly, after conducting informed consultations with local stakeholders for their broad support for the program, it recommends an appropriate consultation and participation framework to address barriers and risk to stakeholder participation, and proposes risk mitigation measures that will ensure that equity considerations are incorporated into the eligibility criteria for participation and recommends

appropriate ways to implement the project, while respecting both local culture and livelihood activities with less negative impact on ways of life.

2. Methodology

As clearly stated in the consultancy ToR, the preparation of the SA includes “several phases, starting with stocktaking of existing literature and data; development of a research methodology for field research; data collection in the areas where the proposed AGP will be initially implemented; consultations with local communities; analysis and processing of information; and documentation and reporting.” It was believed that the data from the existing works will inform the Social Assessment for AGP-II. It is also true that the data from the existing works inform how best to approach the Social Assessment study to generate relevant primary data for the designing of AGP-II.

Since some of the participating communities have been studied in the past, this Social Assessment also includes stocktaking of the Social Assessments for Water Supply and Sanitation Program II, Pastoral Community Development Project Phase III, Sustainable Land Management Project Phase II, General Education Quality Improvement Program Phase II, and Productive Safety Net Programme Phase IV.

2.1 Selection of communities to be studied

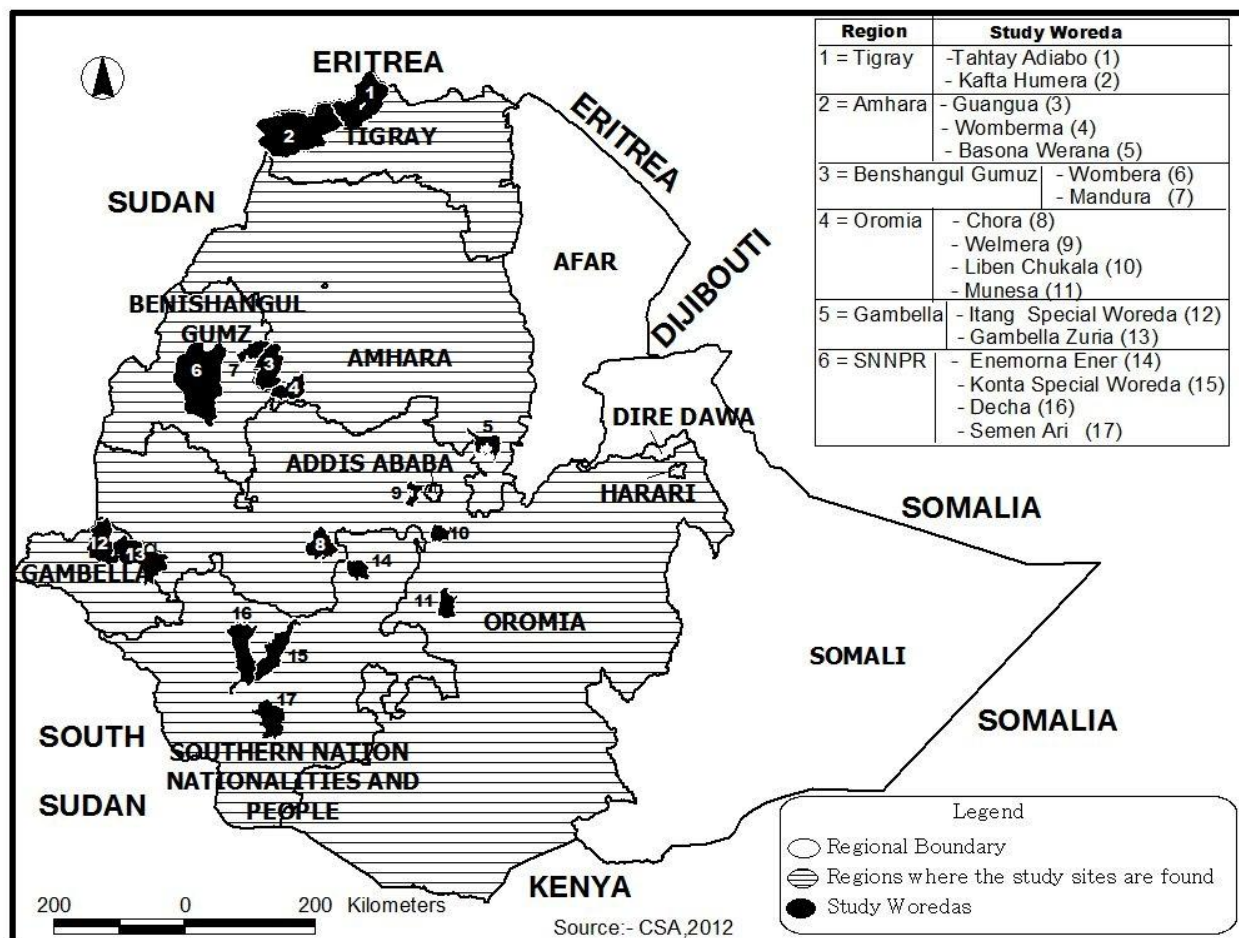
AGP-II will be implemented in eight regional states, namely the four regions of AGP-I and three more regions, i.e., Gambella, Harari and Benishangul-Gumuz, and the Dire Dawa Administrative Council. The field visits, however, were limited to very few *woredas* because: (i) during the past few years, studies have been conducted on AGP-I and other development projects and programs financed by the Government of Ethiopia, in many instances with the support of development partners such as the World Bank; and (ii) the time allocated for this consultancy necessitates being selective and limits the *woredas* to be visited to a reasonably manageable size.

Accordingly, a total of 17 sample *woredas* (4 *woredas* in Oromia; 4 *woredas* in SNNPR; 3 *woredas* in Amhara; 2 *woredas* in Tigray; 2 *woredas* in Benishangul-Gumuz and 2 *woreda* in Gambella – note that for Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella these are the only proposed *woredas* for inclusion in AGP-II) have been selected in order to enable assessing the potential impacts of AGP-II on the various groups in the sample *woredas*. Details on the mix of the existing and new AGP *woredas* were determined in consultation with the relevant stakeholders, primarily the AGP Coordination Unit at the Federal level and the World Bank, shown in the Table below.

Table 1: List of *Woredas* covered for AGP-II Social Assessment

Region	Zone	Woreda	AGP Status	
			Existing	New
Oromia	East Shewa	Liban Chuqqala	√	
	Illu Aba Bora	Chora	√	
	Arsi	Munessa	√	
	Special Zone	Welmera	√	
Total	4	4		
SNNPR	Gurage	Enemorna Ener	√	
	Dawro	Konta	√	
	Kaffa	Decha	√	
	South Omo	Semen Ari	√	
Total	4	4		
Amhara	West Gojam	Womberma	√	
	North Shewa	Basona	√	
	Awi	Guangua	√	
Total	3	3		
Tigray	North Western	Tahtay Adiabo	√	
	Western	Kafta Humra	√	
Total	2	2		
BenishangulGumz	Metekel	Wombera		√
		Mandura		√
Total	1	2		
Gambella		Itang Special Woreda		√
		Gambella Zuria Woreda		√
Total		2		
Total		17	13	4

Within the sample *woredas*, the fieldwork focused on one specific community in a sample *kebele*. Regarding selection of *kebeles*, care was taken to include sample *kebeles* that reflect most of the typical as well as the critical social features of the *woreda*. Final sample selection was done based on the presence of highly vulnerable groups, occupational minorities, new settlers, landless populations in addition to the AGP-I footprint. The map showing the *woredas* visited is shown below.



2.2 Selection of Target Groups

The primary target of the project is small holder farmers, who live in areas of Ethiopia with the highest potential for agricultural growth, which is defined as having both suitable agro-ecological conditions for increased productivity and also access to markets for increasing the proportion of produce that farmers sell. Small holder farmers are defined as farmers living in a village, registered as a resident in Kebele administration, conducting agricultural production activities (crop production, livestock husbandry and agro-forestry) and owning land of variable size, averaging around 1 hectare. The target AGP aims to reach commercially oriented smallholders, though also includes specific support for women and youth who tend to have less

access to resources and services. AGP targets smallholder agriculture with particular focus on investments and technologies with a proven track record in the country. The project is thus designed to meet the needs of this group. It is important to note that the Social Assessment consulted with the AGP-I beneficiaries, potential AGP-II beneficiaries *and indirect* beneficiaries (i.e. the broad community stakeholders).

2.3 Informed Community Consultations

Data collection has taken the form of informed consultation in which free and prior consultation was conducted with the participating communities. The purpose was to measure and gauge whether there is broad community support for AGP-II. The consultation process also focused on ascertaining the potential impacts of proposed project activities in addition to the broad issues outlined in the Key Issues section. Specific questions regarding how to implement this project in these communities could be done to respect the culture, livelihood and natural resources of these communities, while improving the social outcomes of AGP-II.

Women-only focus-group discussions and key informant interviews were conducted to understand women's level of acceptance of the program, since they are traditionally excluded in many areas. **Special** attention was placed on communities historically underserved during consultation and careful recording of their concerns and suggestions was undertaken. The Social Assessment details the advice that communities provide to change some aspects of the Programme that they do not like and these have been included design features.

2.4. Topics covered by the Fieldwork

Guiding questions were prepared for community consultations. They consist of a mix of broad *social and AGPII specific issues*. Social issues identified include, local knowledge, traditional land management and conservation practices and social conflicts and their management. AGP issues comprise of awareness, grievance redress, social cohesion, loss of asset/access to assets, conflict as a result of AGP, participation of women, youth and underserved groups, etc. Note that these guiding questions were asked to the *general community, government officials and AGP implementers in addition to women only* focus groups.

2.5. Data Collection

Community consultations with both men and women groups using key informant interviews (KII) and focus group discussions (FGD) were the major data gathering methods during the field visits. To guide the community consultation (with a focus on program components and their potential impacts for different community groups), focus group discussion and key-informant interview checklists were prepared on the minimum set of topics selected to be covered during the field visits. (See Annex 1 for the interview guide checklists.) Attempts were made to make sure that different community members, namely traditional leaders, women, youth, female-headed households, the poor and other underserved peoples, are represented and their views both on their experiences with the implementation of the AGP-I, their expectations from and their anticipated risks with the next generation AGP-II were thoroughly recorded.

All interviews were conducted by the consultant, and community consultations, which were expected to portray the diverse perspectives of a range of people, were moderated by the team as well. During the field visits to the areas where the community speaks languages other than Amharic and Afaan Oromo, the Consultant used translators.

3. Description of the Project

AGP-II has five major components. These components, and their subcomponents and activities are described briefly below.

The description of each activity and subprojects under each component and subcomponents is well done in the PAD of AGP-II, and hence it is better to refer there. However, those subprojects and activities that may have environmental and social aspects are described briefly below.

Component 1: Public Agricultural Support Services

This component has two subcomponents including Institutional Strengthening and development, and Identification and Promotion of agricultural Technologies.

Subcomponent 1.1: Institutional Strengthening and Development

The major activities included in this subcomponent are establishing and strengthening Agricultural Development Partner's Linkage Advisory Councils (ADPLACs), support to agricultural extension services, support to animal production and animal health services, support to natural resources management services, support to soil fertility management services, and strengthening promotion of agricultural mechanization technologies.

Subcomponent 1.2: Identification and Promotion of Agricultural Technologies

The major activities included in this subcomponent are identification and compilation of best practices.

Component 2: Agricultural Research

This component has five subcomponents: support to technology adaptation and generation; support to new/improved technology promotion for major commodities; support to technology adoption and impact, and technology based value chain research; support to source technology multiplication; support to capacity building to enhance technology adaptation, generation, maintenance and promotion.

Subcomponent 2.1: Support to Technology Adaptation and Generation

The major activities in this subcomponent include support to adaptation and generation of crop technologies, support to adaptation and generation of livestock and forage technologies, support to adaptation and generation of land and water resources technologies, support to adaptation and

generation of agricultural mechanization technologies for small and medium scale farmers, and support to agricultural technology adaptation and generation for climate resilience

Subcomponent 2.2: Support to New/Improved Technology Promotion for Major Commodities

The main activities in this subcomponent are support to technology pre-extension demonstration and popularization, and support to establishing and strengthening of FREG (Farmers' Research and Extension Group).

Subcomponent 2.3: Support to Technology Adoption and Impact, and Technology Based Value Chain Research

The activities included in this subcomponent are support baseline studies of technology adoption and associated factors, support impact studies of agricultural technologies and associated factors, support to technology based value chains research, and support to develop and test weather index based insurance schemes for improved technology adoption.

Subcomponent 2.4: Support to Source Technology Multiplication

The main activities in this subcomponent include support to source technology multiplication of crops, support to multiplication of source technologies of released forage varieties and animal breeds, and support to land and water resources technology multiplication.

Subcomponent 2.5: Support to Capacity Building to Enhance Technology Adaptation, Generation, Maintenance and Promotion.

The main activities included in this subcomponent are support to transport and agricultural mechanization and irrigation facilities, support to analytical and biotechnology laboratories, and support to human capacity development.

Component 3: Small-Scale Irrigation Development

This component has two subcomponents: Small-Scale Irrigation Infrastructure development and Improvement; and Sub-component 3.2: Integrated Crop and Water Management (ICWM) for Irrigated Agriculture; and Implementation Arrangement.

Subcomponent 3.1: Small-Scale Irrigation Infrastructure development and Improvement

The main activities included in this subcomponent are rehabilitation and/or improvement of existing SSI systems, micro and household irrigation systems, establishment of new small-scale irrigation systems, and access road construction.

Sub-component 3.2: Integrated Crop and Water Management (ICWM) for Irrigated Agriculture

The main activities under this subcomponent include establishing and/or strengthening irrigation water users associations, introducing improved irrigated agriculture advisory/extension services,

equipping implementing agencies, human resources capacity development, technical assistance, and irrigation performance assessment.

Component 4: Agricultural Marketing and Agri-business Development

This component has four subcomponents including support agricultural input supply system, establishing and strengthening farmer organizations, support agribusiness development, support market infrastructure development and management, and implementation arrangement.

Subcomponent 4.1: Strengthening Agricultural Input Supply System

The major activities under this subcomponent include support to improve input supply system, and strengthen input regulation and certification.

Subcomponent 4.2: Strengthening of Farmers Organizations

The major activities under this subcomponent include establishing and strengthening of formal farmer organizations, strengthening of informal farmer organizations (groups), strengthening agricultural cooperatives support services, and improving access to financial services.

Subcomponent 4.3: Support Agri-business Development

The activities under this subcomponent include support to the coordination of value chain actors, and technical support to strengthen competitive agribusiness actors.

Subcomponent 4.4: Support to Market Infrastructure Development and Management

The major activities under this subcomponent that may have environmental and social aspects include construction and modernizing management of market centers; support the construction of warehouses, storage and grading, packaging facilities; development of Small Bridges; and support the development of market information systems.

Component 5: Program Management, and Monitoring and Evaluation

This component has three subcomponents namely Program Management and Institutional Arrangements; Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning; and Capacity Building. Since the activities in these subcomponents do not have environmental and social aspects, the activities are not treated here. It establishes oversight and coordination bodies and structures that ensure proper project management, enhanced project implementation, coordination and effective communication, dissemination of lessons learnt and building capacity for project management as well as implementation. This section also includes the monitoring and periodic reporting of the ESMF and RPF performance of AGP-II.

4. Legal and Institutional Framework for Underserved and Vulnerable Groups

The Ethiopian Constitution recognizes the presence of different socio-cultural groups, including historically disadvantaged and underserved communities, pastoralists, agro-pastoralists, and minorities, as well as their rights to socioeconomic equity and justice.

Article 39 of the Ethiopian Constitution recognizes the rights of groups identified as “Nations, Nationalities and Peoples”. They are defined as “a group of people who have or share a large measure of common culture or similar customs, mutual intelligibility of language, belief in a common or related identities, a common psychological make-up, and who inhabit an identifiable, predominantly contiguous territory.” This represents some 75 out of the 80 groups who are members of the House of Federation, which is the second chamber of the Ethiopian legislature. *The Constitution recognizes the rights of these Nations, Nationalities and Peoples to: self-determination, including the right to secession; speak, write and develop their own languages; express, develop and promote their cultures; preserve their history; and, self-government, which includes the right to establish institutions of government in the territory that they inhabit and equitable representation in state and Federal governments.* Most of the AGP-II target communities belong to these population groups.

The Constitution also recognizes another group called “national minorities”. Article 54(1) states that: “Members of the House [of Peoples Representatives], on the basis of population and special representation of minority Nationalities and Peoples, shall not exceed 550; of these, minority Nationalities and Peoples shall have at least 20 seats.” These groups have less than 100,000 members and most live in the ‘Developing Regional States’.

Owing to their limited access to socioeconomic development and underserved status over the decades, the Ethiopian government has designated four of the country’s regions, namely: *Afar, Somali, Benishangul-Gumuz, and Gambella as Developing Regional States (DRS)*. In this respect, Article 89(2) of the Ethiopian Constitution stipulates: ‘The Government has the obligation to ensure that all Ethiopians get equal opportunity to improve their economic situations and to promote equitable distribution of wealth among them’. Article 89(4) in particular states: ‘Nations, Nationalities and Peoples least advantaged in economic and social development shall receive special assistance’.

In connection with institutional framework designed to ensure equity between regions, the government has set up the Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA). The responsibilities of this Ministry include promoting equitable development, with emphasis on delivering special support to the developing regions. The main purpose of the special support is to address the inequalities that have existed between the regions over the decades, thereby hastening equitable growth and development. Federal Special Support Board, which consists of relevant sector ministries including the MoA, was reorganized in March 2011. The MoFA acts as Vice Chair and secretariat of the Board. A Technical Committee (TC) composed of sector ministries constituting

the Board was also set up under the MoFA to monitor and report the implementation of special support plans. As its main aim, the Board coordinates the affirmative support provided to the developing regions by the different organs of the federal government, and ensures the effectiveness of the implementation process.

In addition, Equitable Development Directorate General has been set up within the MoFA, with Directorates put in place to operate under it for the respective developing regions. Among many other activities, the Directorate General coordinates and directs case teams to collect, organize and analyze data in relation to the gaps in capacity building, social and economic development, good governance, gender and environmental development in the regions in need of special support.

In view of these, two among the eight regions where AGP-II will be implemented are the Developing Regional States of Gambella and Benishangul-Gumz. In Gambella Region, two *woredas*, namely Itang Special *Woreda* and Gambella Zuria, have been identified and selected for AGP-II. Among the potential project beneficiaries in these *woredas* are the population groups of Anuak, Nuer, Majanger and Komo, the former two the largest and the dominant. Similarly, two *woredas* located in Metekel Zone in Benishangul-Gumz Region have been selected for AGP-II. These are: Wombera and Mandura, selected from the point of view of their high potential for AGP. Different sources indicate that originally, most of Metekel was occupied by the Gumz people that belong to the Nilo-Saharan language family. Gumz are the dominant group in Mandura *Woreda* whereas the Shinahsa, Gumz, Amhara, Agaw and Oromo are the ethnic groups who live in Wombera *Woreda*.

The above-mentioned population groups in the two developing regions are different from the mainstream smallholder agricultural communities of the AGP in their livelihood system/strategy, land and resource management, patterns of settlement, and farm technology. AGP-II is expected to be effective and successful in achieving its stated objective, if it gives due consideration to the special characteristics of these population groups in its design, planning and implementation phases. The socioeconomic and cultural profile of the population groups described as underserved and selected for AGP-II are presented below.

5. Assessment of Institutional and Key Social Issues

5.1. Characteristics of Vulnerability and Underserved Target Communities

According to the National Social Protection Policy of the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), in the Ethiopian context, vulnerability is associated with low agricultural growth, natural calamities, economic shocks, health and nutrition risks, and population explosion. It is also connected with environmental degradation and dependence on rain-fed agriculture, which are the contributory factors of chronic food insecurity, as well as with unemployment and underemployment. Broadly defined, the term vulnerability applies to all social groups that find themselves

disadvantaged because of the deprivation of access to socioeconomic benefits, or the adverse consequences suffered as a result of mainstream development interventions. AGP-II is expected to bring about holistic economic growth in the agriculture sector in the selected *woredas*. The target group for the project is smallholder farmers, including women and youth. However, all *woreda* households are expected to benefit from the economic growth that the project would support.

5.1.1. Women

AGP II will aim to increase smallholder farmers' agricultural productivity and commercialization, including a focus on women. The project will specifically target women farmers with tailor made innovations, activities and technical assistance, as an important productivity gap between female and male farmers remains in Ethiopia. As such, the scope of activities to support gender is diverse: gender capacity building of implementers, gender awareness, tailor made capacity building for women, gender quotas and target on specific investments and committees, specific investments dedicated to women, no-harm principle for identification of technologies, childcare for some trainings, etc. Gender is mainstreamed through all components of the program and AGP II and includes piloting of gender innovations that will be evaluated by a rigorous gender impact evaluation to decide on their scaling up of the through the latter years.

Addressing the issues of gender-based social exclusion, discrimination and differential treatment constitutes an important entry point to the design and implementation of the program interventions. By and large, women become vulnerable because of lack of education, gender bias, traditional and cultural norms, and their reproductive and productive roles. Hence, it is crucial to examine the place women have traditionally occupied in AGP-II communities, and determine how gender issues can be mainstreamed in AGP-II program components.

In large part, socially constructed determinants mainly societal attitudes towards women, their socioeconomic status, limited property rights (land and livestock), little or no access to education, and their vulnerable status in polygamous and female-headed households, define women's roles and position in society. Over the past five years, AGP has contributed in improving the livelihood of women at household level, and their empowerment through participation in community activities promoted by the project. Women FGD participants in Buba Damot *Kebele* of Konta Special *Woreda* stated the following:

We are involved in sheep fattening activity as members of mixed innovative group (IG) consisting of men and women. We have managed to benefit equally from our work with our husbands. No decision is made without our knowledge and say. Hence, we know what is sold, earned and saved. In fact, women are the ones who sell fattened sheep at the market, since the men are busy, with farm work.

A participant of women FGD in Sofana Dawa *Kebele* of North Ari *Woreda* said:

Women are benefiting as members of common interest groups (CIG) and innovative group (IG). In addition, they actively participate in and contribute to the exercise of leadership as members of steering, technical, and kebele development committees. Likewise, they are involved in program component-related working arrangements such as market center management, road maintenance, and watershed management committees, and irrigation water users' groups/associations. Women are thus being empowered to engage as fully as they can in leadership roles and actual implementation of program components.

Women's time poverty

In the social assessment *woredas* of Tigray, Amhara, Oromia and SNNPR, women play a significant role in farm activities, domestic work, and off-farm tasks. Although men do most of the oxen driven ploughing, women are also involved in land leveling, weeding, harvesting, threshing and storing. They are particularly engaged in backyard farming, which involves vegetable production, poultry raising and small stock feeding and watering. In farm fields, women are also busy with weeding, scaring away harmful animals, and winnowing during threshing processes. Besides, women are responsible for much of the buying and selling at the local markets to earn additional sources of income for the household.

In the *woredas* of Benishangul-Gumz and Gambella, where shifting cultivation is practiced, there is gender-based division of labor although women often perform the jobs assigned for men. According to the FGD with Gumz and Majanger women, women normally perform all the tasks considered to be in the domain of men, whereas the male folk carry out women's work in circumstances where the women find it hard to do their duties for reasons beyond their control. Traditionally, domestic chores such as fetching water, food preparation, child care, firewood collection, and grinding cereals are the sole responsibility of women. Beyond this, women are required to work with their husbands in the domain of men, performing tasks such as forest clearing, hoeing farm plots, planting, weeding, and threshing.

Among the Kunama minorities in the Tahtay Adiabo and Kafta Humera Social Assessment *woredas* of Tigray, Kunama women are highly vulnerable group because of being burdened with heavy workloads compared to men. In FGD conducted with Kunama women in Lemlem *Kebele* of Tahtay Adiabo *Woreda*, the participants expressed that women perform almost all tasks related to farming, household chores, and selling and buying at the market. The role of men is not much more than symbols as household heads.

As the field data from Enmorena Ener *Woreda* of SNNPR shows, women's vulnerability is further aggravated by out-migration of male adults and youths. This deprives households of male labor for agricultural engagements, forcing women to carry the entire burden of farm and domestic work. Being labor intensive and the exclusive domain of women, the chore of *enset*

processing is another taxing duty that adds pressure to women and causing them time poverty in Enmorena Ener *Woreda*, as in other *enset* growing areas.

As can be seen from women's duties competing for their effort and attention, time poverty is the result of their multiple roles in productive, reproductive and community-related processes. With their time and attention divided between these commitments, they thus find it difficult to balance their responsibilities including participation in programs such as AGP. Women's drudgery is exacerbated by economic hardships, exposing them to even higher vulnerability. Hence, the worse off women are, the greater their burden of work, with the consequence of increased time poverty. But the more women benefit from different components of AGP-II, the more time they will have for their program-related and other responsibilities. For example, access to water through small-scale irrigation schemes is likely to increase productivity, resulting in their economic empowerment. The construction of feeder roads and footbridges will facilitate mobility and travel, reducing the opportunity cost required for the selling and buying of goods and produce at the local market. The establishment of market centers is expected to contribute to increase in product quality and the profit from sale. Furthermore, the project would screen, validate and promote specific technologies to address specific constraints faced by women including time poverty. Women empowerment resulting from such program benefits would positively impact their life of, alleviating their burden and allowing them greater time and freedom to engage in a wide range of activities with reduced hardship and pressure.

5.1.2. Female-Headed Households

The statistics available on female-headed households in the Social Assessment *woredas* is not complete. Yet, the data obtained from some of the *woredas* indicate that the number of female-headed households is significant in the areas under study, as shown by the following table.

Table 2: Size of Female-headed Households in Selected *Woredas*

<i>Woreda</i>	Total number of rural households	Male-headed	Female-headed
Decha	19,157	18,246	909
Kafta Humera	29,324	19,576	9,748
Womberema	98,435	13,870	5,308
Itang	40,563	5,683	1,992
Mandura	50,112	8,282	2,248
Wombera	76,006	10,698	474

In the context of this Social Assessment, female-headed households may be categorized as one or the other of the following three groups. These are: households who have access to farmland (0.5 hectare Oromia and SNNPR), households who have some access to small farmland (0.25 hectare Tigray and Amhara) but with large household size, or households with access to reasonable size of farmland (0.5-1 hectare) but with acute shortage of labor.

A significant proportion of the female household heads are widows in childbearing age with small family size. Due to the shortage of labour power, these widows mostly depend on external labor, which they find through land rent or share-cropping. Having to share the produce with others in both cases, they are left with reduced benefit, not being able to get the full amount of what their land can offer them.

Female-headed households with small farm land and the shortage of labour power in Kafta Humera *Woreda*, for example, are extremely vulnerable groups. Being a sesame growing area, land in this *Woreda* is used for the cultivation of this cash crop, which brings high income for households. Due to lack of money to hire draft oxen or machinery, they are compelled to rent their land to the better off, forfeiting the income they would otherwise be able to earn. As is often the case, disputes are liable to arise from land rents. In order to resolve the disputes, those involved usually resort to the traditional dispute settlement mechanisms, taking the case to local elders. Female household heads participating in the FGDs held in Kafta Humera *Woreda* reported that the disputes are mostly handled in favor of those who are better off. They are not able to pursue the disputes through the formal legal channels since the process is often time consuming and expensive. In this respect, AGP-II will create the means of economic empowerment and opportunity that women with land but without labor or draft animals need to earn capital. They thus will be able to hire labor force or buy the required farm inputs and oxen, which spares them the loss and risks resulting from forced land rent.

5.1.3. Polygamy

The form of polygamy which is practiced in some societies in Ethiopia is referred to as polygyny, and is defined as the marriage of a man to two or more women at a time. Among the Social Assessment communities where polygyny is common (Oromo, Konta, Kaffa, Anuak, Nuer, Gumz), a woman joins her husband in his patrilineal village on his ancestral land, which are the characteristic of a patriarchal society. In polygynous unions, which discourages female land holding, wives do not own land and other major assets, becoming vulnerable to economic insecurity

In the Anuak community, the man pays bride price to the family of his would-be wife in the form of cattle (*demuy*). In polygynous culture, marriage is a major factor for women's vulnerability. The wife may, of course, divorce her husband and remarry, but with all the economic risks. If she decides to divorce her husband, she can do so but cannot claim any part of the property acquired during the marriage. Worse still, the husband is entitled to claim all the bride price that he paid to her family in cattle upon marrying her. As a result, she is obliged to stay with her first husband, whom the custom entitles to have more wives at the same time.

In the polygynous culture of the Nuer, marriage is legitimized by the payment of bride price in cattle by the man's clan to the clan of the women. The payment of bride price subjects the

women to marginalization, making her highly vulnerable and insecure. Nuer men who took part in FGD described the situation of the wife for whose clan bride wealth is paid as follows;

The bride price paid for the clan of a Nuer woman amounts to twenty heads of cattle. The man's clan considers the woman as property bought from her family. For this reason, the husband counts her as an object which he can treat as he likes.

Likewise, polygyny is a source women's vulnerability in Gumz culture. Regarding this, Gumz women FGD participants made the following remarks:

A man is entitled to marry as many wives as he may wish at a time. The co-wives can do nothing about it. If they try to resist his marrying additional wives, community elders interfere, whose decision or orders they cannot reject. It usually happens that the husband is inclined to favor the new wife, which strains his relationship with the exiting wives and becomes the source of tension and discord. If they desire a divorce, they cannot claim part of the property obtained during the marriage. If they go ahead with the divorce regardless, the only choice they have is to go back to their parents empty handed.

The practice of polygyny is likewise the cause of women's vulnerability among the Oromo in Chora Woreda, Illubabur Zone. The Woreda AGP coordinator, in the interview held with him, said that polygyny is the causal factor of women's economic and social insecurity in the area. Polygyny is closely associated with Islam in the *woreda*. Like in other polygamous traditions, women are also not encouraged to attain economic self-reliance, and are in fact advised to rely on their husbands. During a community consultation, a woman said the following: "We work without rest, but have no say in matters concerning the family property". These problems are to be dealt with through the economic and social empowerment of women to exercise decision making and leadership roles and enhance the quality and amount of their participation in various components of AGP-II.

5.1.4. Unemployed and underemployed rural youths

In all Social Assessment *woredas*, unemployment and underemployment are the main factors that cause rural youths to be vulnerable groups. Unemployed rural youths include local boys and girls who have dropped out of school for various reasons at primary, secondary or preparatory levels. Others are young men and women who have returned to live in their natal villages, not being able to find work in the towns/cities after completing technical and vocational training or college education. The underemployed are generally rural youths who have not had access to school and continue to live with their parents assisting them with farm work or it includes those who have married and survive on small portions of farm plots transferred to them by their parents. Both groups are underemployed because the small farm plots on which they work can hardly fully engage them and support themselves.

Reinforcing this, the AGP coordinator of SNNPR stated that lack of access to farm land was the serious problem that exposed youths to vulnerability. He said:

Traditionally, households transferred portions of family land to their sons (as is the case in Oromia and SNNPR) through gift or inheritance, so that they could work on them independently and build their life. However, with the ever-declining population/land ratio and increasing land fragmentation, households are left with much smaller size of land to be able to give to their sons. Making this further difficult is the legal restitution on land redistribution, which is in force in many regions as a mechanism to control the process of land fragmentation

As pointed out during community consultation with youth groups in Chora Woreda, Illubabur Zone, the unemployment of youths who have returned after attending certain level of education or training is aggravated by two factors. According to tradition, only local youths who stay with their parents are entitled to work on or share family land. Hence, those who have been away for some time to get education or for other reasons cannot make legitimate claims for access to land upon their return. It was also highlighted during the youth consultation that, young people who move back to their villages from school in the towns are not keen to engage in farm work in the traditional way, even if they are given access to land. They said:

Youth's in our community can be divided into three groups: School or college graduates who have returned to live in the village for lack of work; school or college dropouts who have not found work and hence live with their parents; and young men and women who have married early and survive on small plots of family land. The main problem facing the youths is that access to land is determined by how much land resource their parents possess, and their consent to transfer to them a share of the available family land. Being land poor, most families have too little land to share with the youths. As a result, the state of family poverty remains cyclical, youths becoming impoverished like their parents. In addition, there is a tendency to allow only those who did not leave their families to attend school to have access to land, denying others who have been away from home to get some form of education or training.

5.1.5. Occupational Minorities

FGDs were conducted with members of occupational minorities in the Social Assessment woredas of Amhara and SNNPR. These groups are potters, smiths, weavers, tanners and carpenters, who have been historically isolated and underserved because of their occupation. As a result of this, they used to be excluded for generations from mainstream social and economic activities including access to land.

Owing to the pressures resulting from years of social ostracism, many were forced to abandon their trade. With the improvement of social attitudes and practices particularly since the land reform of the mid 1970s, such occupational groups have generally been rehabilitated, becoming entitled to land holdings and hence practicing farming together with their crafts-making. As observed in the Social Assessment woredas of Amhara Region, weaving and carpentry have become the kinds of trades which interested community members can engage in by acquiring the skills through trainings. On the other hand, pottery and tannery are still viewed as occupational skills left to the minorities 'inherited' by sons and daughters from their parents. Because of this,

marriage with these groups is considered as taboo, forcing tanners and potters to inter-marry within their respective groups. On the whole, though, the social integration and participation of these occupational minorities continues to be stronger, which is facilitated by the impacts of AGP-I. As a result of access to land and engaging in farm work alongside with their trades, members of the groups were able to benefit in good measure from the different components AGP-I such as irrigation schemes, technology transfers, and CIGs and IGs,

The Manja, who live in the Konta and Decha Social Assessment *woredas* in SNNPR, are a largely isolated and vulnerable occupational minority. They are associated with a number of stereotypes related to their eating habits and personal hygiene. It is said that they eat the meat of religiously prohibited animals and that they do not keep themselves and their clothes clean. Such views and attitudes have led to the treatment of the Manja as social outcasts, resulting in their exclusion from all forms of interaction in the community including engaging in agricultural activities.

Nonetheless, current trends are such that conditions are improving for the Manja, as the Konta Special *Woreda* AGP coordinator indicated. Thus, the Manja are being reintegrated with the community as shown by Manja youths participating actively in CIGs and IGs as components of AGP-I.

The Decha *Woreda* AGP coordinator added:

There is one mixed youth innovative group (IG) in Ufa kebele consisting of eighteen members, twelve of them Manja. The Manja are known for their industriousness and their skills in bull fattening and beekeeping. AGP never excludes the Manja, and in fact, they are encouraged to participate in all program components.

During the FGD held with male members of the Manja group in Konta Special *Woreda*, the participants said:

Our Kebele is Duppa Kachakacha. Here two groups have lived together for a long time: Mala and Manja. The Mala are the majority, who have been relatively more advantaged than us, the Manja. Since the introduction of AGP-I in the Kebele, who have been organized under mixed IGs being engaged together in sheep fattening activities and benefiting from the results. Similarly, in the neighboring Kebele of Oppa Lashe, members of the two groups work together in mixed IGs in honey production. Being land holders, we are in a position to be included in and benefit from programs investing on agricultural growth like AGP-I. With the income benefits from AGP-I, we have been able to build houses with corrugated iron roofing. We also send our children to school some of whom have become successful in their education. There are male and female members of the Manja who have managed to hold leadership positions on committees established in different components of AGP-I. Hopefully, using the technology transfers that AGP-II will introduce to us will be able to practice irrigation farming and produce higher crop yields. CIGs and IGs will afford us the chances of becoming involved in sheep fattening

and other alternative activities which will help us to increase our income and become empowered economically.

5.1.6. Ethnic Minorities

Other vulnerable groups are those who have settled participating *woredas*, *for a long time*, who *are not* originally from these *woredas* and are considered ethnic minorities among the communities where they now reside. To be mentioned in this regard are the Irob, Saho and Kunama in Tahtay Adiabo and Kafta Humera *woredas* of Tigray, and the Gumz and Shinasha in Guangua *Woreda* of Awi Zone of Amhara region.

The Irob settled in Tahtay Adiabo *Woreda* from the eastern part of Tigray, whereas the Saho moved here across the border from Eritrea. The Saho live in four sub-*kebeles* (*qušät*) of the mäneṭäbeṭäb *Kebele*, namely: Dembägädam, Atseraga, and Dogali. Small in number, the Saho are estimated to be between 55 to 60 households. Although they engage in agricultural activities, the *Saho* are predominantly pastoralists deriving their livelihood from livestock and livestock products. Constantly on the move as migratory pastoralists, the Saho spend a good deal of their time in the hot lowlands of the *woreda*, grazing and watering their livestock. As a result, they have not been able to benefit from AGP-I irrigation projects undertaken in the *woreda*. Yet, they are benefiting from Farmers Training Centers (FTCs) where they get training in animal fattening, milk production and poultry. They expect their current shift to farming practices, due chiefly to scarce grazing resources to benefit from the small-scale irrigation component of AGP-II.

The Kunama are another ethnic minority living in Tahtay Adiyabo *Woreda*, Lämeläm *Kebele*, on the border with Eritrea. Not having much experience in agriculture, they rent their land to others for cultivation. Their livelihood is largely based on the sell firewood, charcoal, and other forest product.

Within the Kafta Humera *Woreda* are Irob and Kunama ethnic minorities, resettling and benefiting from different government programs. Originally from Adigirat area in eastern Tigray, the Irob now reside in Kafta Humera *Woreda* in Irob *Kebele*. According to local informants, the Irob are experienced in agricultural practice like most rural people of Tigray. The Kunama in Kafta Humera *Woreda*, Heläte Kokka *Kebele*, are originally from Shiraro Town. Despite their participation and access to benefits in the implementation of AGP-I, water scarcity in their area/*kebele* has significantly limited the extent to which they could have been involved in irrigation farming and the results they obtained. Therefore, they asked for deep water wells to be dug for them in AGP-II so that they could practice farming for higher crop yield and profit.

Major ethnic minorities in Guangua *Woreda* of the Agew in Amhara region are the Gumz and Shinasha. The Gumz are particularly vulnerable and did not benefit from AGP-related extension program packages in FTCs, because of the effects of their tradition as hunter and gatherers and

shifting cultivators. In addition, the *Woreda* AGP coordinator stated that language barrier makes it difficult to involve the Gumz in technology transfer trainings in FTCs.

5.1.7. Shifting Cultivators/Horticulturalists

All along the western borderlands of Ethiopia, stretching from western Tigray and running through the frontier districts of the regions of Benishangul-Gumz and Gambella is spoken an interrelated set of languages belonging to the Nilo-Saharan. The Ethiopian Nilo-Saharan language speakers consist, among others, of the Kunama, Gumz, Berta, Anuak, Majanger and Mao-Komo. Most of these groups inhabit the present administrative regions of Benishangul-Gumz and Gambella. A common feature of these Nilo-Saharan speakers is that they generally occupy the hot lowlands from the slopes of the western edges of the Ethiopian plateau and penetrating deep into the inhospitable gorges and valleys of the Dinder, the Abay River, and the Anger-Diddessa rivers and many of their tributaries. In these surroundings, most of the Nilo-Saharan people practice a system of shifting hoe cultivation producing relatively small quantities of maize, sorghum, beans, sesame, yams, pumpkins and a variety of vegetables. In times of food shortages, they also resort to the more ancient practices of hunting and gathering, as well as fishing and honey collection⁵.

Shifting cultivation, otherwise referred to as horticulture, slash-and-burn agriculture, or swidden agriculture, is a system of production common in tropical forest environments and savannas, where clearing the land requires extensive labor. It is the simplest type of farming that uses basic hand tools such as the hoe or digging stick rather than the plow or other machinery driven by animals or machines. The technique of farming involves clearing the land by manually cutting down/slashing the growth, burning it, and planting in the burned area. Even though the ash residue serves as a fertilizer, the land is usually depleted within two to four years. The land is then allowed to lie fallow for several years (often 5-7 years) to restore its fertility, or it may be abandoned altogether⁶. A constant feature of this system of cultivation is therefore the periodic relocation of the villages because of the depletion of the land.

Historically, shifting cultivators have been the most underserved communities in Ethiopia, much like nomadic pastoralists. Mainly as a result of certain ‘myths’ about the way of life of shifting cultivators, previous governments in Ethiopia used to favor the mainstream iron-tipped ox-drawn plow settled agriculture over shifting cultivation. Largely due to this, there was a tendency in those times for the expansion of the mainstream agriculture, leading to the undermining of slash and burn cultivation.

Dating back to past centuries, the shifting cultivators have been the objects of discrimination and stereotyping in the society. As they have always done, the horticulturalists produce their

⁵ Wolde-Selassie Abbute (1997) “The Dynamics of Socio-Economic Differentiation and Change in the Beles-Valley /Pawe/ Resettlement Area, North Western Ethiopia”. Department of Social Anthropology, Addis Ababa University, MA Thesis.

⁶ Wolde-Selassie (1997)

subsistence crops using simple agricultural tools such as hoes and digging sticks. By contrast, their neighbors have had a long tradition of using draft animals. In the course of time, this led to social attitudes and perceptions that resulted in viewing sedentary plough culture as superior, which became the basis of discrimination against slash-and-burn cultivators. The situation of shifting cultivators/horticulturalists was further compounded by lack of due policy attention by successive previous Ethiopian governments. The needs and interests of these population groups therefore used not to be given the amount of agricultural policy attention they deserved, as compared to smallholder agricultural communities in the highlands. As a point of departure from these trends, steps are now being taken to include these groups in the design and implementation of AGP-II. This will create an opportunity for these population groups to be able to improve their means of livelihoods and become economically empowered. For them to benefit on a sustainable basis, AGP-II will need to take into account their particular interests and circumstances in respect to their traditional mode of agricultural production, land use/tenure, social organization and the transfer of the corresponding appropriate technology. This would be reflected in the annual consultation and planning process, the CLPP.

5.2. Socioeconomic-Cultural Profile of People in Underserved communities

The communities visited for the SA are mainly farming populations, and smaller groups of shifting cultivators. The government has been seeking long-term economic solutions for the underserved communities, which go well beyond the AGP program, to realize the full economic potential of these areas. The following are background assessment conducted on the bases of economic and sociocultural profile of underserved groups, within the six regions. This social assessment also benefited from other social assessments conducted for other projects such as Water Supply and Sanitation Program II, Pastoral Community Development Project Phase III, Sustainable Land Management Project Phase II, General Education Quality Improvement Program Phase II, and Productive Safety Net and Household Asset Building Programme Phase IV. The findings indicate their unique sociocultural characteristics and level of vulnerability and have significant implications to wider population of underserved been targeted in this project, given that some of these communities have similar characteristics required in OP 4.10 and face the same risks and impacts as those not assessed. Presented below is a discussion on the economic and sociocultural characteristics of these groups and the relevance of their social organizations to the access for much needed agricultural inputs in a socially inclusive manner.

South Nations Nationalities and People Regional State (SNNPR)

SNNPR: Covers an area of 111,000 km², which accounts for 10% of the total land area of the country, SNNP region is home to more than 56 ethnic groups. It is located in the southern and southwestern parts of the country. The region shares common borders with Sudan in the west, Kenya in the south, Gambella region in the northwest and Oromia region in the east and north. The most diverse in ethnic and linguistic composition, the region has a population of

approximately 15 million. There are 126 *woredas*, eight of them Special *Woredas*. The average plot size is 0.4 ha/household. AGP-II will be implemented in 35 *woredas*⁷.

The region has diverse ecology. Lowlands account for 56 percent of the total land area, and accommodate all the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of the region. The major economic activity of the area is livestock production, followed by *enset* and coffee production, fisheries, irrigation, and eco-tourism. *Teff*, wheat, maize and barely are the main crops grown in the region.

Semen Ari Woreda

Semen Ari *Woreda* is located in South Omo Zone of SNNP region. The administrative seat of the *Woreda* is Gelila Town located 602 kms southwest of the national capital. The *Woreda* is bounded by Basketo Special *Woreda* and Geze Gofa *Woreda* in the north, Oyda and Ubba-Debretsehay *woredas* in the east, and Debub Ari *Woreda* in the southwest.

The total land area of Semen Ari *Woreda* is 60,040 hectares. The *Woreda* has four agro-climatic zones: *dega* (50.28%), *woina dega* (8.32), *kolla* (37.14) and *wurch* (4.26). Average annual rainfall and temperature in the *Woreda* vary between 400 mm and 2600 mm, and 11°C and 22°C respectively. Altitude varies from 900 meters to 3,200 meters above sea level. The total population of the *Woreda* is estimated to be 84,607 (male 41,457, female 43,150)⁸.

Agriculture is the main means of subsistence in Semen Ari *Woreda*. The main crops produced in the *Woreda* include cereals (wheat, barley, sorghum, maize, *teff* and millet), pulses (broad beans, beans and peas), and root crops (taro, *enset*, yam, cassava and potato). Coffee and cardamom are the two important cash crops produced in the *Woreda*. Also livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, mules, horses, donkeys, and poultry) are raised. For administrative purpose, Ari land is divided into Semen (North) and Debub (South) Ari *woredas*. The *woredas* are mainly populated by Ari ethnic group who speak a language belonging to the Omotic language family.

The Ari

The Ari are Omotic speaking group, their language being *Araf*. There are two occupational groups in Ari: the Kansa and the Manna. The Kansa practice agriculture, and enjoy higher social status. The Manna, on the other hand, are a isolated and underserved social group. The Ari are generally in peaceful relationship with their neighbors. Particularly, they maintain close marriage and trade relations with the Banna, Dime, Basketo and Gofa. The Ari trade coffee, cardamom, ginger and grains with these groups.⁹In highland Ari, hoe cultivation is also common.

⁷ Physical Background of SNNPR, Basic Facts about SNNP Region, CSA, SNNPR 2007.

⁸ Based on the information obtained from Semen Ari *Woreda* Agricultural Office

⁹GebreYntiso (1993). "An exploratory study of production practices among the Ari, southwest Ethiopia". Department of social anthropology, Addis Ababa University, MA Thesis.

As settled agriculturalists living in permanent villages, the Ari earn their livelihood from agriculture. Agricultural practice among the Ari include both the production of crops and the rearing of animals. Both food and cash crops are widely produced. The production of crops is not only meant for economic subsistence but also serves other social and cultural purposes.

Traditionally, Ari land is divided into nine independent territorial units (baka (bako), shangma (shengama), sida (sido), beya (bio), woba (wubhamer), gayil (gelila), barged (bergeda), seyki/argen (debretsehai), and kure).¹⁰ Each of these territorial units has its own hereditary leader called Babi. The traditional Ari power structure is arranged in such a way that at the top of the hierarchy is the Babi. Babi is the supreme authority who leads the economic, judicial, military, administrative, economic, and ritual life of the people. The Babi is assisted by a group of persons called the Godmi, mainly in ritual matters, and assume such a position by virtue of their clan category. Accordingly, there are four Godmi in Ari land and they come from four specific clans (fasha, blink, gayiti and amen). Each of the nine Ari territorial units is further subdivided into villages (*ganna*) and led by village leaders called *zis*. The *zis* are either appointed by the Babi or chosen by the people. In each of the territorial units, the Babi has information agents known by the name *tsoiki*, who are in charge of collecting information. At the bottom of the traditional power structure lie the *keisi* (the common people). The *Keisi* are in direct relationship with the village leaders (*zis*). Ari power structure and social organization remain influential, despite gradual transformations as a result of largely external factors¹¹.

Konta Special Woreda

Konta is bounded by Kaffa Zone in the west, Dawuro Zone in the east, Gamo Gofa Zone in the southeast, Debub Omo Zone in the south, and Jimma Zone of Oromia Regional State in the north. The capital, Ameya Town, is located 460 kms southwest of Addis Ababa.

The main economic activity in the *Woreda* is agriculture. The principal crops produced include *enset*, *teff*, maize, barley, millet, sesame, coffee, beans, peas and spices. Beekeeping and animal husbandry are also practiced¹². According to the 2007 census, Konta special *Woreda* has a total population of 90,846 (male 44,686, female 46,160.)

The Konta

Konta Special *Woreda* is inhabited by the Konta ethnic group. They speak Kontigna, a language which belongs to the Omotic language family. It is closely related to the Omotic languages of Dawuro, Wolaita, Gamo and Gofa.

¹⁰ According to Gebre (1993), the terms in the bracket are those used by outsiders.

¹¹ Gebre (1993).

¹² Teferi Abebe and Taddese Legese (2013). "Ethno-History of the Konta People". Hawassa: SNNPR Bureau of Culture and Tourism.

Occupationally, the Konta society is divided into higher and lower social classes. Farmers enjoy higher social status as an occupation group, the minorities like potters (*ottoman*), tanners (*degela*), smiths (*gitaman*) and hunters (*manja*) being despised social classes. The Manja are the most isolated of such social groups. There are other groups of artisans in the Konta society (masons, carpenters and weavers), but these are not underserved and discriminated against.¹³

The Konta mainly earn their livelihood from agriculture. Many crops are produced in Konta Special *Woreda*. The dominant crops in Konta land are maize and *enset*. Cereals are mainly produced in the lowlands such as Churchura, Koysha and Oshka, where there is plenty of land. The Konta also produce cash crops mainly coffee, ginger, cardamom, cotton, and tobacco. They also cultivate *khat*. Ameya and Chida markets provide the Konta with big market facilities.

The Konta have a traditional power structure in which the king, known by the title of Katty, exercises rule over the community. The position of the Katty whose power is absolute, is hereditary. The position of the Katty is reserved for ruling clans of Oppa, Arra, Yorra and Adiyio. The next highest position to Katty is Woraba. The Woraba is appointed by the Katty by virtue of his clan. This position is traditionally reserved for Mala or Tigri clan. Next to the Woraba is Ganna. The responsibility of the Ganna is to manage inter-group relations with neighboring communities, and for this it is mandatory to speak other languages. The fourth administrative position is occupied by the Torranha, whose responsibility is to serve the Katty in the role of an advisor and commander. The Erasha, who occupies the fifth position in the hierarchy, is responsible for conflict management and village administration. The six, seventh and eighth administrative position in the hierarchy are Gudda, Danna and Bittanttiya.¹⁴

The Tsara

The Tsara/Chara is an ethnic minority group living in Konta Special *Woreda* on the border with Kaffa Zone. Based on the 2007 population census, the Tsara constitute 4.07% of the population of the Special *Woreda*.

Enmorena Ener Woreda

Enmorena Ener *Woreda* is one of the 12 *woredas* constituting the Gurage zone. The *Woreda* is bounded by Cheha *Woreda* in the north, Gumer *Woreda* in the east, Endegagn *Woreda* and Hadiya Zone in the southeast, and Yem Special *Woreda* and Oromia regional state in the west. The administrative seat of the *Woreda*, Gunchire Town, is 192 kms west of Addis Ababa.

The total land area of the *Woreda* is 107,584 hectares. The *Woreda* has three agro-climatic zones: *dega* (16.22%), *weinadega* (57.53) and *kolla* (26.85). Altitude in the *Woreda* ranges from 1,100 meters to 2,730 meters above sea level. Agriculture is the main means of subsistence in

¹³Teferi Abebe and Taddese Legese (2013).

¹⁴ Teferi Abebe and Taddese Legese (2013).

the *Woreda*. The major crops grown are *enset*, coffee, *teff*, wheat, maize, and Irish potato. Livestock raising, beekeeping and poultry are also practiced¹⁵.

According to the 2007 census, the total population of the *Woreda* is estimated at 188,066 (male 88,828 (47%), female 99,238 (53%). 98.94%) of the population inhabit the rural areas, whereas 1.06% live in urban centers. The Gurage are the main ethnic group in Enmorena Ener *Woreda*.

The Gurage

The Gurage belong to the Semitic speaking language family, and are particularly known as practicing trade. Until the referendum whereby the Silte declared themselves as non-Gurage, the Gurage were divided into three major linguistic groups: the western (Sebat Bet), the northern (Soddo Kistane) and the eastern (Silte). These groups constitute what is called the “*enset* culture complex.”

Enmorena Ener *Woreda* is part of the Sebat Bet Gurage land. The Sebat Bet Gurage is made up of seven houses or clans, namely Cheha, Eza, Geyto, Muher and Aklil, Enmore, Meqorqure, and Endegagne. Sebat Bet Gurage used to practice the indigenous religion represented by *Waq*, and converted to Islam and Christianity during the 20th century. There are three occupational caste groups in Gurage: woodworkers (*fuga*), tanners (*gezye*) and smiths (*nefrwe*). The *fuga* are the most deprived social group¹⁶.

The Gurage make their livelihood from many sources. Trade and agriculture are the two main sources of livelihood for the people. The Gurage are known as enterprising people because of their widespread engagement in trading activities in various parts of the country. They migrate to urban centers to do various business activities. As agriculturalists, though the Gurage produce varieties of crops, *enset* serves as the most important staple crop. Their socio-economic and cultural life is very much associated with *enset* that the Gurage have come to be identified with it. Traditionally, the Gurage land is not ruled under single sovereign authority. It is rather characterized by segmented authority system. The Gurage clans are autonomous political units led by clan leaders and elders. That is, the Gurage have traditional a political system based on clanship. Each clan had a hereditary chief¹⁷.

Decha Woreda

Decha *Woreda* is one of the ten *woredas* of Kaffa Zone, bounded by Gimbo *Woreda* in the north, Adiyo *Woreda* in the northeast, Cheta *Woreda* in the east, Chena *Woreda* in the west and South Omo Zone in the south. The administrative seat of the *Woreda*, Chiri Town, is located 746 kms west of Addis Ababa.

¹⁵ The data is obtained from Enmorena Ener *Woreda* Agricultural Office.

¹⁶ Bahru Zewde (2002). “Systems of Local Governance Among the Gurage: The Yajoka Qicha and the Gordanna Sera”, in *The Challenge of Democracy from Below*, pp. 17-28. NordiskaAfrikainstitutet and Forum for Social Studies, Stockholm

¹⁷ Bahiru Zewde (2002)

Decha *Woreda* covers 308,735 hectares of land, and is the largest *woreda* in Kaffa Zone. The *Woreda* has four agro-climatic zones, namely: *dega* (7%), *woinadega* (46%), *kolla* (42%), and *bereha* (5%)¹⁸. Agriculture forms the mainstay of the economy of the *Woreda*. The main crops produced include maize, sorghum, *teff*, wheat, barley, *enset*, coffee, spices particularly cardamom, and fruits (banana and orange). Coffee and spices are grown mainly for the market.

According to the 2007 census, Decha *Woreda* has a total population of 153,862 (73,807 male, 74,092 female are rural dwellers, and 2,893 male and 3,070 female urban dwellers). The number of rural households in the *woreda* is 19,157, 18,246 male-headed, 909 female-headed. The majority of the people in Decha *Woreda* are the Kafficho.

The Kafficho

The Kafficho speak *kafi noono* (the tongue of the Kafficho), which belongs to the Omotic linguistic group. In what is today Kafficho Zone, three clans existed which had different levels of social hierarchy: the higher clan (*ogge-ashi-yaro*), the lower clan (*gishi-ashi-yaro*), and stigmatized minorities (*sharrare-yaro*). The higher clan played an important role in the political affairs of what is historically known as the Kaffa kingdom. The lower clan mostly consisted of tenant farmers. The artisans and hunters were minority groups. Under Kaffa kingdom, smiths (*k'emo*), weavers (*shamano*), potters, (*k'ejeche*), tanners (*mano*) and hunters (*manjo*) belonged to the occupational minority. Recent years have seen improvements in the situation of many of the minorities ((*k'emo*, *shamano* and *k'ejeche*), whereas conditions show little sign of change for the *mano* and *manjo*, still being a particularly isolated minority.¹⁹

Among the Kafficho, the main source of livelihood is agriculture. They produce various types of food and cash crops. In addition to the production of crops and the rearing of animals, the Kafficho also practice beekeeping and thus honey production is also another source of livelihood. Among the Kafficho, a food that does not include *enset* in one way or another is not considered appropriate food. The most widely consumed food next to *enset* is maize. The Kafficho also widely produce cash crops mainly coffee and various types of spices.

The Chara

Another minority group in Decha *Woreda* is called Chara, who speak their own tongue (Chara), which belongs to the Omotic linguistic group. The Chara live in the most remote parts of the Kaffa highlands.

The Nao

¹⁸ Based on the data obtained from the *Woreda* Agricultural Office.

¹⁹ Gezahegn Petros (2001). "Kafa", in Dena Freeman and Alula Pankhurst (eds.) *Living on the Edge: Marginalized Minorities of Craft workers and Hunters in Southern Ethiopia*, pp81-99. Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

The Nao, another minority group in Decha *Woreda*, also live in Shakacho Zone. They speak their own language called *nayi*, which belongs to the Omotic linguistic group. The Nao language is classified as an endangered language, the threat resulting from their being geographically scattered, and coming under pressure to the tongues of host communities.²⁰

The Me'enit

Living in the remote lowland of Decha *Woreda* are another group called Me'enit, who are said to practice pastoralism.

Gambella Region

Gambella region has a land area of 29,782.82 km², with total population of 307,096 (male 159,787, female 147,309) according to the 2007 census. The main ethnic groups in the region are the Nuer (46.66%), Anuak (21.16%), Amhara (8.42%), Kafficho (5.04%), Oromo (4.83%), Majanger (4%), Shakacho (2.27%), Kambata (1.44%), Tigrean (1.32%) and others (4.86%). Agro-ecologically, the region is predominantly lowland (*kolla*), with a few midlands (*weynadega*). The region is endowed with abundant natural resources of expansive land and water.

Gambella Zuria *Woreda*

Part of the Anuak Zone, Gambella Zuria *Woreda* is bounded by Abobo in the south, Itang in the west, and Oromia Region in the north and east. The administrative center of the *Woreda* is Abol. The total surface area coverage of the *Woreda* is 2,586 km² and according to the information obtained from the *Woreda* Agricultural Office, the total population of the Gambella Zuria *Woreda* is 14,599 (male 7,591, female 7,008). The annual temperature of the *Woreda* ranges from 27⁰c to 40⁰c, with an elevation in the range of 450 to 1,000 meters above sea level. The average annual rainfall ranges from 1,000 mm to 2,000 mm, and Baro is the main river.

The region's economy is predominantly agriculture, and land and water are the main source of livelihoods of the people. In terms of land use, cultivated land is estimated to be 7,251.1 hectares (5516.3 hectares using rain-fed, 66 hectares using irrigation from Baro River, and 1,668 hectares using the recession of Baro River). Sorghum and maize are the prominent crops in the *Woreda*. Fallowing is commonly employed to maintain the fertility of the soil and to avoid weeds.

Anuak are the dominant ethnic group, and they are dispersed throughout the rural *kebeles* in the *Woreda*. In Gambella *woreda*, the Anuak enjoy not only numerical superiority but also political, as most government employees at the *woreda* level are from Anuak. The Majanger and Komo are the other two major ethnic groups who live in the *Woreda*. The Komo are relatively the smallest, and they inhabit only few peripheral areas of the *Woreda*.

²⁰ Foundation for Endangered Languages. (2013). *On the Verge of Dying: Languages in Ethiopia*. OGMIOS Newsletter 52, pp. 3-5. Available online at http://www.ogmios.org/ogmios/Ogmios_052.pdf.

The Anuak

The Anuak are Nilotic speaking group who widely inhabit the Anuak Zone of Gambella region. Some of the Anuak, whose number are estimated to be 100,000, also inhabit South Sudan mainly in Akobo and Pochalla counties adjacent to the border with Gambella Region. The people prefer to call themselves Anywaa though outsiders, including their neighbors, know them as Anuak. The Anuak were originally divided into two large clans: Tung Goc and Tung Odolla, which were perpetually feuding and competing for dominance. They settled in big villages along the Akobo and Baro as well as Gilo rivers. Traditionally, each Anuak village has a *Nyie* (king) or Kway-Luak (sub-chief) in control of the social and administrative matters of the village²¹.

The Anuak are mainly crop dependent, with fishing, hunting and gathering serving as their supplementary income sources. Recession riverside agriculture is common and practiced by Anuak people along the Baro, Gilo and Akobo rivers. The Anuak use the traditional digging tool called *shala* for farming, which is labor intensive. They neither use oxen nor machinery driven by animals. For the Anuak, while crop production (sorghum and maize) is an important activity during the rainy season, fishing in the Baro and Akobo rivers becomes a vital means of subsistence in the dry season. They, however, use fish only for survival as they rarely commoditize it. This is because since they use traditional trapping mechanism, they could not exploit large number of fish though the fish population is believed to be abundant in the rivers. Wild food consumption is part of the daily dietary intake given the still partly untouched bush land and natural forest resources.

The Anuak society is communal. It is obligatory to share resources and assist one another in times of drought/famine and disease. They have also strong culture of helping their members and outsiders. This traditional self-help institution of the Anywaa is called *ko'ny d'e'el*. This term has multiple socio-cultural and economic meanings for the Anywaa. It can be broadly defined as *be'e'to na aciel* (living together and helping one another)²².

The Majanger

Belonging to the Nilo-Saharan linguistic group, the Majanger live in Majanger Zone of Gambella Region. The Majanger also live in Gambella Zuria *Woreda* though they are numerically small. Shifting cultivation is still widely practiced among the Majanger in Gambella Zuria *Woreda*. They slash and burn the forest and cultivate it for two to three years then leave it for another forest site to do the same. What is important is that this mechanism does not affect the forest as they slash only the leaves of the wood that the forest regenerates itself within short time after they leave cultivation of that forestland. Other livelihood activities include beekeeping,

²¹ Elly, Wamari (2006) "Anyuak People of South Sudan "A Brief Moment with the King, Adongo Agada Akway Cham." <http://www.dannychesnut.com/Africa/Anyuak.htm>.

²² This information is obtained through discussion with the different groups of the Anuak people during community consultations.

especially wild bee in the forest, and hunting and gathering, with their lifestyle highly attached to the forest and forest products.

The Majanger have no political leaders, the only individuals of any authority being ritual leaders whose influence is restricted. Domestic groups tend to farm plots adjacent to those of friends or kin, but the settlements remain small and constantly change in composition (as well as in location). In resource management and land use, the Majanger have an indigenous institution called *Jung*. They also have a traditional forestland-related dispute settlement mechanisms, which they call *Guten* and it comprises elders and religious leaders²³.

Discussion with male and female community members reveal that the *Majanger* have an indigenous based self-help association called *Kokony*. As per this institution, ‘the poor can be helped as he/she has the rights to use the resources of the rich.’ There is no strong concept of private ownership among the Majanger. The same resource can be used by multiple users. Thus, bundle of rights concept of property rights do work for the Majanger. What governs the social and economic relationships of the Majanger is sharing and reciprocity.

Itang Special Woreda

Since Itang is not part of any Zone in Gambella Region, it is named as a special *woreda*, an administrative subdivision which is similar to an autonomous area. It is also structured as special *woreda* because the two dominant ethnic groups, Nuer and Anuak, concurrently take over the administration of the *woreda*. Itang Special *Woreda* is bounded by the Anuak Zone in the south and southeast, the Nuer Zone in the west, South Sudan in the northwest, and Oromia Region in the north.

According to the information from the *Woreda* Agriculture Office, the current total population of Itang is estimated to be 40,563 (male 21,316, female 19,247 female). The number of households in the *Woreda* is 7,657, 5,683 male-headed, 1,992 female-headed. The average altitude of the *woreda* is 424 meter above sea level. 100% of the *woreda* is categorized under *kolla* climatic zone. The *Woreda*’s temperature ranges from 27°C to 40°C, and the annual average rainfall in range of 900 mm and 1200 mm. In terms of land use, the total cultivable land is about 18,000 hectares, and 5, 500 hectares of land is covered by forest.

According to the 2007 census, the main ethnic groups in the *Woreda* are the Nuer (63.96%), Anuak (25.17%), and all other ethnic groups (10.85%). Languages spoken in this *Woreda* include Nuer (68.72%), Anuak (25.75%), and Opo (2.66%). The religion with the largest number of believers is Protestant (81.63%), while other groups with sizable followings are traditional beliefs (7.54%), Orthodox Christian 6.27%, and Roman Catholic 2.62%.

The Nuer

²³Stauder, Jack. 1972. ‘Anarchy and Ecology: Political Society among the Majanger.’ *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology* 28(2): 153-168.

The Nuer, who speak a Nilo-Saharan language, are largely pastoral, though they grow more millet and maize than is commonly supposed. They are mostly found in Akobo, Jikawo and parts of Itang *woredas*. Cattle are life for the Nuer as their economic, social and ritual activities mostly involve cattle. Cattle are also the main source of conflict and symbols of conflict resolution among the Nuer and between the Nuer and others such as the Anuak. Compensation of homicide case is made through transferring numerous numbers of cattle (50-100 depending on the nature of the killing) from the slayer party to the slain.

The Nuer living pattern changes according to the seasons of the year. As the rivers flood, the people have to move farther back onto highlands, where the women cultivate millet and maize while the men herd the cattle nearby. In the dry season, they take the cattle herds closer to the receding rivers. Marriages must be outside one's own clan and are made legal by the payment of cattle by the man's clan to the woman's clan, shared among various persons in the clan. Women are marginalized group among the Nuer.

The Nuer and Opo have intimate relationships, and the social and physical boundary between the two is not strong. That is, they could both use the same pastureland at the same time or at different times but less conflict. They could intermarry with each other. However, the relationships between the Nuer and the agriculturalist Anuak have always been worse. The main source of conflict between the two is competition over land and cattle raiding.

Discussion with male and female community members reveals that the Nuer have indigenous institution called *Lowok* through which they help one another and the outsiders. *Lowok* is an indigenous based Nuer self-help institution by which the poor, elderly people, women, orphans and helpless strangers are helped. *Lowok*. That is, those households that are relatively economically better take the poor and the 'weak' category of people to their home and give treatment for them. Thus, this indigenous cultural asset can be exploited by AGP as a best practice/opportunity to for the proper implementation of the program.

Benishangul-Gumz Region

The Benishangul-Gumz region has the total area of 50,380 km². The region has 20 *woredas* and 1 city administration, and according to the 2007 census, the total population of the region is 784,345 (male 398,655, female 385,690). 93.22% of the population inhabit the rural area. The region is endowed with rich natural resources, which include fertile land, water, forest, minerals, and fish. Abay River and most of its major tributaries flow across the region that can be used for irrigation. Temperature in the region is generally suitable for crop production, but agricultural production remains below subsistence level due mainly to lack of human resource and infrastructure²⁴.

Mandura Woreda

²⁴ Bulletin for the 9th Ethiopian Nation, Nationality and People: 'Our Region', 2014.

Part of the Metekel Zone, Mandura *Woreda* is located 547 kms west of Addis Ababa. It is bounded by Dangur in the north and northwest, Pawe Special *Woreda* in the northeast, Amhara Region in the east, Dibate in the south, and Bulen in the southwest. The administrative center of the *Woreda* is Gilgal Beles, which is also the capital of the Metekel Zone.

Of the total land area of 1,003.76 km,² 4,323 hectares is cultivated, 22,000 forestland, 1,200 pasture land, 16,000 land that cannot be cultivated, and 10,369 land that can be cultivated. The soil type includes brown (60%), black (10%) and red (30%)²⁵. As per the 2007 census, the total population of the *Woreda* is 50,112 (male 26,522, female 23,590). The number of male-headed households is estimated to be 8,282, whereas female-headed households are 2,248. The climate of the *woreda* is generally *kolla*, and its annual temperature ranges from 18⁰c to 35⁰c. The annual rainfall of the *Woreda* is in the range of 1,200 mm to 1,400 mm.

The Gumz

Metekel is one of the three administrative Zones of Benishangul-Gumz Regional State, located in Western Ethiopia. The other two administrative Zones are Kamashi and Assosa. Metekel Zone comprises six *woredas*: Bulen, Dangur, Wombera, Dibate, Guba, and Mandura.

Originally, most of Metekel and the current Mandura *Woreda* was occupied by the Gumz people, a cultural group that belongs to the Nilo-Saharan language family. The Gumz people practice shifting cultivation with the use of hoes as means of production. A single family often has a number of fields, sometimes at considerable distance from its living quarters. Shifting cultivation (also called slash-and-burn agriculture or horticulture) is a system of production common in tropical forest environments and savannas, where clearing the land requires extensive labor. In order to clear a plot of land for planting, the Gumz cut down or slash bamboo trees and bushes beginning in November and then burn them immediately before the rainy season begins in April. The Gumz grow a variety of crops such as cereals, oil seeds, legumes, and root crops. The most commonly grown cereals include finger millet, sorghum and maize. Finger millet and sorghum are staple crops. Sesame and niger seed are oil seeds often used as cash crops. Depending on the type of soil, plots are cultivated for a few years (often 3-4) and then allowed to lie fallow for several years (often 5-7 years) for the restoration of soil fertility. During this period, the Gumz move to other places to practice shifting cultivation there. In times of food shortage, the Gumz resort to the more ancient practices of hunting, fishing, and gathering. They also engage in honey collection (apiculture).

The land tenure system of the Gumz has been a 'controlled access' system, combining individual possession with communal ownership. Members of the society enjoy equal access to communally owned land, such as cultivable virgin lands, forested areas, grazing and/or browsing land, and riverbanks as a matter of right. Thus, according to tradition, these resources are owned by the Gumz society in general. Gumz settlements are comprised of dwellings clustered together,

²⁵ *Bulletin for the 9th Ethiopian Nation, Nationality and People: 'Our Region', 2014.*

with pastureland outlying the clustered villages and farmland situated away from residences. In most cases, settlements are compact and the number of households may range from 20 to 100. The nuclear family, consisting of married couples and their children, constitutes the basic unit of Gumz society.

Discussion with male and female Gumz community members shows that there exist various social institutions that function to alleviate the problem of the Gumuz. Conflict among the Gumuz clans and with other ethnic groups is common. They handle it through an institution of conflict resolution called *Tomba*. *Michu* institution is also used to solve conflict between the Gumuz and the highlanders. Sharing and reciprocity lead the social and economic relations of the Gumuz. This culture of sharing and helping each other is called *mab'andt'sa*.

Wombera Woreda

Wombera Woreda is bounded by Bulan in the east, Sadal and Sharkole in the west, Yasona and Agalometi in the south, Guba and Dangur in the north. The administrative seat of the Woreda is Debrezeit. Wombera Woreda has 33 *kebeles*, and the total area is 736,425 hectares (49,512.5 hectares cultivated, 175,465.25 uncultivated, 125,192.25 forest, 195,152.63 bush and forest, and 106,781.63 grazing land²⁶. Geographically, the woreda is characterized by plain and some mountainous areas, and its altitude ranges from 1,900 to 2,380 meter above sea level. The agro-climatic condition of the woreda is *daga* (14.3%), *woinadega* (35.7%) and *kolla* (50%). The annual rainfall and temperature range from 900 mm to 1,400 mm and 20°C to 35°C respectively²⁷. The 2007 census indicates that the total population of the Woreda is 76,006 (male 37,015, female 38,991). The information obtained from the Regional Agriculture Bureau shows the number of male-headed households to be 10,698, whereas female-headed household are 474.

The major livelihood of the people of the Woreda depends on agriculture. The Woreda has vast and virgin tracts of land which is suitable for agriculture. There are also several year round flowing rivers such as Bales, Nagar, Dura, Shar and Tishina in Woreda. These rivers have high potential for irrigation and can also be used for fishery. Crops and fruits types that can be produced in the woreda include coffee, sesame, Nueg, chickpea, soybeans, sorghum, millets, maize, barely, wheat, beans, pea, *teff*, and potato²⁸.

The Amhara, Agaw and Oromo who are said to be late comers inhabit the highland parts of the Woreda, and they are called by a generic name 'highlanders'. The Gumz occupy the lowland parts of the Woreda. The Shinasha, who live both in the lowlands and highlands, are the second dominant group in the Woreda.

²⁶ *Bulletin for the 9th Ethiopian Nation, Nationality and People: 'Our Region'*, 2014. The data on the area of land coverage was obtained from the Woreda Agricultural Office.

²⁷ *Bulletin for the 9th Ethiopian Nation, Nationality and People: 'Our Region'*, 2014

²⁸ *Bulletin for the 9th Ethiopian Nation, Nationality and People: 'Our Region'*, 2014.

The Shinasha

The Shinasha are Omotic language speaking group who are living in Metekel Administrative Zone of Benishangul-Gumuz region. They are part of the Gonga population, which in earlier years used to live on both sides of the Abay River. Historically, pressure from the Christian kingdom and the Oromo expansion forced many Shinasha of the current administrative zones of Gojjam and Wollega to move to the lowland parts of Metekel in general and Wombera in particular.

The Shinasha have been called by different names of Boro, Dangabo, Sinicho and Gonga. Shinasha is their widely known name mainly by outsiders, and it is a non-derogatory Amharic designation. Nevertheless, the people prefer to call themselves Baro, which is a recent usage. They have their own cultural identity and language called *Borenona'a*. The *Borenona'a* is widely spoken by those Shinasha who inhabit the lowland part and those who have less interaction with others. In Wombera, since there are strong historical relations and cultural adaptations with the Oromo, they practice the *gada* system²⁹ and mostly speak Afan Oromo language. They have also adopted many cultural traits from both the Amhara and the Agaw. They intermarry with others, mainly with the Oromo and the Amhara.

The main economic activity of the Shinasha is agriculture. They produce crops like sorghum, millet, corn, pumpkins, and cotton. In addition, they rear various animals (cattle, sheep and goats) to satisfy their food requirements and for market purpose. A small number of the Shinasha supplement their diet by hunting wild animals and gathering fruits and roots. They overcome hardship by consuming root crops such as *godarre*, *anchote* and *dinicha*, which are deliberately left to stay in the soil even after their maturation time to be used in times of depletion of cereal crops at home.

The Shinasha have indigenous land and resource based dispute handling institution called *Nemo*, which has four hierarchical structures. The lowest level is *Bura* at which minor cases are handled by one elder. The next is *Nemma*, two elders deal with new cases or appeal cases from *Bura*. The third is *Terra/Tsera*, a setting chaired by three elders dealing particularly appeal cases from other lower levels of the *Nemo*. The last which has the highest authority in *Nemo* judicial structure is *Falla*. Appeal cases from the lower three levels of *Nemo* serious cases such as homicide are dealt with at *Falla* to get final solution.³⁰

²⁹ Gada is largely a generation-based traditional system of local governance among many Oromo groups in Ethiopia where people recruited into the system assume different politico-jural, ritual and religious powers for a specified period of time they officiate. On top of this, Gada is also an embodiment of elaborate institutional arrangements capable of resource management as well as land and water control (Asmarom, 1973; Baxter, 1978; and Helland, 1980).

³⁰ Bayisa Besie and Lemessa Demie (2008) "Customary Dispute Resolution in Beni-Shangul Gumuz: The Case of Shinasha Society" In Alula Pankhurst and Getachew Assefa (eds.), *Grass-Roots Justice in Ethiopia: The Contribution of Customary Dispute Resolution*. Addis Ababa: French Center of Ethiopian Studies, 123-132.

Oromia: Oromia is the largest region with a total land area of approximately 353,000 km² extending from western to eastern and southern borders of the country. The region is bounded by all regional states except Tigray. It also shares common borders with neighboring countries, Sudan and Kenya. Administratively, Oromia is divided into twenty zones, and with an estimated 27.2 million people, it accounts for the largest part of the country's population.

The region is known for its production of coffee, wheat, barely, *teff*, sorghum and oil seeds. The average land holding per household in the rural areas is 1.14 hectares, compared to the national average of 1.01 hectares. 24% of the population is engaged in non-farm activities (compared to the national average of 25%). The region contributes to the production of coffee and livestock. AGP-II will be implemented in 62 of the 254 *woredas* in the region³¹.

Munessa Woreda

Munessa *Woreda* is located 232 kms south of Addis Ababa. The *Woreda*, whose administrative center is Kersa, is bounded by following: Zeway Dugda and Tiyo in the north, Digalu Tiyo in northwest, Limu Bilbilo in the east, Gedeb Asasa in southeast, and Arsi Zone in west and southwest. There are three agro-climatic zones in the *Woreda*: highland (54%), midland (43%), and lowland (3%). The average annual rainfall ranges from 900 mm to 1,200 mm, and the average annual temperature from 10⁰c and 20⁰c³².

According to the 2007 census, the *Woreda* has 166,539 population (male 82,559, female 83,980). The *Woreda* is inhabited by different ethnic groups, the Oromo being the dominant (90%). The remaining 10% is shared between the Amhara and Gurage ethnic groups, with few presences of other ethnic groups³³. The majority of the population are farmers engaged in the production of different crops: wheat, barely, maize, faba bean, field pea, and linseeds, the *Woreda* being known particularly for wheat. According to the *Woreda* Agriculture Office, Munessa has a potential of 1,200 hectare of irrigable land, only 200 hectare currently under irrigation by traditional means.

Liban Chuqaala Woreda

Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*, one of the ten *woredas* in East Shoa Zone, is located in the Great East African Rift Valley, 80 kms southeast of Addis Ababa. Adulala is the administrative center of Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*. Based on the 2007 census, the *Woreda*'s population is projected to be 90,637 (male 47,192, female 43,445). The number rural inhabitants (87,159) account for 96.3%, and the urban population (3,478) accounts for 3.7%. It has 18 rural administrative *Gandaas* (lit. small administrative units next to district) and two urban *Gandaas*. Each *Gandaa* has farmers

³¹ www.ethiopia.gov.et/stateoromia.

³² Munessa Agricultural and Rural Development Office. 2006. "Socio-Economic Profile of Munessa District". Unpublished.

³³ Munessa Agricultural and Rural Development Office. 2006.

training centers (FTC), which could help to duplicate improved seeds and give training to the farmers³⁴.

The average annual rainfall varies from 450 mm and 1,600 mm, and the crops grown are *teff*, wheat, barely, maize, sorghum, pulses (horse bean, chick pea, haricot bean, lentils), and oil seeds. The main constraints of agricultural production in the *Woreda* are natural resource degradation, erosion, poor natural resources conservation practice, overgrazing, weed and pests, low infrastructure development (road, market sites and storage), and minimum use of inputs.

Welmera Woreda

Welmera *Woreda* is located in Oromia Special Zone 34 kms east of Addis Ababa. Holeta, the administrative center of the *Woreda*, lies along the main highway to Ambo. The national forest of Menagesha, which covers 2,500 hectares, is found in this *Woreda*. The total population in *Woreda* is 83,823, (male 42,115, female 41,708) according to the 2007 census. The main ethnic groups in the district are Oromo, Amhara and Gurage. Of these, the Oromo ethnic group accounts around 75% of the total population, and the remaining groups including Amhara and Gurage account 25%³⁵.

There are two main agro-climatic zones in the *Woreda*, temperate (*baddaa*) 41%, and sub-tropical (*badadarree*) 59%. The mean annual rainfall of the *Woreda* is 1,028 mm, the high amount of rainfall received from June to September. The mean annual temperature of the *Woreda* is 14.3⁰c, with an altitude in the range 2,060 to 3,380 meters above sea level. Mixed economic activities (agricultural and livestock production) are carried out in the *Woreda*. Because of the geographic proximity of the *Woreda* to the national capital, particularly livestock raisers benefit from the sale of dairy products to suppliers, who collect and distribute the product to consumer groups in the city.

Chora Woreda

Chora *Woreda*, located in Illubabor Zone of Oromia, is bounded by Jimma Zone in the south, Yayu in the west, Supena Sodo in the northwest, Dega in the north, and Bedelle in the east. It lies at 516 kms west of Addis Ababa. Ecologically, the *woreda* is characterized by highland (3.4%), mid-altitude (95%), and lowland (1.5%). Coffee is an important cash crop in the *Woreda*.

According to projections based on the 2007 census, the *Woreda's* population is estimated at 117,896 (male 58,027, female 59,869), and 107,338 rural inhabitants, and 10,558 urban. The total number of households is 17,873, male-headed 15,823, female-headed 2,030. In order of

³⁴ Liben Chuqaala Agricultural and Rural Development Office. 2006. *Socio-Economic Profile Liben Chuqaala District*. Unpublished.

³⁵ Welmera Agricultural and Rural Development Office. 2007. *Socio-Economic Profile of Welmera District*. Unpublished

their numerical strength, the major ethnic group in the *Woreda* is Oromo (86.74%), Amhara (10.52%) and the Tigray (1.87%). Islam is the dominant religion in the *Woreda* followed by Orthodox Christianity. Protestantism is currently on the rise in the *Woreda*, while traditional religions also continue to be practiced.

Tigray: With a land area of 53,000 km² and consisting of 6 administrative zones and 35 *woredas*, Tigray shares common borders with Eritrea in the north, Afar and Amhara in the east and in the south, and Sudan in the west. The 2007 census indicates the population of Tigray Region to be 4.3 million. The regional average landholding is estimated to be 0.5 ha/household. Farm yields are generally lower in the middle highlands because of lower soil fertility and rainfall. The staple crops in western lowlands of Tigray are sorghum, maize, *teff*, barley and wheat. Tigray is home to typical Ethiopia's grain species, notably different varieties of wheat and barley adapted to shorter or longer rainy seasons. AGP-II will be implemented in 13 of the region's *woredas*

Tahtay Adiabo Woreda

According to the information obtained from the *Woreda* Plan and Finance Office, Tahtay Adiabo is located in the northwest of Tigray. It has a total surface area of 210,825 hectares, 93,888.5 of it cultivated. The *Woreda* is bordered by Eritrea in north, Lelay Adiyabo in the east, Welkait and Kafta Humera in the west, and Asgede Tsimbila *Woreda* in the south. The administrative center of the *Woreda* is Shiraro. With an altitude of 1,040 meters above sea level, the *Woreda* has an average annual rainfall ranging from 400 to 500 mm. The annual average temperature ranges from 38⁰c to 40⁰c.

The projections based on the 2007 census indicate that the *Woreda* has a population of 110,750 (male 56,208, female 54,544). The total number of households in the *Woreda* is 24, 553, male-headed 12,486 and female-headed 12,067. The Tigre are the dominant ethnic group in the *Woreda*, the Kunama and Saho being minorities. Agriculture and livestock raising constitute the major economic activities in the *Woreda*. The main consumption crops grown are sorghum, maize and millet. Sesame is the main cash crop cultivated for export market. The *Woredas*'s economic advantages are low population density, arable lowlands, fertile soils and reliable rainfall patterns.

Kafta Humera Woreda

Kafta Humera is another *woreda* found in the northwestern of Tigray. The *Woreda* shares borders with Tsegede in the south, Sudan in the west, Semen Mi'irabawi Zone in the east, and Wolkait in southwest. In the north, Tekezé River separates the *Woreda* from Eritrea. The total surface area coverage of the *Woreda* is 717,652 hectares (388,880 hectare cultivated, 240,000 forestland, 36,800 pastureland, and 23,830 fallow. The agro-ecology of the *Woreda* is characterized by 78% *kolla*, 18 % *woyena dega*, and 4% *bereha*. Temperature rise to an average

of 42⁰c between April and June, and falls to 25⁰c to 35⁰c between June and February. Average rainfall ranges between 400 to 650 mm per year, which last from June to September³⁶.

The population of the *Woreda* is 115,580 (male 60,226, female 55,354), according to the projections made on the basis of the 2007 census. Households number 29,324, male-headed 19,576 and female-headed 9,748. The Kunama and Irob ethnic minorities live in the *Woreda* who were resettled there in 1996.

The growing of crops mainly sesame and sorghum, together with livestock keeping constitutes the main economic activities in the *Woreda*. But sesame as cash crop is the mainstay of the *Woreda's* economy, the area being designated the Humera Sesame and Sorghum livelihood Zone. The Zone extends from Kafta Humera, Tsegedie, to Welkait *woredas* in Western Tigray.

Amhara: The Amhara region, according the 2007 census, has a population of 17.2 million, 88% living in rural areas. Amhara region covers a total area of 154,000 km². The average plot size is 0.3 ha/household. AGP-II is going to be implemented in 41 *woredas* of the region.

Cereals, pulses, and oilseeds are the major crops grown in the region. Principal types of crops cultivated include *teff*, barley, wheat, maize, sorghum and millet. Pulses include horse beans, field peas, haricot beans, chickpeas and lentils. The region also accounts for a significant livestock resources.

Most of the region is on a highland plateau and characterized by rugged mountains, hills, valleys and gorges. Hence, the region has varied landscapes composed of steep fault escarpments and adjoining lowland plains in the east, nearly flat plateaus and mountains in the center, and eroded landforms in the north. Most of the western part is a flat plain extending to the Sudan lowlands. The high population growth rate of the region has resulted in fast declining land/man ratio, fragmentation of land and rapid natural resource degradation.

Guangua Woreda

Guangua is a *woreda* in Amhara region that lies at 179 kms from Bahir Dar, the regional capital. Guangua is part of the Agew Awi Zone, sharing borders with Ankasha and Zigäm *woredas* in the south, Ankasha and Banja in the east, Dibaté and Zigäm *woredas* and Benishangul-Gumz Region in the west, and Dangila, Mandura, and Faggeta *woredas* in the north. In the west, the *Woreda* also shares border with the Dura River, a tributary of Abay. Chagni is the administrative seat of the *Woreda*. The *Woreda* has a total surface are of 106,914 hectares.

According to the data from the *Woreda* Office of Agriculture and Rural Developement, the highest, medium, and lowest altitude in the *Woreda* are 1,710, 1,655 and 1,600 meters above sea level. The topography constitutes 28% undulating, 60% plain, and 12% gorge and valley. Of the

³⁶ Based on the information obtained from the *Woreda* Plan and Finance Office.

total land area, 31,481.5 hectares are cultivated, 20,956 grazing land, 11,683 forestland, 36,488.7 bush land, and 5,838.8 uncultivable. The average annual temperature ranges from 22⁰c to 27⁰c, and the average annual rainfall varies from 1,300 to 1,800 mm.

According to the 2007 census, Guangua *Woreda* has a total population of 223,066 (male 111,172, female 111,894). A total number 47,759 households were counted in the *Woreda*, the average household size being 4.67. The three dominant ethnic groups in the *Woreda* are the Awi (62.02%), Amhara (31.93%), and the Gumz (4.55%). Awngi is the major language spoken in the *Woreda* (61.33%), followed by Amharic (32.83) and Gumz (4.55%). The majority of the people (81.81%) are Orthodox Christians, 14.59% Muslim, and 1.64% practicing traditional beliefs.

Womberma *Woreda*

Womberma *Woreda* is one of the eleven *woredas* in West Gojjam Zone, Shendi being its administrative center. Divided into nineteen rural *kebeles* and one town *kebele*, the *Woreda* lies at 173 kms from the regional capital, Bahir Dar. Womberma is bounded by Bure *woreda* in the east, Awi Zone in the west and north, and Oromia region in the south. The total land area of the *Woreda* covers 135,675 hectares, and is characterized by the agro-climatic conditions of 68% *woina dega* and 32% is *kolla*. Of the total area of land, 39,020 hectares (28.76%) is cultivated, 32,604.49 (24.03%) bush land, 29,605.7 (21.82%) forest land, and 16,847.79 (12.42%), grazing land, and 6,891 (5.08%) fallow. The topography of the area is characterized by flatlands (75%) and undulating (25%). The average annual temperature is 20⁰c, with annual rainfall in the range of 1,100 to 1,430 mm³⁷.

The 2007 census shows that the *Woreda* has a population of 112,082 (male 56,775, female 55,307), with the size of rural population 98,435, and urban inhabitants 13,647. Of the total number of households, 13, 870 are male-headed and 5,308 female-headed. Agriculture is the main economic activity, the chief crops grown being maize, wheat, pepper and *teff*. Livestock raising and bee keepings are engaged in as supplementary activities.

Basona Werana *Woreda*

Basona Werana is one of the *woredas* in the North Shoa Zone of the Amhara National Regional State, located on the highlands of the western edge of the Great East African Rift Valley. Basona Werana is bounded by Angolalla Tera in the south, Oromia Regional State in southwest, Siyadeberena Wayu in the west, Moretena Jiru in the northwest, Mojaena Wadera in the north, Tarmaber in the northeast, and Ankober in the east. The *Woreda* is located at 130 kms north of Addis Ababa. The administrative seat of the *Woreda* is Debre Berehan, which is also the capital

³⁷ Based on the data from the *Woreda* Finance and Plan Department.

of the Northern Shoa Zone³⁸. According to the 2007 census, the total population is 134,600 (male 68,910, female 65,689), 98% eking out their livelihood on agriculture.

The topography is characterized by plains (70%), mountains (7%), and valleys and cliffs. Of the total land area of 42,081.51 hectares, 42,828 is agricultural land, 12,203 forestland, 26,867 grazing land, and 18,544 used for other purposes. The *Woreda* has three agro-climatic zones: *dega* (50%), *woina dega* (48%), and *wurch* (2%). The mean annual rainfall is 960 mm. The main crops growing in the *Woreda* are barely, *teff*, wheat, horse bean, chickpea, and maize. Also grown are oil seeds, pulses and vegetables. It is reported that good quality feeder roads that connect the *kebeles* to the Zone capital, Debre Berehan, facilitate the transportation of agricultural produce to the market, enabling the farming population to benefit from the sale of their farm yields.

5.3. Community Consultation and Involvement

Community understanding and appreciation of the benefits that would be obtained from AGP-II, and the commitment shown to be part of the process is key to the success of the program. In this regard, consulting target community groups about the program before it is launched is vital to create community awareness concerning the intervention, identify their concerns, and secure their acceptance, trust and support. The sense of community ownership and responsibility that comes with such informed involvement is crucial to proactive local engagement in collectively responding to the problems encountered in the course of program implementation. Community consultations also enable the local population to prioritize their felt needs and concerns related to the practice of agriculture, facilitating their participation in the planning and monitoring of specific tasks.

The public participation process adopted to prepare this project started before this Social Assessment and it involved identifying and working with all potentially affected individuals or group of persons in the participating regions. This initial consultation process was driven by the project implementing officials, at the *woreda* level that participated in the AGP-II and was aimed at promoting community ownership of the project and enhancing sustainability. That phase of consultation involved galvanizing the participation and support of community members towards the program, and the use of an intervention approach known as community level participatory planning (CLPP). CLPP is premised on the rationale that AGP-II activities should be based on demands from farmers, their informal and formal groups, associations, cooperatives, community institutions, and other private sector beneficiaries. Thus, CLPP works on the principle that AGP-II should be a demand driven project, in which communities are involved as the main actors in the whole project cycle management. In particular, women and youths, including female and youth-headed households are encouraged to be the owners of the program, participating actively

³⁸Basona Werana Agricultural and Rural Development Office. 2006. *Socio-Economic Profile of Basona Werana District*. Unpublished.

in identifying problems, planning, implementing and monitoring the activities. The CLPP will be implemented on an annual basis throughout the lifetime of AGP-II.

At the community meetings, conducted during this Social Assessment, the consultant discussed the need for the project and the associated potential impacts to the community members within the project areas. The community members' concerns and general thoughts were solicited and noted. Overall, during the fieldwork/visits conducted for this report, it became clear that the community awareness about AGP-II and its components varies across participating *woredas*. Community groups in the rural *kebeles* of the selected AGP-II *woredas* in SNNP region (Semen Ari, Konta, Enmorena Ener, and Decha), informed the research team that they were consulted about AGP-II and its various components prior to the launch of its preparation. Thus, they stated that they were given explanations regarding the aims of the initiative, their roles, and their rights and obligations in relation to it. In a community consultation, members of women CIG said that discussions were held with them about the program by development agents (DAs) and professionals from the *Woreda* Agriculture office and cooperatives unit. The experts told the women that support will be provided to them to become organized under CIG to engage in horticultural and sheep fattening activities. In addition, explanations were given to them at different times on program objectives and the responsibilities expected of them in the management of the project.

According to the program coordinators of the abovementioned SNNPR *woredas*, the preparation for AGP-II is being undertaken in line with the principle of CLPP, through the introduction of the project to community groups, and by raising their knowledge and awareness concerning its objectives. Besides being informed about the support they would receive and the contributions they were expected to make, community groups were encouraged to participate actively in prioritizing their needs and proposing problem resolving strategies. First, training was given to selected community members drawn from the *kebeles* and sub-communities (*gox*) in the *woredas* on the program issues. These people, in turn, gave orientations to community groups, with professionals from the *woreda* agriculture offices on the content and components of the program.

Similarly, community members in the existing program *woredas* in Amhara and Tigray regions were given orientations about the essence of AGP-II and its new components. *Kebele* Development Committees (KDCs) in the respective *woredas* facilitated orientation sessions where community members discussed their particular agricultural development needs and priorities. The representatives of grassroots structures such as *Kebele* women affairs, youth affairs, water development, and cooperatives units as well as local elders were given trainings about the program. In turn, these shared the knowledge and awareness obtained from the trainings with community members down to sub-*kebele* or *got* levels.

Community consultations held with male and female farmers, young men and women, and unemployed youths in SA *woredas* of Amhara, Oromia, and SNNPR, and members of ethnic

minorities in Tigray expressed their knowledge that the program is agriculture focused and hence limited in scope. By this they meant that the program was not going to cover their other basic needs such as water and power supply, as they would have liked or expected. Community members were also informed about the composition of common interest groups (CIGs) in relation to sub-component 4.2 ‘Strengthening of Farmers Organizations’. Hence, they knew the focus was on creating means of income for landless youths, women, and school dropouts by organizing them under women and youth groups. However, some concerns were raised during consultation meetings in existing AGP *woredas* on the issue of transferring only a limited number of CIG members to IGs to benefit from the grant arrangements. It should be noted that at the Mid Term Review under AGP-I, it was agreed to end the distinction between CIGs and IGs for the remainder of AGP-I and for AGP-II, so this concern is not relevant. In connection with small-scale irrigation projects (Subcomponent 3.1: (Small-Scale Irrigation Infrastructure Development and Improvement), farmers expressed their hope that the schemes would help in increasing their crop production and productivity.

In particular, women in participating *woredas* of Oromia and SNNPR, and those belonging to minority groups in Tigray said that the irrigation projects would contribute to their economic empowerment in the form of increased income benefits. If the irrigation projects were to be implemented on communal/*kebele* lands, consultation participants mainly in SNNPR *woredas* expressed their awareness and expectations that priorities would be given to landless or poorest of the poor such as women and school dropouts, with per person allocation of up to 0.25 hectare. In the case of community investments (the construction of small-scale feeder roads, footbridges, roadside drainage, small-scale irrigation, and market centers), the expectation among consultation participants was that a minimum of 20 to 30 percent women participation would be ensured in the committees to be established such as irrigation water users associations/groups (IWUG/As), road maintenance committees, and market center management committees. Moreover, women expressed their expectations in regards to extensions service provided at farmer training centers (FTCs). They hoped that emphasis would be given to making them equal beneficiaries of the technology transfers, by tailoring the skill packages to their particular needs and demands. Thus, it was observed that community members had a high degree of understanding concerning what AGP-II had to offer them in the form of access to benefit and empowerment, as well as their rights and obligations associated with the program. On the consultation occasions, they expressed their readiness to participate in various program components when AGP-II was launched.

The field data shows that community consultations were held in the AGP-II *woredas* of Oromia. Accordingly, trainings were given about the program to local elders, ritual leaders, village (*genda*) heads and KDCs. This was done to use the influence and power of these community figures in mobilizing community support for the program, and securing local trust and consent. By so doing, it was thought that the community leaders would properly communicate the information to the grassroots communities, helping them understand their entitlements and

responsibilities so that they would develop sense of program ownership. From the field data, it appears that the trainings given at the levels of community leaders have not been cascaded to community members as planned.

According to the officials and experts of *woreda* agriculture offices of the newly selected four *woredas* in Benishangul-Gumz and Gambella, consultations were not held about AGP II with *woreda* authorities and grassroots communities. Besides, *woreda* authorities said that they were not informed about the selection of these *woredas* to be included in the program. Yet, there is the assumption that the concerned bodies are waiting until the finalization of the project design document and Project Implementation Manual and approval of the project before organizing community consultations and training events in the newly selected *woredas*. It may be that they did not want to raise community expectations about their inclusion in the project through premature promises, and they believed that once approval was secured, there would still be time for intensive community consultations and the conduct necessary trainings.

In conclusion, it may be said that the community consultations were inclusive and participatory in most of the Social Assessment *woredas*. Thus, community members have generally expressed consent, interest and commitment to embrace the program and become involved in the next phase of the intervention, actively supporting and contributing to its successful implementation. The overarching question raised and discussed during the various consultative meetings, include: “how to implement this project in these underserved areas/communities, while respecting both their culture, their land tenure system, and their livelihood activities. The most frequently raised comments, concerns, questions and suggestions raised by stakeholders during these various community meetings are summarized in the table below.

Table 3: Summary of Community Consultation Issues and Participants’ Comments

Queries / Observations / issues	Participants’ Opinions/Comments and how AGP-II will address the issue
Knowledge about the program	✧ Community members know that AGP II is designed to address agricultural-related problems.
Farmers sub-groups/CIGs and IGS	<p>✧ They understand that the aim of CIGs to bring about economic empowerment particularly for landless women and youths.</p> <p>✧ They have the concern that only a few of CIG members will benefit by being promoted to IG membership to have access to grant.</p> <p>Response: This concern expressed in respect of AGP-I is not relevant for AGP-II as all CIGs will have the opportunity to benefit from matching grants and technical support.</p>

Credit Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ They consider that the absence of a credit scheme in AGP-I and weak linkage with other credit establishments to be an intervention gap. ✧ They hope AGP-II to address this. <p>Response: AGP-II includes activities to support Rural Saving and Credit Cooperative and to link farmer groups to formal sources of credit.</p>
Small-scale irrigation schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Farmers in all existing <i>woredas</i> in general are optimistic that small-scale irrigation schemes will assist them to increase their crop production and means of income. ✧ Women in Oromia and SNNPR, and in the minority groups in Tigray also expressed that the schemes will be beneficial for their income growth and economic empowerment. ✧ In turn, the women say that increased income and empowerment will allow more time and freedom to take care of different responsibilities and role with reduced hardship and pressure.\ <p>Response: AGP-II will support small scale, micro-scale and household irrigation. Household irrigation in particular is expected to support women.</p>
Other Community Investment Projects (market centers and feeder roads)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Community members have the feeling and belief that feeder roads and footbridges will facilitate mobility and travel, reducing the opportunity cost required for the selling and buying of goods and produce at the local market. ✧ They add that the establishment of market centers is expected to contribute to increase in product quality and the profit from sale.
Community Seed Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Women organized under farmers groups believe that they will grow their sources of income and improve their living through the multiply and sale of the seeds supplied to them.
FTCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Farmers expect AGP II to be an opportunity for increased adoption of technology transfers through FTCs in the areas of natural resource conservation, crop production and animal husbandry. ✧ The hope of women in this respect is that in AGP-II technology transfers will be gender sensitive and tailored to their particular needs and circumstances.

	Response: technologies will be screened for gender impacts, and technologies will be purposively selected to address women's needs.
Information about AGP-II in the <i>woredas</i> of the new regions	<p>✧ Local people and grassroots administrations in these <i>woredas</i> are little informed about the details of AGP-II.</p> <p>✧ Upon introducing them to program components in general, they said that the <i>woredas</i> had a lot to offer to the success of program in the form of vast natural resource potential.</p> <p>Response: A Communication strategy will be adopted under AGP-II and an awareness campaign will inform local communities about the project.</p>

5.4. Involvement of Women in the Project

AGP-II will specifically aim to increase the participation of women and contribute to narrowing the productivity gap currently seen between men and women. The project will specifically target women farmers with tailor made innovations, activities and technical assistance, as an important productivity gap between female and male farmers remains in Ethiopia. As such, the scope of activities to support gender is diverse: gender capacity building of implementers, gender awareness, tailor made capacity building for women, gender quotas and target on specific investments and committees, specific investments dedicated to women, no-harm principle for identification of technologies, childcare for some trainings, etc. Gender is mainstreamed through all components of the program and AGP2 and includes pilot of gender innovations that will be evaluated by a rigorous gender impact evaluation to decide on their scaling up of the through the latter years.

Under AGP-I, the data collected on the participation of women in project activities show a mixed experience. In some of the communities visited during the fieldwork, women are beneficiaries and active participants in the ongoing AGP subprojects. Some of them are represented in *Kebele* Development Committee (KDC) and other *kebele* structures; and in others women are treated as a separate category for their participation in the CIGs. For instance, women in Enmorena Ener *Woreda* are the most active participants in the CIGs. However, the findings from the field visit indicate that more focus should be placed on how women can freely participate without undue pressure or discouragement from their husbands.

In the AGP *woredas* visited in Amhara Region, women are encouraged to organize themselves, discuss and come up with innovative project proposals/ideas to benefit from AGP. Women have their own development associations (*yelimatbuden*) and the leaders of these associations get capacity building trainings on different occasions. Their participation in other program activities

like fattening, poultry, milk production, water and soil conservation is good. However, there is a challenge that women are reluctant to participate in irrigation because activities related to irrigation require intensive labor input for routine follow up and irrigation maintenance. Even though under AGP-I, women are meant to form 30 percent of the beneficiaries, in practice their participation in irrigation development is low. Distance of the irrigation site and prior possession of land in the area are some other challenges which limit the participation of women [and female-headed households] in irrigation projects. Under AGP-II, greater attention will be given to household irrigation, from which women can more easily benefit.

AGP's program activities under various components are sometimes perceived as packages and leave little option for the beneficiary communities to think of alternative business activities. It is, therefore, important to make it open for the community to identify a business proposal that best fits the peculiar circumstances of the area and the women beneficiaries as long as it is within the broader framework of agricultural growth. In Guangua *Woreda*, for instance, women complained that their request to organize their CIG in cotton spinning was rejected because it was not related to 'agriculture'. Under AGP-II, this would be addressed by increasing the capacity of community workers to improve the level and extent of support to groups in developing business plans. A Capacity Development Support Facility will be financed to underpin a stronger approach to capacity building.

There are female-headed households who do not have their own land. Most of the time, following the death of their husbands, women are under pressure from their deceased husband's relatives over land inheritance and are often dislocated from their land. The lengthy legal procedures usually discourage women from going to formal legal institutions in the event of litigation over land inheritance. Men usually take the advantage of their familiarity with the land administration rules and policies, and using different mechanisms, register the land of their deceased relatives in their names.

When encouraged to form their own CIGs, in some of the visited *woredas* like Guangua, women usually prefer to engage in those activities traditionally perceived as the domain of women. They even do not want to participate in fattening and beekeeping activities. In the *woreda*, women mostly prefer to engage in traditional cotton spinning (*ṭifātel*) and local alcoholic drink like *Araké* distillation. On the other hand, the AGP project does not support off-farm activities such as cotton spinning and local drinks preparation.

Women experience difficulties in balancing participation in CIG/IG activities and their other household responsibilities. It goes without saying that in a rural setting of agro- and agro-pastoral communities of Ethiopia, women do almost all activities in the household. It is also true that AGP-I supports women to enhance their participation in improved agricultural productivity, with ultimate aim of empowering women and thereby contribute their share in the overall development of the country. Accordingly, therefore, women have benefitted a lot from AGP by organizing themselves in CIGs and IGs and getting access to training opportunities, capital and

skill on various new areas of economic activities (beekeeping, poultry farming, dairy farming, etc). As data from this study also demonstrate, women are facing difficulties balancing their role in the household and their expected time and labor input in the CIG/IG activities. This is manifested in women refraining from participation in irrigation schemes (which require intensive labor input from all members), growing misunderstanding between husbands and wives when women stay longer outside of the home environment while participating in CIG/IG activities, etc. In spite of all its potential benefits, AGP exposes to additional work burden outside of their home. Simply, this adds one more variable to exacerbate the time poverty problem of rural women. Under AGP-II, all technologies would be screened for their impact on women, and technologies would be purposively selected for women to address their needs.

Chora *Woreda* AGP Focal Person said there are women members of the sub-*kebele* and *kebele* development committees. They have role in following up the processes. However, there are cultural constraints that limit equal participation of women. For instance, in Abba Boora *Kebele* young women are not included in youth group because, according to the Focal Person, ‘among the Muslims women are not allowed to organize themselves and work together with their men counterparts.’ In this case, religion constrained young women’s participation in CIGs along their male counterparts to become program beneficiaries.

Data obtained from AGP *woredas* visited in Oromia show that CIGs/IGs composed of women only members are facing difficulties in getting things done at both the *kebele* and *woreda* levels to either get plots of land for their selected program activity (e.g., beekeeping, fattening) or to get registered with the relevant *woreda* offices for licensing (e.g., Liban Cuqaallaa *Woreda*). In the events such as these, they need the support of development agents and other experts, which, unfortunately, is in short supply.³⁹

Some women are also left out when they organize themselves in groups. This is the case in Welmera *Woreda* where the main criteria for participation in the AGP programs are ownership of land and money either in their local saving institutions or in bank to get support from the AGP. This has deterred women from getting organized in the CIGs/IGs to benefit from the AGP support.

5.5. Land Tenure system

In developing countries including in Ethiopia, land remains a primary means of production used to eke out livelihoods, build assets, and transfer wealth to future generations for the farming population. As a result, in such societies land is not a purely economic issue, but it is closely intertwined with peoples’ culture and identity. In part, this explains why land issues stimulate intense emotional reactions for rural people engaged in the pursuit of different land-based livelihoods. Consequently, the size of landholding, the sense of security attached to it, and the

³⁹ The *kebele* Manager was in attendance of the discussion the SA team had with the community members and the *woreda* focal person is aware of the situation and promised to support the *kebele* administration to solve the problem.

process of land dispute adjudication all affect peoples' household income, their desire to work on the land sustainably, and in the end their socioeconomic status in the community. Accordingly, the land tenure agenda in the context of such countries should be considered a crucial element of national development policies requiring governments to give it the attention it deserves in the interest of rapid economic growth and the success of poverty alleviation interventions⁴⁰.

The case is no different with successive governments in Ethiopia. In this respect, the land reform proclamation of March 1975, brought into force by the then socialist regime of the country, was the most radical measure ever taken. Besides abolishing landlordism and tenancy among other land-based forms of subordination, the proclamation ended the legal manifestations of customary and formal land ownership rights. The power to own land has since been vested in the government, leaving peasant farmers, pastoralists/agro-pastoralists, and other land users only with usufruct right. With the change of government in 1991, public ownership of land has continued to be a dominant State policy issue, occupying a central place in the constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE). The outstanding legal frameworks pertaining to land tenure comprise the FDRE constitution of 1995, and the Federal Rural Land Administration Proclamation 89/1997, repealed and replaced by the Federal Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005. Based on these land laws, regional states have enacted, or are in the process of enacting land legislations tailored to their respective regional circumstances.

In Article 40 of the constitution, where the provisions for property rights are made, it is stipulated: "The right to ownership of rural land and urban land, as well as of all natural resources is exclusively vested in the State and in the peoples of Ethiopia. Land is a common property of the Nations, Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia and shall not be subject to sale or to other means of exchange" (Sub. Art. 3). Sub Art. 4 states "Ethiopian peasants have the right to obtain land without payment and the protection against eviction from their possession." Sub Art. 5 says: "Ethiopian pastoralists have the right to free land for grazing and cultivation as well as the right not to be displaced from their lands. Another important provision about land rights of people vis-à-vis the government (Sub Art. 6) adds: "Without prejudice to the right of Ethiopian Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples to ownership of land, government shall ensure the right of private investors to the use of land on the basis of payment arrangements established by law".

Under Art. 51 Sub. Art. 5, the constitution further stipulates that the Federal Government shall enact laws for the utilization and conservation of land and other natural resources. A further provision under Art. 52, Sub Art. 2(d) says that Regional Governments have the duty to administer land and other natural resources according to Federal laws.

Despite these generally binding sets of land laws, customary land tenure systems have continued to exist to this day in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas and in shifting cultivation communities. In

⁴⁰ Ethiopian Economic Association/Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute (EEA/EEPRI) (2002). A Research Report on "Land Tenure and Agricultural Development in Ethiopia".

fact, the concerned regional states (Oromia, SNNPR, Afar, and Somali) have gone to the extent of providing legal recognition to these customary communal land tenure arrangements.

In the shifting cultivation communities of Benishangul-Gumz and Gambella regions, the traditional land tenure/use arrangements have been a ‘controlled access’ system, combining individual possession with communal ownership. Thus, members of society enjoy equal access as a matter of right to communally owned land such as cultivable virgin lands, forested areas, grazing/browsing lands, and river banks. All lands under cultivation and all plots temporarily left fallow are controlled by the lineage that clears the land for the first time. Households within the lineage independently cultivate lands they have managed to clear, and enjoy possessory rights over those plots. Customary laws guarantee the rights of individuals and households to clear new sites and pass on these sites to descendants as long as they live within the domains of the lineage⁴¹.

Since 2003, the Federal Government has embarked on a new measure to try to promote greater tenure security in the rural areas of the country. Accordingly, it has adopted rural land registration and certification program which is underway in earnest in the four regional states of Amhara, Tigray, Oromia and SNNP. Preparatory works for the launch of similar land registration and certification program have already been started in the developing regions of Afar and Somali, and to some degree in Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz. The government envisages that the land registration and certification will achieve the following objectives: provide secure rights of tenure and protect the rights of vulnerable groups such as women; reduce land disputes and litigations; facilitate land use planning and management of community and state lands; and increase investment by stallholders on their plots⁴².

5.6. Asset Loss and Loss of Access to Assets (OP 4.12 – Involuntary Resettlement)

The social assessment data show that there have not been major problems in asset loss or loss of access to assets, including involuntary resettlement under AGP-I. AGP subprojects such as small scale agricultural water development and management including the development and management of small-scale irrigation schemes mainly river diversion, water harvesting and micro-irrigation technologies and watershed based soil and water conservation; and small scale market infrastructure development and management such as the development and management of rural feeder roads, footbridges, and market centers obviously need a piece of land of individual farmers, and or communal lands. These subprojects are small in their scale and linear by their nature like construction of canal for small scale irrigation water conveyance,

⁴¹ Gebre Yintiso (2001). "Population Displacement and Food Security in Ethiopia: Resettlement, Settlers and Hosts". Ph.D Dissertation, University of Florida.

⁴² Ayalew Gebre & Zekarias Keneaa (2010) "Situational Assessment on Land Dispute Resolution in Four Regional States of Ethiopia (Amhara, Tigray, Oromia, and SNNPR)". A Study Report Submitted to The Ethiopia – Land Tenure and Administration Program (ELTA)

construction of feeder road in the existing foot paths, often with some widening work, and construction of market sheds at the existing market places. Therefore, these subprojects did not cause significant land acquisition and property losses. When there were cases where subprojects of these scale and nature caused acquisition of small pieces of lands, the farmers and community provided the land voluntarily. This is because these subprojects are demand driven by the community, benefiting the community, and are implemented by the community. This was indicated by the community during the consultation time. If the subproject were to cause some significant land acquisition and property losses, they were managed by changing their design, site, and routing. When farmers gave their small pieces of land voluntarily, they were consulted, and the minutes of the consultation were documented. It is also important to note that indigenous conflict resolution institutions such as the *Jaarsumma* of the Oromo play vital role in handling matters related to possible acquisition of land for AGP subprojects. For instance, in Garbi Xiwisso Kebele of Munessa Woreda, the expansion of the FTC compound necessitated the acquisition of a small plot of a certain household's farmland and through the intervention of the *Jaarsumma* it was resolved in the best interest of the parties involved as shown below.

In the aforementioned kebele, a farmer was asked if he could give part of his land as it was needed for the expansion of the FTC compound to be fenced by the AGP. But he was reluctant to hand over the designated plot of land on the ground that he will lose a large area, which will negatively impact on his family's livelihood. Later on, however, with the involvement of the local elders (the 'informal' institution called Jaarsumaa), he agreed because they promised to give him another plot of land of the same size. That is, other community members from that particular sub-kebele contributed small pieces of land in adjacent areas (i.e., shared the burden of land loss) to the person who has lost his land to the advantage of the community.

This shows local institutions are effective and participatory in easing problems in relation to compensation. Hence supporting and enhancing the involvement of indigenous local institutions in the development projects is very important.

The discussion on the potential loss of asset/access to assets (including land) in *Woredas such as Mandura and Wonbera*, which were not been beneficiaries of the first phase of AGP, indicated that if land acquisition and property losses become unavoidable, they will be managed by the country laws and regulations.

However, the SA result showed that there were gaps in managing social safeguards issues related to land acquisition and property losses including limited capacity and experience in addressing land acquisition and property losses. During AGP-II implementation period, this gap should be taken into account, and capacity be provided for the implementation of the AGP-II to preclude any social risk.

The project has triggered **OP/BP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement**; a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been developed in light of this policy; and publically disclosed in-country and in the World Bank's InfoShop; and all grievances related to land acquisition impacts or reduced access to natural resources will follow provisions provided in the RPF.

5.7. Potential Impact on Physical Cultural Resources (PCR) OP 4.11

AGP-II will avoid adverse impact on the Physical Cultural Resources (PCR) of historically underserved and ethnic minorities to the extent possible. No indication of such a threat was observed during the field visit for the AGP-II social assessment and no such a case reported during the implementation of AGP-I. For instance, when asked if there was any PCR affected during the implementation of AGP-I in their *woreda*, informants in Semen Ari *Woreda* said that there was no such a problem. The *Woreda* AGP Coordinator reported the following case to show the extent to which AGP took the matter seriously.

In Anuak Kebele we enclosed 2.5 hectare for soil and water conservation. Many people shouted at us when we did that. It was with strenuous effort that we persuaded the people. We excluded the graveyard found in the area and enclosed the other part. Now the land has revived well and we have bought many beehives to start beekeeping on the conserved land.

This is, therefore, a good testimonial of how the program implementers take this matter seriously and also the level of community awareness about their PCR. Where potential adverse impacts are unavoidable, AGP-II will consult the concerned communities for obtaining their broad support and resolution. The impacts on the PCR should be managed using the ESMF prepared and cleared for AGP-II. There is provision in the ESMF regarding OP 4.11.

5.8. AGP and Commune Program: potential interface

The lowland areas predominantly inhabited by pastoral, agro-pastoral and shifting cultivators are frequently susceptible for climatic shocks, like drought and shortage of rainfall, which have aggravated the environmental degradation and led to lower productivity. Due to these environmental and economic shocks, the livelihood conditions and resilience capacity of these communities have been deteriorating. In response to these, the government planned and is executing a commune program. In undertaking the program, government adopts community consultation, water as entry point, access to road network and basic services, agronomic practice, and environmentally friendly and conflict sensitive as the main guiding principles to ensure benefits of the community.

The findings of the SA show that the government has been implementing commune program in the two DRS of Gambella and Benishangul-Gumz starting from 2010/2011, the regions to be included in AGP-II. The program had the objective of gathering the communities settled in riversides, engaged in shifting cultivation/slash and burn agriculture and had been exposed to

various natural disasters (e.g., water overfills) based on ‘voluntary manner to ensure food security, accessibility to development and governance and gain equal benefit and growth’.⁴³

According to the Gambella Regional Commune Program Coordinator, 94 Commune centers have been established in the region with at least a minimal infrastructure, of which 12 are in Gambella Zuria *Woreda* and 3 in Itang Special *Woreda*. It was also reported that an additional 15 communes centers will be established in the current fiscal year, of which five will be in Itang Special *Woreda*. In Benishangul-Gumz Regional State the bringing of the dispersed settlement into a ‘suitable’ site has already been completed but the infrastructures for almost all sites is only partially fulfilled. It is, therefore, likely that agro-pastoralists’ and shifting cultivators’ livelihoods and social relationships will change and the implications of these changes need to be understood better.

Regional Commune Coordinators and *woreda* officials interviewed for this study in the two regions say that AGP-II is an opportunity that could accelerate the development programs which they have started in their respective regions. In light of this, they are of the opinion that AGP and Commune program might complement one another: communes could be a possible input for the AGP in creating social bonds among the commune villages, the commune’s-based infrastructures such as roads could facilitate communication and access opportunity that could partly contribute to the success of AGP. On the other hand, AGP might also support the commune centers already established in the provision of basic infrastructures such as access road, clinics (human and animal), clean water, strengthening FTC, etc.

In general, the Social Assessment findings indicate that, to date, AGP’s funds have not been used or associated with the commune program. However, as observed from the views of the officials in the two DRS mentioned above, In general, the Social Assessment findings indicate that, to date, AGP’s funds have not been used or associated with the commune program. However, as observed from the views of the officials in the two DRS mentioned above, there is a potential geographic interface between the Government's ongoing Commune Development and AGP-II in the Developing Regional States of Gambella and Benishangul-Gumz Regions (DRS) where the program has been, is, or will be, active.

Therefore, to preclude any social risk and adverse impact due to the program, AGP-II’s planning processes will take into consideration the safeguards policy of the **World Bank** and should not ignore the needs of the underserved and vulnerable groups, or any emerging issues as they arise. Moreover, to ensure that AGP-II funds are not used for commune program, it is very important that AGP implementing structures at all levels in the two regional states are sufficiently informed about the program and unnecessary confusions and unrealistic expectations are avoided before AGP-II starts. More importantly, Government has reassured the World Bank that no Kebeles covered by the Government Commune Development Program will be considered in the AGPII project. To be eligible to the project, each individual investment will have to demonstrate (among others): “the existence of a management plan describing the operational, financial and

⁴³Gambella Peoples’ National Regional State, Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development. *Villagization Program Implementation Manual*. July 2010.

institutional arrangements, *formalizing sustainable access to the investment and preventing new permanent government managed settlements of any population groups around the investment*".

5.9. Social Capital

5.9.1. Traditional Mutual Support/Self-Help Institutions

Traditional support systems (*iddir, kire, debo, jigjie, wofera*⁴⁴) may be capitalized on to strengthen and expand AGP activities. Self-help groups such as *iddir* and *kire* are institutions which their members fall back on in times of distress for assistance in kind or in cash. Thus, these institutions come to the rescue of those in need like the bereaved, the sick, the old and people with disability, and may also be called on to assist in reconciling conflicts and differences. As for mutual assistance groups (*debo, jigjie, wofera*), they are meant to serve as work parties to mobilize labor exchange and reciprocation during peak agricultural seasons and occasions of labor intensive work such as house and fence construction.

Ethiopians have a strong tradition of helping one another and getting organized in mutual and self-help association of similar nature which are known by different names in various languages spoken in the country. These include, among others, *Iddir/Kire, Equb, Debo* and *Wofera, Mahiber, Dehe* and *Sera* (equivalent of *debo* and *Idir*, respectively, among the Sidama), which are the commonly used grassroots level traditional mutual and self-help institutions.⁴⁵ In many instances, an individual may be a member of two or more *Iddirs, mahibers, or Equbs*, depending on what means he/she has at his/her disposal to meet the minimum membership requirement and it, of course, widens one's social support network and greater chances of risk aversion or insurance against sickness and death of a family member.

Informants in the Oromia AGP *woredas* visited for this study assert that since the main goal of AGP-II is to increase agricultural productivity, this could be achieved if the society is working together in groups or associations to minimize agricultural productivity risks caused by shortage of labor at various stages of farming activities (e.g., preparation of land for sowing, weeding, harvesting, threshing). On the other hand, working together could be achieved if and only if there are locally established self-help institutions like *debo* and *jigjie*. Based on these premises, farmers argue that such institutions are playing their part in increasing agricultural productivity by minimizing risks of loss (caused by weeds, untimely rain, destruction by wild animals, etc) and they are observed in several of the *woredas* visited as the Social Assessment was conducted in the pick harvesting season.

⁴⁴A labor exchanging or sharing culture at the time of harvesting and threshing practiced in many parts of Tigray.

⁴⁵There are four types of voluntary work associations/work parties in Ari: *Aldi, Molaa, Iddir* and *Wod*. In Konta, there are four voluntary associations. They are *Daguwa, Zefiya, Ekubiya* and *Indiriya*. Among the kunama, there is a type of organizations known as *Käwa* which is a multipurpose traditional organization under which they exchange labor services at different times like harvesting time and during house construction activities. This type of communal working party is called *Dafo* among the Kafficho.

For instance, the following indigenous mutual help associations are observed as having immense impact on the life of the people in Gambella Regional State: *Lowok* among the Nuer; *Ko'nyd'e'el* among the Anyuak; and *Kokony* among the Majanger. Similarly, the social relations and economic cooperation among the Gumz is engineered by an institution called *Mab'andt'sa*. This institution is holistic, touches social and economic life of the Gumz people. These indigenous institutions can be used as a forum where the objectives of AGP-II, program components and beneficiary selection criteria will be discussed and communities' development priorities are deliberated and agreed upon.

Though now declining there is traditional women's *yätiḥätel mähäbär* (cotton spinning association) in Guangua and Womberma *Woredas*. Members of the association buy cotton and share equally among themselves to spin and give the yarn to members in turn.

Recently, however, there are also government introduced grassroots level organizations such as *Yelimat buden* (development group/unit), constituting 20 to 30 people depending on the settlement pattern and environmental condition of a given area. Even though the aforementioned traditional grassroots level mutual and self-help institutions are still functioning, they are now seen as less effective by the government structures and therefore dominated by the government introduced structures. But still there were times when these indigenous institutions are used by the local government structures to mobilize the community in support of government initiated development projects, especially when people are suspicious of the motive of the projects, understand their objectives and secure communities' active involvement in their implementation.

5.9.2. Customary Dispute Settlement Institutions/Mechanisms

Customary institutions have traditionally played important roles in the settlement of disputes involving rural land in the AGP *woredas* visited for this social assessment. The designation and composition of these customary/informal conflict mediation institutions may slightly vary between regions/*woredas*. Community trust and respect are crucial requirements that mediators must meet to be effective in land dispute settlement process. As a result, elders, family councils/trusted relatives, religious leaders and *iddirs* have won increased community acceptance and recognition in the settlement of land-related disputes. In many instances, courts - regular as well as quasi-formal – refer disputants to these institutions to seek resolution for their disagreements in the first instance.

In connection with this, customary land-related dispute settlement mechanisms such as the *Jaarsumma* (arbitration and mediation by council of elders) of the Oromo and the *Erekena shemigelena* (traditional arbitration and reconciliation) of the Amhara, and the council of religious leaders in Tigray, to mention but a few, will contribute to the smooth implementation of the program in the settlement of potential disagreements arising from the activities to be undertaken under **Components 3 and 4: small-scale irrigation infrastructure development and management; water harvesting and micro-irrigation technologies; watershed management; rural feeder-road construction; and market center development and management**. Among the various

sections of the Gurage we have different systems of administration and conflict resolution institutions. Among the Sebat Bet, we have the *Yajoka Qicha*, among the Kistane and Welene we have *Gordenna Sera*, among Misqan we have *Yefer Agezegn Sera* and among Dobi we have *Dobi Gogot Sinano Sera*.

For instance, the Konta have dispute settlement mechanism called *Duleta* (Elders' Council) which plays important role in resolving civil wrong doings. Disputes among members of the *Maaka* (the smallest territorial unit of Konta social world that is made of socially and geographically contiguous households) are usually resolved through the *Duleta* council. The *Duleta* meet under the shade of a tree called *Dubisha* to resolve cases.⁴⁶ Among the Kafficho two institutions are particularly involved in resolving conflicts: *GenoWayo* (elders' council) and *Allaamo* (spirit mediums). Local conflicts are usually resolved with the intervention of the elders. The *Allaamo* facilitate conflict resolution processes because people fear to tell lies for they fear the spirit of the *Allaamo*.

To add one more example, the Gumz believe in the inevitability of conflict as long as human beings interact, without which they cannot live. They believe also in the amicable settlement of conflicts of any sort (ranging from minor verbal abuse to homicide) through various deliberations and reconciliation rituals. This indigenous mechanism of conflict resolution is called *Tomba*, in which women play significant role in mediating the conflicting parties and restoring peace after resolution of the conflict.

5.10. Social Cohesion

Community consultations conducted with women, men and youth groups indicate that AGP has brought about improvements in local economic activities in the intervention *woredas*. The positive changes that have resulted include the income growth and asset building by community members organized under CIGs, the increased demand of farmers for technology transfer, encouraging signs of the commercialization of agriculture, in which farmers are beginning to produce crops for the market, and the construction of feeder roads and foot bridges which are enabling small-holder farmers to have access to extension service and market outlets. Other benefits have resulted to the farmers from AGP in the form of increased access to water for small-scale irrigation and the resulting higher farm productivity, facilitated by the construction or upgrading of water ponds, irrigation canals and hand dug wells. To be mentioned are also the beneficial effects of watershed-based soil and water conservation activities, which have reduced land degradation.

Besides economic advantages, community consultations have also shown that AGP-I has impacted target communities in respect to the outcomes of social significance. The culture of saving that women and youth groups organized under CIGs and IGs is one such outcome, which

⁴⁶Teferi Abebe and Taddese Legese.2013.*Ethno-History of the Konta People*.Hawassa: SNNPR Bureau of Culture and Tourism.

has non-economic or social dimension. The benefits from the culture of saving that women and youths derive as CIG and IG members motivate and encourage their peers to follow their example and do likewise. In this way, women and youth empowerment is promoted, enabling them to increase their voice and involvement in the public sphere beyond the domain of the domestic engagements. This is particularly significant for the promotion of equity for women in social and economic interactions of local communities.

Another outcome that AGP-I has helped to achieve is its contribution to the fostering and strengthening of social cohesion particularly in *woredas* where historically underserved and vulnerable community groups are found. In this respect, the integration of previously ostracized and discriminated occupational groups with other community members into CIGs and IGs, and various committees established in AGP program components carries far-reaching implications for the social cohesion, empowerment and inclusive community structure that is evolving. To illustrate, the most despised of the occupational groups in Konta and Decha *woredas* of SNNPR called Manja are presently integrated with the mainstream Mala and gro *ogge-ashi-yaro* groups as members of women, youth, and mixed CIGs and IGs.

5.11. Grievance Handling Mechanisms

Effective grievance handling mechanisms constitute an important aspect of interventions like AGP II. For these arrangements to serve their purpose, they need to be developed and operated in such a way that they meet the needs of the target populations, being cost effective, accessible and working on the basis of a well-defined time schedule. Of course, such grievance handling arrangements do not replace the formal justice system, and so complainants who feel their grievance have not been fairly handled may seek justice in the court of law.

In connection with the implementation of AGP-II, grievances may arise from various causes, such as: unfair application of eligibility criteria, land acquisition and property loss, compensation amounts and delays in compensation payments, and differential access to AGP resource and information.

In the SA, it was found that informal structures (family/kin group/elders' councils) and quasi-formal institutions (Arbitration Councils and *Kebele* Rural Dispute Adjudication Committees) were resorted to by community for the settlement AGP-I-related grievance/disputes. The quasi-formal institutions are legally empowered to review, mediate, and adjudicate disputes. By virtue of being located in grassroots communities and their exposure to a degree of legal and technical training, the role of these structures in making justice accessible to the rural population is significant.

When grievances/disputes arise, the majority of the local people resort to the informal/customary) dispute settlement mechanisms. The mindset of the population in the *woredas*, as is

the case in other rural areas, is that the traditional dispute resolution mechanisms (composed of elders, trusted relatives, and religious leaders) will serve justice, and spare them time, effort, and financial costs. A resort to the quasi-formal judicial institutions and *woreda* courts is taken only at the last alternative after the traditional mechanisms have been exhausted. Regarding grievance handling, the AGP-II ESMF indicates that community members in these *woredas* follow similar steps in the effort to access a fair resolution of their grievances.

Despite the merits of the customary dispute settlement institutions, there are, however, examples of women generally not being treated on an equal basis with men in the adjudication of grievances.

In the interest of ensuring a more effective and fairer grievance redress system, it is deemed beneficial to strengthen the traditional dispute settlement institutions through trainings to those involved in the process on the basic elements of the law and gender sensitive issues, particularly women and girls rights. However, as further alternative, recourse to quasi-formal or the regular judicial bodies should still be made possible. With a view to institutionalizing the grievance redress procedures through formal judiciary channel, AGP-II needs to outline the steps involved in its relevant documents. The gaps in AGP-I documents in this respect has led to non-uniform steps in the pursuit of grievance redress by community members. In SNNP region *woredas*, for example, complainants take their cases to *kebele* judicial tribunals (*shengo*) in the first instance and to *woreda* courts by appeal. In Oromia *woredas*, the program encourages those with grievances to take their complaints to indigenous conflict resolution institutions (elders' councils). In Chora *Woreda* of Illubabur Zone, the field data indicates that a three-member committee is structured in each CIG to handle complaints arising within the Group. If the complaints cannot be resolved within the CIG, the cases are referred to sub-*kebele* and *kebele* KDCs, and to the *woreda* cooperatives associations for final decisions.

Overall, the finding of this report and the previous social assessments indicate that the traditional grievance redress mechanisms need strengthening. While the project will recognize the customary or traditional conflict resolution mechanism, where it is weak or inappropriate to address resource use conflict, alternative arrangements should be implemented. Resolution of different types of grievances will be attempted at different levels: (i) solutions to grievances related to land acquisition impacts or reduced access to natural resources should follow provisions provided in the Resettlement Policy Framework prepared for the project (ii) To avoid any potential grievances arising from AGP-2 investments outside of a targeted community, the project will promote cross-*kebele* consultations on sub-projects after they have been appraised and endorsed by the *woreda* appraisal team and before sub-projects are approved by the *woreda*. Communities and across *kebeles* will ensure that community members and in particular PAPs are informed about the avenues for grievance redress, and will maintain a record of grievances received, and the result of attempts to resolve these. This information will be entered into the Project Management Information System (MIS) and be included in the regular progress

reporting. All PAPs will be informed about how to register grievances or complaints, including specific concerns about compensation and relocation.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Programs such as AGP, which are implemented not only in diverse agro-ecological settings, but also in areas where government implementation structures are not the strongest makes it critically important to put in place effective and efficient monitoring and evaluation system.

M & E should serve the intended purpose, and help the program implementers to learn from their weaknesses and further boost their strengths, and for the higher level program structures to monitor performances and evaluate the impact of the program on the program beneficiary and institutional capacity building at all levels of the program implementation structures. As it stands now, M & E is more of a regular reporting exercise to meet the reporting requirement rather than an integral component of the program in which the information generated through the M & E system is used to guide management decisions at both the *woreda* and higher levels of the program implementation structure. For instance, it is common for the *woreda* AGP officials to report performance of a particular AGP component or sub-component based on the money dispersed (e.g., women's dairy farm IG in Addeele Miecha *Kebele* of Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*), rather than on what has been done with the money in view of the set objective of the component. The implication of this is that, monitoring of program performance based on information provided by the program implementers at the lower level of the AGP structure becomes of little significance when seen from the point of view of the purpose for which M & E system is put in place.

As discussed in the foregoing sections (e.g., risk and mitigation measures) the structure responsible to implement AGP needs to be strengthened to follow-up what is actually going on at the lowest level of AGP implementation. In this regard, AGP-II will add additional staff at *woreda* level and have greater involvement from the zonal level. The fact that Regional AGP Coordination Units depend on the *woredas* for reports cannot sufficiently enable them to monitor and know the situation of the projects on the ground. For instance, according to the SNNPR State AGP Coordinator, the direct means of obtaining feedback from the beneficiary community is through meetings. There are problems related to the process of monitoring and evaluation. Since experts are from every office of the project stakeholders, coordinating and holding meetings as per the schedule is almost impossible. Sometimes even some experts are not that much interested. Each stakeholder office tends to focus only on its own engagements and consider AGP related activities as extra burden. So, there is a gap on how to get feedback. This is being addressed under AGP-I and will be further strengthened under AGP-II, with increased local level staffing – essentially the *woreda* level coordinator will be responsible for M&E – and additional resources will be available for capacity building for all implementation agencies to conduct M&E.

One of the critical issues revealed from the findings of this social assessment was the gap in expectations about what the AGP could do and what was actually going on the ground. What was observed is ‘inflated expectation and minimal support’, and this, as discussed above is the source of frustration for many program beneficiaries. It is, therefore, important to monitor the relationship between what had been promised and what was delivered (or not delivered). In response, under AGP-II a communication strategy will be put in place to create a stronger understanding of the scope of the project. Further strengthening of local planning mechanisms and feedback loops should help to address this issue.

There are structures at *kebele*, *woreda*, *zonal* and regional levels for monitoring and evaluation. The Steering Committee, chaired by the *Woreda* Administrator and composed of all sector heads, rarely meets once in a month as per the PIM requirement and quarterly to monitor and evaluate what was done and deliberate on the reports and problems identified by the *Woreda* Technical Committee. The problem is observed even at higher AGP-II implementing structures as was observed during the AGP-I Mid-term Review, which states “most surprisingly, meetings have been conducted at federal level which is expected to be exemplary for lower level implementing institutions” (MoA, 2014:70). Rather than evaluating the performances through visits of the project sites, all structures above the *Kebele* Development Committee (KDC) tend to get content with what was reported from the lower structures through formal channels. In order to address these problems, there is a need to revisit the current AGP-II implementation structure and consider putting in place a system that makes every stakeholder office accountable in itself for AGP project related activities.

At the *woreda* level, there is also a problem of conducting evaluative discussion sessions as per the specified schedule. This is especially true for the steering committee. This is because; the chairman of the steering committee is the *woreda* administrator who is usually busy with different other tasks. One FGD discussant expert in Munessa *Woreda* AGP Technical Committee said “the *Woreda* Administrator chairs 20 different committees”, aside their regular administrative and political responsibilities. This shows how overstretched the administrators are and if they fail to discharge their responsibilities, in relation to AGP, it is the failure in the arrangement put in place rather than the *Woreda* Administrator as an individual. Therefore, the tendency of following up and evaluating the work of *kebele* AGP structure and the various stakeholder sector offices is very limited. In short, M&E exists only on paper and when asked how it works, informants, especially those in the Steering Committee tend to describe what is in the PIM, rather than whether or not M&E is actually an in-built system of the AGP in practice.

M&E gaps are also observed in areas of safeguards, since as one AGP official in the SNNPR AGP-II implementing structure noted “all levels of the AGP implementation structures lack knowledge and commitment to keenly see to it that the safeguard instruments are implemented”.⁴⁷In this regard, the ESMF, into which this SA fits, will indicate which AGP

⁴⁷“Though subprojects are screened, ESMP prepared and ESIA carried out, the implementation of mitigation measures identified and planned in the ESMP and ESIA reports is very low. Environmental and social monitoring is

guiding documents may have to be revised to incorporate social and environmental safeguard issue at *operational* level and need to provide detail steps and templates for screening process. At the Mid-Term Review of the AGP-I, it was agreed that a full evaluation of the implementation of safeguards instruments would be conducted, with remedial actions taken where appropriate. Regular evaluations are also included under the AGP-II design.

Programs such as AGP, which work with the local community and aim to increase production and productivity by creating value chain agricultural production and build the capacity of local development partners, need to adopt monitoring and evaluation system of a participatory nature. The participatory monitoring and evaluation (PME) to be included under AGP-II would aim to empower local people to initiate, control and take corrective action and marrying this approach with more traditional results-oriented approaches would be most appropriate for AGP since the deficiencies of one approach are made for by the strengths of the other.

7. Institutional Structure and Capacity Issues

Strong institutions significantly encourage trust, promote property rights and avoid the exclusion of the different sections of the population. Particularly grassroots level institutions play an important role in maintaining the interest of the local people, safeguarding their physical cultural resources, facilitating development initiatives, as well as mitigating unexpected adverse effects. Currently, lower level government institutions are increasingly involved in community development efforts in Ethiopia. These institutions include the different government and non-government organizations at *woreda* and *kebele* level. The structure of *woreda* level administration is more or less similar in all regional states (MCB, 2007). Almost all sector ministries and bureaus at federal and regional levels are represented at *woreda* level. (AGP-I SA p. 44)

The desire for implementing AGP-II poses a number of challenges in the areas of institutional structure and capacity. As program component activities are intended to result in a positive impact on the beneficiary communities, it would be appropriate to consider not only technological options, but also actions that promote awareness, improve knowledge, local planning procedures, support training and education, and enhance grassroots institutional development. The sum total of this is to strengthen the human capabilities of the communities to make use of their own resources – skills, knowledge, and ability to work; their social capabilities as regards the relationships of organizations and groups within the community and political structure.

Such capacity assessment, however, is important to carry out both at the time of needs assessment initially when AGP program components are designed with the participation of the communities and during performance evaluation later at the time of program completion. The

critical elements of the ESIA. The monitoring of implementation of the mitigation measure proposed in the ESMP/ESIA report is also very low and evens none in some areas.” (MoA, 2014:xvi)

results of this social assessment study show that in almost all *woredas* visited, the issues of capacity building, opportunities and constraints related to the program are important that need close investigation at all levels of the program implementation structures, namely the grassroots, *woreda* and regional levels.

Under AGP-II, a Capacity Development Support Facility will be established (under parallel financing from Canada) to provide technical backstopping to develop and more sophisticated and systematic approach to capacity development across all the project components. The Facility will work directly with implementation agencies to improve and enhance the approach and delivery of capacity building, including for conducting needs assessments, delivery of training, follow ups etc.

AGP-II implementing structures are available from the Federal down to the *woreda* and the *kebele* (using available KDC) level. However, all the structures at all levels are not equally active. From the national to the region and down to the *kebele* level structures, this study found that tAGP structures are particularly found to be less capable to address culturally sensitivity issues in the underserved areas. For instance in the Semen Ari *Woreda*, officials tend to impose decisions when it comes to the issue of land and the *kebele* structure in Enmorena Ener *Woreda* needed constant reminders on implementation issues. There are times when everybody is busy with other works and AGP works are not done as was encountered in Decha *Woreda*. The multiplicity of sector stakeholders also complicated who should do what, apparently that is why the AGP Coordinator of Enmorena Ener *Woreda* described AGP as a “*mad man’s bag*”. As the SNNPR State indicated, people in government structures also consider AGP as an NGO work. This emphasizes the need for the project to dedicate resources to implementing a Communication Strategy to be included within the Project Implementation Manual, which would address local mis-perceptions of the project.

High turnover among members of both the Steering and the Technical Committees was reported as a problem from many of the AGP implementing *woredas* visited. This is particularly true for the Steering Committee since it consists of the *woreda* cabinet, political appointees with very high chances of mobility along the hierarchy. Consequently, a member of the Steering Committee heading a given sector in the *woreda* could be replaced by another person before he gets acquainted with the program and its various components. This affects the consistency and stability of project initiated activities and necessitates repeating the same training at different time period. Moreover, all the major AGP implementing offices have other regular duties of their respective sectors and are always very busy with those activities. AGP is something like an ‘*add on*’, and at times things have to wait for the goodwill of the authorities to move forward. Added to this, the perception held by many government people that *AGP is ‘an NGO work’*, as observed by the AGP Coordinator of the SNNPR State.⁴⁸ As noted above, this also emphasizes

⁴⁸ This is not an isolated comment. Several informants have used more or less the same expression to describe what they saw as a major factor negatively impacting on the implementation of AGP.

the need for the project to dedicate resources to implementing a Communication Strategy to be implemented at all levels and stakeholders, which would address local mis-perceptions of the project.

Similarly, in Oromia Regional State *Woreda* Technical Committee members complained that the Steering Committees do not have sufficient information about AGP primarily because of the failure to create or raise awareness about the program. The consequence of which is the widespread perception that AGP is an extra work load, and therefore to be done only when one is free of his/her regular works of his/her respective sector office. According to some informants, even some members of the Technical Committee still think AGP work as something largely be done by the focal persons of the program. Unless the program implementers clearly understand it and commit themselves for the successful implementation, sustainability will be in question. In most of the *woredas* visited, AGP-II should draw lessons from the experience of AGP-I and devise a mechanism to start program implementation on solid foundation, particularly in terms of awareness about the program and commitment from the program implementing stakeholders at all levels.

The capacity building trainings given at different times for different CIGs/IGs are very important. However, there should be continuity of trainings on some areas that need continuous upgrading of skills related to appropriate cultural sensitivity and use of new technologies. For example, Common Interest Groups working on fruits and vegetables production pointed out the need for continuous training on grafting. Informants reported that as the goal of AGP is to form CIGs, once the latter are formed there is no follow up and technical assistance. For example, during a community consultation held in Mäntäbeṭb *Kebele* of Tahetay Adeyabo *Woreda*, women organized in poultry farming reported that their chickens often die of preventable diseases because of lack of vaccination and spray. In addition, they mentioned that they simply sold-off the eggs at a low price because they did not have incubators to keep the eggs in proper temperature to enable the young birds to develop until they break out of the shell, which could have been of great economic advantage for the members.

Moreover, CIGs complain about lack of support on systematizing their financial management, which relates to formal upgrading of the CIGs to cooperatives, without which they are not allowed to print and acquire financial transaction documents such as receipts. Absence of formal bookkeeping system exposes their saving to misuse by people entrusted with the responsibility of keeping their money. Lack of market for livestock, chicken, and irrigation products was another challenge reported by informants in several AGP *woredas* visited, particularly in Tahetay Adiabo, Kafta Humera, Womberma and Guangua and Liban Chuqaala *Woredas*.

With regard to CIGs, at the Mid-Term Review of AGP-I the Government and the World Bank carried out evaluations of the CIG approach, and found several short-comings as described above. It was agreed that a modified approach be taken to CIG support, including the removal of the distinction between CIGs and IGs. It was also agreed to focus support on fewer CIGs, and

restrict support to women only and youth only groups. Capacity support would be enhanced and an explicit focus has been given to linking the groups supported to the value chains which are also under the project. This approach will also be adopted under AGP-II to address some of the weaknesses identified under the current project.

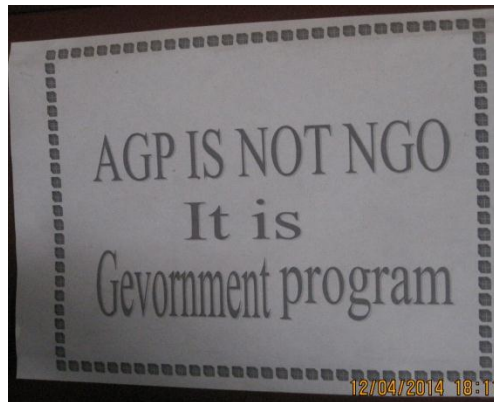
8. Risks and Mitigation Measures

This section aims to briefly present the potential implementation risks and challenges based on data generated for the SA using different methods. It is organized around specific issues raised during the enhanced consultations.

Awareness, understanding and ownership of the project:

During the SA, the team encountered examples where the local communities and authorities did not fully understand or were aware of the project. This included those *woredas* which are currently included in AGP-I as well as those that are proposed for inclusion in AGP-II. Specific issues raised were as follows:

- ✧ In some *woredas* (e.g., Munessa and Liban Chuqaala), Steering Committee, the highest responsible structure in the implementation of AGP, often skips the quarterly meeting and leaves the program activities to the equally disorganized Technical Committee, which in turn expects the very few focal persons to do everything.
- ✧ The sustainability of the sub- projects built through this program might be at risk because the community might not have developed the sense of ownership. Sense of ownership develops if the project proposals are sufficiently deliberated upon and selected by the community. Another factor causing sustainability challenge is the quality of the works done. For instance, the AGP Coordinator of Enmorena Ener *Woreda* emphasized that the quality of the roads constructed by the program is not good. He is of the opinion that AGP projects on feeder roads and footbridges should be abandoned, and the budget meant for these sub-components diverted to organizing CIGs. It is, therefore, imperative that projects are managed responsibly by competent experts and monitored regularly.
- ✧ The tendency to consider AGP as an NGO work by some *woreda* officials, including members of the Steering Committees, could be a major risk for the implementation of AGP-II. This is attributed to lack of clarity about AGP: what it does; who is financing it; how do the various components and sub-components contribute to the overall development goal of the country; etc.



- ✧ Staff turnover has become a risk because it takes much time for hiring and training new experts. If new face is appearing every time, it is difficult to do a work that has continuity and build on experience. This problem can be minimized through salary increment, hardship allowance where needed and fulfillment of better infrastructure bases, and support for the program by the higher level AGP structures.
- ✧ Moreover, it was observed that most of the Steering Committee members at all levels of the AGP-II implementation structures lack knowledge and commitment to keenly see to it that the safeguard instruments are implemented.
 - **Mitigation Measures for AGP-II:** A core principle for the implementation of AGP-II is that it should be done through government systems to the extent possible. The SA shows some lack of awareness of the project and the principles underpinning the design. This can have a negative impact on local ownership. Through the course of AGP-I, this issue has been seen, though the situation has improved and the performance of the project and also improved as a result, with increased local commitment. Though the government structure, starting at the top, efforts will be made to encourage local commitment and ownership of the project. Furthermore, a Communication Strategy will be developed for the project to determine how communication on the project will be handled. For example, under AGP-I a website has been established dedicated to the project and this will be continued combined with further media to disseminate information on the project. The Project Implementation Manual for the project will detail the roles and responsibilities for all aspects of project implementation, including safeguards. A strengthened M&E system will ensure that implementation agencies are performing as per their responsibilities. This will be monitored by Steering Committees at all levels.

Common Interest Groups:

One of the mechanisms for providing support to farmers, and specifically to women and youth are Common Interest Groups. Under AGP-I, CIGs were established and provided training around identified business plans. Some of these groups which were proposing “innovative”

businesses were provided matching grants to support their proposals, and were named Innovation Groups (IGs). There was considerable discussion in the SA on the performance and shortcomings of the CIG/IG approach, even though this is a relatively small-scale activity under the project. The issues raised are summarized below together with the response of the project and the mitigation measures proposed for AGP-II, which would continue the support to CIGs:

- ✧ **Misperceptions of CIG approach:** There is lack of clarity on the objectives of the AGP and the basis of identifying potential beneficiaries, i.e., as to how to organize people into different groups, i.e., IG or CIGs. In some instances, the ‘expression high potential areas’ was understood as ‘high potential farmers’, with focus on rich farmers, rather than on the small and medium scale farmers, often resource poor but with the potential to have or increase marketable surplus from crop and livestock. Such a misconception resulted in the exclusion of small holders or young unemployed people when organizing CIGs (e.g., Munessa and Welmera *woredas*). When the so-called IGs were selected for funding, members of the so-called CIGs complain and accuse the *kebele* leadership ‘you got your per diems [in the name of training], you do not care about us’). In other words, even the AGP implementers at the *woreda* level were not clear as to what they were doing and this was reflected in the way the message was passed to the community so that people organize themselves based on common interest. They did not say anything about the difference between Innovative Group (IG) and Common Interest Group (CIG), when it comes to the kinds of support they could possibly get from AGP. That is why all CIGs, no matter how many they are from each *kebele*, were expecting financial support in the form of grant from AGP. This was a cause for concern and a source of frustration for many CIGs still waiting for something positive to happen. Even the IGs, who have been supported by the AGP did not know that the support they will be given was a one-time event. As one informant, a poultry farm IG member in Addeele Miecha *Kebele* of Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*, reported:

They [woreda officials] told us we will be with you for five years. But when we asked them to give some more money to increase the number of chicks in the second year, they said ‘isin mana baatanittu’ [loose translation: ‘you have established your own house’], metaphorically like a newly-wed couple moving out of their parents’ house to establish their own.

- ✧ **Tension between CIG and IGs:** In some of the AGP *woredas* visited for this study, tension between the CIGs and those promoted to IGs was observed. In Semen Ari *Woreda*, for instance, CIGs who did not get any financial support from the AGP have the feeling that they have not been treated equally with the CIGs promoted to IGs as the latter secured financial support for their business proposals judged as innovative by relevant offices. This has created a sense of ‘us’ and ‘them’ and CIGs refer to the government as “**your government**” when addressing IGs. According to one of the discussants, ‘*Idilun yalagegnut wetatoch yemikochubetna yemikafubet huneta yifeteral*’ (the youth who have not got the opportunity [grant from the AGP] may develop grudges). The fact that there are many young people but

few beneficiaries probably scales up such conflicts. This relates largely to budgetary constraints and to a degree to less transparent way of project approval. It is, therefore, recommended to make the beneficiary screening and project selection processes as transparent and participatory as possible so that unnecessary grievances are avoided.

- ✧ **CIG access to markets:** CIGs and IGs should be effectively connected to the market. There should be appropriate focus on the market chain. Without proper market chain, the efforts of the CIGs/IGs all the investment made (from the AGP and individual members) would of value. This is a problem reported from almost all existing AGP *woredas*. To mention just one example, in Liban Chuqaala *Woreda* IG of young men organized in poultry farming encountered a market problem when their chickens were ready to be sold. The time at which the chicks were bought and handed over to them did not take the time at which they would be ready for sale; as a result they had to sell them at the local market for household consumption. At times almost begging their acquaintances to buy them, even in credit. When their products are vegetables (e.g. Kafta Humera, Tahtay Adiabo), the problem is even serious because these are easily perishable products. Organizing CIGs/IGs and giving them trainings and even small grants are not the ultimate goal of AGP. It is, therefore, very important to create market links for locally produced agricultural products so that those involved in the programs see the fruits of the investment, time, money, skill, etc.
- ✧ **Access to land for CIGs:** One major challenge which the AGP-I encountered during implementation was land problem for CIGs/IGs to become operational. AGP activities such as beekeeping, fattening, poultry farm, dairy farm, etc., require land for the businesses to succeed. This problem either jeopardizes the capacity of the CIGs/IGs to create wealth or pushes these projects to the exploitation of every land available including the marginal ones. This is likely to create conflicts and environmental degradation. The data show that some of the associations had to ‘buy’ land to run their businesses despite the fact that it is unconstitutional to buy and sell land in Ethiopia (e.g., in Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*). Still in some other *woredas*, some IGs are running their projects on a land owned by non-members on short-term contractual agreement. At times, minor misunderstanding results in termination of the temporary contract, forcing the CIGs/IGs to relocate their business (e.g., Women’s beekeeping IG in Munessa *Kebele* of Munessa *Woreda*). There were also times when the IGs were forced to change their business plans because of lack of enough space. Semen Ari *Woreda* AGP Coordinator cited one instance wherein the landholder refused to give out land to the IGs through compensation for bull fattening. In that case, they were forced to change their business plan to poultry farming because it does not need much space. Therefore, AGP-II need to make sure that there is proper planning of a particular program component/sub-component.
- ✧ **Capacity to deliver.** During the announcement of the AGP to the local communities, no mention was made as to how many CIGs and IGs the program intended to support. As a result, several CIGs were formed in one *kebele*, although only two with different business

proposals were selected for support. Others, still in limbo as to what to do next with the small amount of money they have raised from their members. The best example in this regard is Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*. No linkage with Microfinance institutions to facilitate CIGs access to funding to start the program components which they planned to engage in. As discussed above also, IGs could not access any credit to expand their businesses. According to members of Munessa *Woreda* AGP Technical Committee members, there is a provision for ‘revolving fund’ in the program document, but not been practiced. It is important that CIGs and IGs are linked to microfinance institutions to access credit and the ‘revolving fund’ budget used to inject capital in the businesses of the CIGs and IGs. AGP could benefit from the experiences of other development programs such as PSNP and PCD in linking CIGs and IGs to microfinance institutions to access credit.

- **Mitigation measures for AGP-II:** The above findings confirm the findings from two evaluations of CIGs/IGs conducted at the Mid-Term Review of AGP-I. In response, the approach to CIG support was changed and these changes will be carried into AGP-II and are summarized as follows: i) support is restricted to women and youth groups, with no further support to mixed CIGs which tended to be dominated by men and exclude women; ii) all CIGs would be eligible for support from technical assistance, capacity development and matching grants and IGs would be discontinued as this caused tension; iii) fewer groups would be supported but with enhanced support to increase sustainability; iv) guidelines for the establishment and support to groups have been revised and disseminated, including clarity on eligible members and transparent processes for selection; v) enhance support will be provided for identify viable economic activities and preparing good quality business plans, which match resource availability, including access to land so as to avoid situations where lack of land availability inhibits the groups from achieving their objectives; vi) specific support will be made to link CIGs to markets (eg through the support to value chains and seed multiplication); vii) under the Capacity Development Support Facility, support would be targeted at CIGs and to those agencies (including the Cooperative Agency), to provide support to CIGs; and vii) close monitoring of CIGs would be conducted to determine their performance and take corrective measures if required.
- Regarding access to financing, all CIGs under AGP-II would be eligible for matching grants. Additional support would be provided for the groups to access formal sources of credit.

Community participation:

- ✧ Field data show that direct consultation with the whole *kebele* residents are becoming rare incidents these days in many of the *woredas* visited for this study. On the one hand, it has become a *modus operandi* that communities are informed about a particular project which is coming to their area through representatives selected from each of the three sub-*kebeles*

(zones). In this case, *kebele* residents do not have direct contact with the *woreda* experts and officials, for instance, whilst recruiting and organizing CIGs.

- **Mitigation under AGP-II:** A core principle for AGP and AGP-II is the demand driven approach. For AGP-II, in the beginning of the first year, an exhaustive consultative process will be conducted at *kebele* level to identify community priorities in terms of community-based investment and development activities. For the subsequent years, a consultative planning process will be conducted and centered at *woreda* level after consultation of the development committees and communities at *kebele* and sub-*kebele* levels. These consultations will be the occasion for the project and the implementation agencies to report to the communities on their activities, review the progress done and suggest the priorities for the coming year.

Small-scale Irrigation:

- ✧ Implementation and timely completion of some program components such as small scale irrigation infrastructure and rural feeder road construction are some of the major challenges faced by the implementing *woredas*. AGP implementing structures at the *woreda* level and the project beneficiary communities at the grassroots level complained that contractors do not complete the projects on time because of lack of regular follow-up by the client, in this case the Regional AGP Coordination Unit. When asked why the *woreda* level AGP implementers are not supervising the construction, the answer was clear “we have no mandate to do that”. The fact of the matter is that the *woredas*⁴⁹ do not have the mandate to procure construction services, which is handled by higher structures such as the Regional AGP CU up to US \$100,000 and Procurement beyond US \$100,000 goes through open tendering procedures which fall under NCB and shall be processed by the AGP-CU and be approved by MoARD. Therefore, since irrigation schemes and rural feeder road construction fall within the procurement mandate of the Regional or Federal Offices AGP CU, they are all managed by the Regional CU, who rarely comes to supervise the work. The Zonal Offices are also not paying the attention it deserves. When the *woreda* AGP Technical Committee, which principally follows up the technical aspect of the AGP works, complains to the contractors about the quality and timely completion of the work, they produce all kinds of excuses, and if they insist the answer is “*I do not have the contract with you*”. Informants caution unless

⁴⁹“At *woreda*, small items like farm tools and furniture shall be procured using local shopping. However, copies of all relevant procurement documents should be maintained at regional and *woredas* offices and made ready for inspections. If goods are not available at *woreda* levels, the region will procure and dispatch to them with copies of invoices. Under such circumstances, the *woredas* will provide delegations to regions.” MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURAL GROWTH PROGRAM (AGP), PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION MANUAL (PIM), December, 2010, Addis Ababa. P. 129.

corrective measures are made in the AGP implementing structure to mandate the *woreda* structure on the management of the projects under construction, AGP-II will face serious challenges in attaining the desired objectives in some of its major components.

- **Mitigation under AGP-II:** The lack of supervision and concerns about the quality of work supported under AGP has been documented in project supervision reports, especially at the start of AGP-II. The project has been proactive in addressing this concern and taken many corrective actions including increasing the staffing at regional and federal level and contracting a firm to provide oversight on the quality of work. For AGP-II, *woredas* will hire irrigation engineers to ensure oversight of small scale irrigation work. The project will also work closely the recently approved Small Scale Irrigation Technical Assistance Project, financing by the Netherlands and Canada, which will support local level capacity in both private and public sectors to conduct good quality design and construction work.
- ✧ Irrigation schemes which use surface water might be a potential source of conflict between the watersheds communities settled in different areas along the course of the river. Informants expressed concerns that unless carefully planned as regards how the water could be fairly used by the various settlement areas along the course of the river, conflict might arise between those who use the water for irrigation and the lower stream watershed communities who hardly get water even for household use leave alone to irrigate their farmlands. Such potential conflicts are reported from Guangua *Woreda* where the irrigation scheme is under construction and Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*. In Guangua *Woreda*, trainings are being given by the *Woreda* Agricultural Office to what is locally known as *yäwuhäabat* (the father of water) who have their own local administrative rules and principles and locally solve cases of conflict related to irrigation water. It is, therefore, important to carefully plan with sufficient community consultation involving all inhabiting along the course of the river and also see if water users' associations can be organized for fair and optimal use of the water resource.
- ✧ The finding shows that AGP does not have inbuilt grievance redress mechanism. In the event any complaint, people go to the *Woreda* Administrator (the Chair of AGP Steering Committee) or the *woreda* party office such as in Munessa *Woreda*; the *kebele* social court or the *woreda* court such as in Decha *Woreda*. To ensure transparency and make people build confidence in the system, it is important that AGP has its own inbuilt grievance redress mechanism, preferably in which PAPs are reasonably represented.
- **Mitigation measures under AGP-II:** The project will focus on the sustainability of irrigation systems with a specific sub-component supporting Water User Associations. A watershed approach will be adopted (and specified in the Project Implementation Manual to ensure all water users within a watershed are taken into account and adequately consulted in the identification of potential irrigation schemes.

The ESMF documents the approach to avoid conflicts over competing uses. Using local procedures is recommended. The ESMF and RPF will be used when applicable.

- ✧ In Munesa *Woreda* informants (experts, officials and the community) anticipate the likely occurrence of challenges in the future whilst implementing AGP in relation to irrigable land. According to the *Oromia Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation* (Proclamation No. 130/2007), Art. 14(4), irrigation land could be redistributed in order to properly utilize water and irrigable land, and farmers would hold a maximum of 0.5 hectare in such areas. Moreover, if a farmland of a given farmer falls under the designated irrigable land, s/he has the right to possess a maximum of 0.5 hectare, and this could be 1 hectare if s/he could not get compensation for the irrigable land which s/he has lost. So, it is this proclamation that created hesitation among different groups, especially in Munesa *Woreda*, with regard to facing the high probability of conflict whilst redistributing irrigable land among the locals who have interest to benefit from irrigation schemes. That is, they state that farmers who have large tracts of land along the future irrigable sites could resist the redistribution of land, which may instigate conflict among farmers and between farmers and government officials. To minimize the risk of conflict, there must be an intensive community consultation and awareness raising program and also use indigenous local structures such as the *jaarsummaa*, *shimgilina*, *yewuhaabat*, etc. Moreover, the PAPs should be compensated for their lost asset as per the agreed RPF and World Bank policy framework.
- **Mitigation Measures under AGP-II:** An RPF has been prepared and disclosed. This will apply if any person is subject to land take. The implementation of the RPF will be closely monitored during the project implementation.

Capacity development:

- ✧ As reported from most of the *woredas* visited, several people from the AGP beneficiary *kebeles* and *woredas* participated in many rounds of trainings. But informants underscored training alone without proper follow-up and support from the *kebele* and *woreda* officials will have little impact on the success of the CIG/IG business development. The best example is the women's dairy farm IG in Addeele Miecha *Kebele* of Liban Chuqaala *Woreda*, which was given nearly two years ago corrugated iron sheet, cement, etc. worth about Birr 40,000 to construct a house for their business. Informants reported that because of lack of support and follow-up from the concerned AGP structures, nothing has moved forward and the construction materials and the dairy product processing facilities are left to rust and the money raised by the members kept idle. Informants underscored this is a wasted money, although it might have been reported as a successful business to higher AGP structures. That is why, support and follow-up is of paramount importance as all CIGs are not of equal standing in the society. Women's group particularly needs special support (e.g., the DAs facilitating their registration with relevant offices as women's CIGs/IGs) because of their

responsibility in the household (as mothers, wives, care givers, etc.) and the bureaucracy's unresponsiveness to some groups of the society such as women for historical reasons.

- ✧ Data on lack of support and follow up is consistent in almost all AGP-II *woredas* visited for this study (e.g., Tahtay Adiabo, Munessaa, Welmera, Enmorena Ener, and Liban Cuqaallaa) and this is affecting the effectiveness of the program components in which various IGs and CIGs are organized. This deficit should not be allowed to repeat itself during the implementation of AGP-II and failure to provide the necessary support and regular follow-up is tantamount to self-defeatism on the part of the program implementation at all levels.

- **Mitigation Measures under AGP-II:** AGP-II will adopt a more systematic approach to capacity development that reflects lessons learned from AGP1 and international best practice. An integrated approach addressing capacity issues at individual, organizational and enabling environment levels will be adopted and implemented by all implementing agencies using an agreed four-stage⁵⁰ model. This involves a shift away from the traditional emphasis on training and equipment purchase to a more systematic, comprehensive and holistic approach that is also being adopted by other flagship programs within the Ministry of Agriculture. To support the application of this new approach across AGP 2, a designated capacity development support facility (CDSF) will be established within component 5. The Facility will largely focus on strengthening capacity at the individual and organizational levels. Capacity issues identified at the enabling environment level will be addressed by the entire program with support from the CDSF as required. The CDSF will have two main objectives: i) Improve the quality of capacity development interventions within AGP-II; and ii) Strengthen the institutional capacity of implementing agencies to manage AGP2

Inclusiveness:

- ✧ With the current arrangement, Farmers Training Centers (FTC) serve as appropriate technology transfer hubs with a focus on those that enhance agricultural productivity. Unfortunately, the prime beneficiaries are male farmers, not by design but by way of responding to the needs of the Ethiopian highland agriculture. It is, therefore, recommended that technologies that best fit to the needs of women farmers are studied and included in the packages of FTC technology transfer services.
- **Mitigation measures under AGP-II:** Under AGP-II, there will be a specific target for the FTCs to release gender-sensitive technologies. Technologies would be screened to determine their gender impacts. Furthermore, the project will specifically target women farmers with tailor made innovations, activities and technical assistance, as an important productivity gap between female and male farmers

⁵⁰ The four stages are i) consensus building; ii) capacity strengthening; iii) application and follow up; and iv) institutionalization.

- remains in Ethiopia. As such, the scope of activities to support gender is diverse: gender capacity building of implementers, gender awareness, tailor made capacity building for women, gender quotas and target on specific investments and committees, specific investments dedicated to women, no-harm principle for identification of technologies, childcare for some trainings, etc. Gender is mainstreamed through all components of the program and AGP2 and includes piloting of gender innovations that will be evaluated by a rigorous gender impact evaluation to decide on their scaling up of the through the latter years.
- ✧ Itang Special *Woreda* experts are of a strong opinion that AGP-II, which is yet to start in their region, should include all the *kebeles* in the *woreda*. If any *kebele* or a certain ethnic group is excluded from the program, it could be a potential source of ethnic conflict in the *woreda*. Thus, the program should fairly consider all ethnic groups during implementation.
 - **Mitigation measures under AGP-II:** The selection of *kebeles* for support under AGP-II will be done in accordance to agreed criteria linked to the objectives of the project, which include the potential for increased productivity (agro-ecological potential) and the potential for increased commercialization of small-holder farmers (including proximity and access to markets). The approach will be clear and transparent. As under AGP-I, all ethnic groups are fairly considered.
 - ✧ Male and female youths both among the Nuer and Anuak are socialized in different social and physical settings. For example, Nuer FGD discussants said that male and female youths have separate houses to live in even at a household level. They do not eat, walk and play together. Thus, any attempt to organize male and female youths in one group might be considered as a serious cultural offense and face resistance from the communities. Thus, open and constructive discussion with the relevant stakeholders is recommended before engaging in organizing CIGs and mobilizing people for the implementation of AGP-II.
 - **Mitigation measures under AGP-II:** The basis for identifying CIGs comes from the CLPP process which takes into account cultural and social considerations. It should be stressed that these groups are self-selected.

Social Management Plan: Potential risks and challenges and recommendations

This social management plan as outline below will ensure that the program and its implementation will respect the dignity, rights and culture of groups meeting the OP4.10 requirements and ensure that these people benefit from the program benefit in a sustainable manner. The plan could be redefined during implementation and further consultation undertaken for the underserved groups to ensure their full participation. In the light of what has been outlined in the foregoing paragraphs, the *Matrix* below provides the summary of potential risks and challenges and recommendations.

Components/Issues	Potential risks and Challenges	Recommendations
Component I: <i>Increasing agricultural production and productivity</i>	<p>a) The risk that the implementation agencies will not respect the dignity, rights and culture of groups, resulting in the loss of cultural and social identity.</p> <p>b) Farmers Training Centres (FTC) serve as appropriate technology transfer hubs, but the prime beneficiaries are male farmers.</p> <p>c) Focus is on training, while regular follow-up and support is given very little attention.</p>	<p>a) The key instrument for communities to participate in the project in the consultative planning approach (CLPP). A detailed manual will be included as part of the Project Implementation Manual describing the process to ensure full participation in the project resource allocation and planning in all project localities. The Capacity Development Support Facility will support the capacity of local officials who would facilitate the consultation process. Due attention will be given to ensure those officials, implementation agencies and project staff are sensitized to cultural and social issues to ensure that the underserved groups do not lose control over the land traditionally utilized by them as source of livelihood and basis for their cultural and social systems. Close monitoring will be included to ensure the proper application of the RPF.</p> <p>b) It is recommended that technologies that best fit to the needs of women farmers are studied and included in the packages of FTC technology transfer services. Screening will be applied to all technologies from agricultural research (component 2) to promote those which meet women's needs. Women's groups particularly needs special support because of their responsibility in the household (as mothers, wives, care givers, etc.) and the bureaucracy's unresponsiveness to some groups of the society such as women. Capacity development to implementation agencies will stress the sensitivity to gender concerns (as was done under AGP-I.</p> <p>c) Support and follow-up is of paramount importance as all CIGs are not of equal standing in the society. AGP II would provide more in depth and longer capacity building to CIGs (for women and youth), supported by the Capacity Development Support Facility. M&E system to be strengthened to allow regular feedback from groups.</p>
Component II: <i>agricultural research</i>	Technologies from research tend not to take into consideration the needs and demands of women.	Under AGP II, All technologies researched will include gender screening, and a specific target will be established for the number of technologies released which specifically address the needs of women.
Component III: <i>Small-scale rural infrastructure development and management</i>	Weaker implementation capacity (e.g., small scale irrigation and rural feeder road construction) are the major challenges facing the implementing <i>woredas</i> .	A watershed approach to planning will be adopted under the AGP-II, to be detailed in the Project Implementation Manual. This would take into account all users of water within the watershed and address cultural and social sensitivities. All affected communities would be consulted.

	<p>Irrigation schemes which use surface water might be a potential source of conflict between the watersheds communities settled in different areas along the course of the river. Conflicts or tensions are likely to occur during implementing AGP II in relation to irrigable land. According to the Oromia <i>Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamation</i> (Proclamation No. 130/2007), Art. 14(4), irrigation land could be redistributed in order to properly utilize water and irrigable land, and farmers would hold a maximum of 0.5 hectare in such areas.</p> <p>Sustainability of the projects built might be at risk because of weak sense of ownership by the community.</p>	<p>In the event of conflict over the access to and use of water, there will be an intensive community consultation and awareness raising program and strengthen the use of indigenous local structures such as the <i>jaarsummaa</i>, <i>shimgilina</i>, <i>yewuhaabat</i>, etc in conflict resolution process. RPF to be fully applied where required.</p> <p>Ensure that project implementors are culturally sensitivity to the underserved communities and provide adequate culturally sensitivity training to the officers, and more importantly, involve the beneficiary community in the implementation of the project from the outset and use approved RPF on issues of land take.</p>
<p>Component IV: Agricultural marketing and agri-business development</p>	<p>CIGs are not effectively connected to the market.</p> <p>No credit linkage was reported from the AGP <i>woredas</i>, consequently CIGs could encounter shortage of finance to start businesses in the case of the former and to expand their small-scale businesses in the case of the latter.</p> <p>One major challenge AGP-I encountered during implementation was land availability for CIGs and IGs to become operational and informants anticipate AGP-II will face the same problem.</p> <p>Rural youth unemployment</p>	<p>Under AGP-II the approach to supporting farmer groups is based on lessons from the on-going AGP-I. The changes are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) support is restricted to women and youth groups, with no further support to mixed CIGs which tended to be dominated by men and exclude women; ii) all CIGs would be eligible for support from technical assistance, capacity development and matching grants and IGs would be discontinued as this caused tension; iii) fewer groups would be supported but with enhanced support to increase sustainability; iv) guidelines for the establishment and support to groups have been revised and disseminated, including clarity on eligible members and transparent processes for selection; v) enhance support will be provided for identify viable economic activities and preparing good quality business plans, which match resource availability, including access to land so as to avoid situations where lack of land availability inhibits the groups from achieving their objectives; vi) specific support will be made to link CIGs to

	and underemployment need to be supported under the project.	markets (eg through the support to value chains and seed multiplication); vii) under the Capacity Development Support Facility, support would be targeted at CIGs and to those agencies (including the Cooperative Agency), to provide support to CIGs; and vii) close monitoring of CIGs would be conducted to determine their performance and take corrective measures if required.
Component V: Program management and M&E	<p>Mismatch between expectation and capacity to deliver by the AGP-II.</p> <p>The tendency to consider AGP as an external project could jeopardise the implementation of AGP-II.</p> <p>Steering Committees need to meet regularly as per the PIM provision. If not, there is a risk of insufficient oversight and lack of ownership.</p> <p>Weak project technical support and follow up in almost all AGP <i>woredas</i> affects effectiveness of the program components in which various IGs and CIGs are organized.</p> <p>Low capacity at <i>woreda</i> and <i>kebele</i> levels to implement the project.</p> <p>AGP-II's grievance redress mechanism stipulated in the ESMF is not uniformly used during the implementation.</p> <p>Weaknesses in monitoring and evaluation.</p>	<p>A Communication Strategy would be prepared under AGP-II to clear define the process, content and mechanisms for informing all project stakeholders (including direct and indirect beneficiaries) on the objectives, scope and implementation modalities of the project. The project would provide clear information in local language and make realistic promises to the underserved groups on program benefits. Plans would be based on the CLPP process with community participation.</p> <p>Through persistent awareness raising program, ensure that implementing structures at all levels know about AGP and commit themselves for proper implementation of the program in a culturally appropriate manner. This will be reflected in the AGP-II Communication Strategy.</p> <p>As principal owners of the program, Steering Committees should commit themselves to ensure there are proper planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of AGP activities; and ensure that members of the underserved groups are also included in the various leadership positions of the project</p> <p>Project will provide technical support, including TA, training, capacity building during the implementation of AGP-II and more information and analysis on the types of special needs and gendered inequalities within the population of underserved groups. In particular, AGP-II will establish the Capacity Development Support Facility to provide a holistic approach to capacity building at all levels, including capacity related to cultural and social sensitivities.</p> <p>It is vital that consistent and culturally appropriate capacity building trainings be conducted for members of the various AGP-related grassroots committees.</p> <p>To ensure transparency and make people build confidence in the system, it is important that AGP-II uses its own in-built grievance redress mechanism, in</p>

		<p>which PAPs have reasonably representation. Further, strengthen the capacity of the individuals who will be involved in grievance handling processes particularly at grassroots levels through appropriate trainings.</p> <p>In the interest of ensuring a more effective and fairer grievance redress system, it is deemed beneficial to strengthen the traditional dispute settlement institutions through trainings to those involved in the process on the basic elements of the law and gender sensitive issues, particularly women and girls rights.</p> <p>Introduce participatory monitoring and evaluation (PME) system and marrying it with more traditional results-oriented approaches to program management. Further, social and environmental safeguards issues should constitute the core of M & E exercise and ESMF need to provide detail steps and templates for screening process.</p>
Consultation	<p>Direct consultation with the whole <i>kebele</i> residents was observed to be rare in most of the <i>woredas</i> covered in this study. The <i>modus operandi</i> is conveying the message through representatives selected from the sub-<i>kebele</i> (zone).</p> <p>Danger of making consultation a onetime event or campaign. Existing information gap on provision of adequate agricultural services that will improve the quality of productivity for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups</p> <p>Newly included regions lack clarity on AGP-II's objectives and the basis of identifying potential beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Ensure direct and all inclusive community consultation about AGP II and the various program components and the criteria for identifying the potential beneficiaries. This should be included in the project's Communication Strategy, and also in the manual for the CLPP.</p> <p>Sensitize the underserved on the risk of the project development process</p> <p>Community consultation would be a continuous process engaging different target population groups to secure not only their consent, but their active involvement with the project ownership. The CLPP would be conducted annually with all communities as per the PIM. Develop an evidence-base and culturally appropriate information on differential usage, needs and constraints on agricultural services with a particular emphasis on gender, income and place within vulnerable and disadvantaged population groups.</p> <p>Through persistent awareness raising program, ensure that implementing structures at all levels are known and commit to proper implementation of the program.</p>

Potential Conflict	<p>Itang Special <i>Woreda</i> experts are of a strong opinion that AGP should include all the <i>kebeles</i> in the <i>woreda</i>. Missing out any <i>kebele</i> or an ethnic group could be a potential source of ethnic conflict.</p> <p>Among the Nuer and Anuak, male and female youths are socialized in different social and physical settings.</p>	<p>The program should fairly consider all ethnic groups during implementation. Consistent criteria will be applied for the selection of kebeles to be supported under the project. This includes agricultural potential and access to markets (consistent with the project's objective to increase productivity and commercialization). Project site selection at Woreda level would be done in a socially inclusive and transparent manner, with an agreed set of criteria linked to the targets and outcomes of the project.</p> <p>Conduct open and constructive discussion with the relevant stakeholders before engaging in organizing youth in CIGs and mobilizing people for the implementation of AGP-II.</p>
<i>Commune Development Program</i>	<p>There is a high risk of the program to be associated with the government commune development program</p>	<p>No Kebeles covered by the Government Commune Development Program will be considered in the project. To be eligible to the project, each individual investment will have to demonstrate (among others): “the existence of a management plan describing the operational, financial and institutional arrangements, <i>formalizing sustainable access to the investment and preventing new permanent government managed settlements of any population groups around the investment</i>”.</p> <p>Strategic investment will be identify and design through studies which will include, in addition to technical, social, environmental and economic feasibilities, a consultation process to ensure the agreement and full participation of the local communities. During these consultations, an agreement with the communities will be sought on key aspects of the investment and on preventing new permanent government managed settlements of any population groups around the investment.</p>
<i>Lack of basic physical and social infrastructure</i>	<p>The project is about agriculture, but the prevailing lack of basic services and infrastructure in the participating communities can expose the project to high expectation beyond the mandate of the project.</p>	<p>Work with other WB's funded projects and donor projects in the areas to enhance other development opportunities in these communities beyond agriculture</p>

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Annex I: Community Consultation Attendance

AGP-II Social Assessment

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➤ Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

➤ Name of Region Amhara

➤ Zone AWI

➤ Woreda Guanqwa

➤ kebele BE Zrakani
















➤ Date of Consultation 04-04-2007

Amhara

No.	Name of Participants	Sex	Signature	Remark
1	Tesera Mofa	m		
2	Tibri Adem	m		
3	Tadda Dagnaw	m		
4	Terefe Yisizaw	m		
5	Alemineu Belay	m		
6	Gelaye Taddesse	F		
7	Bassahun Takela	m		
8	Yihane Alene	m		
9	Mihayehu Tikhaw	m		
10	Amsaya Zeleke	m		
11	Adano Molla	m		
12	Yesuf Hussen	m		

AGP-II Social Assessment

- Community Consultation Attendance Sheet
- Name of Region Amhara
- Zone Awi
- Woreda Guanfuo
- kebele Defera Abo
- Date of Consultation 05/04/2007

No.	Name of Participants	Sex	Signature	Remark
1.	Abelaw Amal	M		
2.	Aboula Alem	M		
3.	Selesmon Tesema	M		
4.	Mera Birhan	M		
5.	Melese Zeru	M		
6.	Shibabaw Belay	M		
7.	Muluach Mekuriau	M		
8.	Sulewaga Mekonen	M		
9.	Aduana Asres	M		
10.	Yizetay Kelemu	M		
11.	Birhanu Berie	M		
12.	Gedten wondmagegn	M		
13.	Eyasu Alemarehu	M		
14.	Alemie Belayneh	M		
15.	Mawu Aderaye			



* AGP II Social Assessment
 * Community Consultation Attendance Sheet
 * Region Ambara
 * Zone West Goffam
 * Woreda Qircom
 * Kebele PC23 FNB

ተቀ.	ስም	ጾታ	ፊርማ	ምርመራ
1	አሙኒኤ ጌቲ	ወ	ይቸ	
2	ደሣለኛ ከገጠ	ወ	ይቸ	
3	አባል ያህዌ	ወ	አባል	
4	አባል ማረፊያ	ወ	አባል	
5	ወብረት ስፈራዊ	ሰ	ወብረት	
6	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
7	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
8	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
9	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
10	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
11	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
12	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
13	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
14	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
15	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
16	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
17	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
18	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	
19	አባል አባል	ወ	አባል	



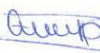













- AGP II Social Assessment
 - Community Consultation Attendance Sheet
 - Region Amhara
 - Zone West Gojjam
 - woreda Wemberema
 - kebele የቀበሌ

ተቀ	ስም	ፊት	ፊርማ	ምልክት
1	ገዢ ገብ	0		
2	ደብረ ሙሉ	00		
3	አብነት ሙሉ	03		
4	አብነት ሙሉ	0		
5	ደብረ ሙሉ	0		
6	አብነት ሙሉ	0		
7	ደብረ ሙሉ	0		
8	አብነት ሙሉ	0		
9	አብነት ሙሉ	0		
10	ደብረ ሙሉ	0		
11	አብነት ሙሉ	0		
12	ደብረ ሙሉ	0		
13	አብነት ሙሉ	0		
14	ደብረ ሙሉ	0		
15	አብነት ሙሉ	0		
16	ደብረ ሙሉ	0		



Basona District
AGP Technical Committee Meeting/EGP/

02-04-2007 E.C.

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Sign.
1	Eshetu Demssie	M	Animal Prod ⁿ Professional	
2	Anteneh Berhanu	M	Soil & water conservation expert INRM/	
3	Wondwossen Asratke	M	Women and youth org. pers and beneficiary officer	
4	Moges Aytenfshu	M	Agri. Input & Supply	
5	Alemayehu Mekonnen	M	Agri. planning	
6	Hailemichael Fikru	M	mon Ext ⁿ process coord ⁿ	
7	Seawangizaw Negussie	M	TRAD & TRANSPORT officer	
8	Hategua Zewdie	F	project co-ordinator	
9	Demeka W/tenyay	M	H. Department of Horticulture	
10	Zebenay Gebru	M	environmental impact Assessment	
11	Tsion Girma	F	Agri. plant production & protection	
12	Fekadu Sime	M	coop. mana. Exp.	
13	Kesio Himaniam Teshome	M	Agri. office lead	
14	Erolale Benne	M		

Basona District
Debut Kebele

03-04-2007 E.C

ቁ.	ስም	ሠራተኛ
1.	አብ. ለገሰ	አብ ለገሰ
2.	ድግሠ አብ	ድግሠ አብ
3.	ንጉሥ ተዋሽ	ድግሠ አብ
4.	ወልደሙ አብ	ድግሠ አብ
5.	ፍቅረሙ ማገሥ	ድግሠ አብ
6.	ሐይለማርያም ወ/ሃይለማርያም	ድግሠ አብ
7.	አብነት ንጉሥ	ድግሠ አብ
8.	ሐ/መስቀል ለገሰ	ድግሠ አብ
9.	ገብረሠጋው ረዳ	ድግሠ አብ
10.	ዝርዝር ድርጅት	ድግሠ አብ
11.	ለገሰ ወሥን	ድግሠ አብ
12.	አብነት ድግሠ አብ	ድግሠ አብ
13.	ገብረሠጋው አብነት	ድግሠ አብ
14.	ድግሠ አብ ገብረሠጋው	ድግሠ አብ
15.	ወልደሙ ተጌሪ	ድግሠ አብ
16.	ድግሠ አብ ድግሠ አብ	ድግሠ አብ
17.	ገብረሠጋው ለገሰ	ድግሠ አብ
18.	ወልደሙ ድግሠ አብ	ድግሠ አብ
19.	ድግሠ አብ ለገሰ	ድግሠ አብ
20.	ገብረሠጋው ወልደሙ	ድግሠ አብ

Basona District
Debele Kessele
Soil and Water Conservation

03-04-2007 E.C

ቀን	ስም	ጾታ
1	ገርጽ ወይዘሮ	ጾታ
2	አረፋ ወ/ሃይለማርያም	ጾታ
3	አበበ አዲስ	ጾታ
4	አርፋ ገብረ	ጾታ
5	አብነት ደረጃ	ጾታ





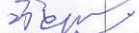











Ministry of agriculture
Agricultural Gross program (AGP)

(GP) Benzhangul Gumuz
Region- Wolayita
Woreda- Addis Ababa

Date of consultation 11-04-2007

103

(GP) Benishanguly Gumuz
Region-----
Woreda----- (Koror 2) Piff. Manduk

S/N	Name	Signature
1	ታደሰ ገብረ	
2	ማሳ ዘመነ	
3	ወይዘሩ ገብረ	
4	አዲስ - አሰራር	
5	ሼሮ ገብረ	
6	ወንጌል ገብረ	
7	ሀይለማርያም	
8	አብነት ገብረ	
9	ወርቅ ገብረ	
10	አብነት ገብረ	
11	አብነት ገብረ	
12	አብነት ገብረ	
13	አብነት ገብረ	
14	አብነት ገብረ	
15	አብነት ገብረ	
16	አብነት ገብረ	

31

13 - female
18 - male

(GP)
Region- Gambella
Woreda- Itang, Achwa

S/N	Name	Signature	Date
1	Abdullahi Yusuf	[Signature]	
2	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
3	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
4	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
5	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
6	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
7	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
8	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
9	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
10	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
11	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
12	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
13	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
14	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
15	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
16	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
17	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
18	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	
19	" Adamu Yusuf	[Signature]	
20	" Aliyu Yusuf	[Signature]	

~~18~~ femal
12-mol

male = ~~29~~ 31
F8 32

31-m
18-Females

Ministry of agriculture
Agricultural Gross program (AGP)

Region Gambella
Woreda Gambella Jopna A

Community Consultation Attendance Sheets
Date of consultation 01-01-07

S/N	Name	Signature	
1	Ojulu Owar OKONGO		
2	Obang Ojulu Othoy		
3	Omod OKOK Ochalla		
4	Peter Owar		
5	Ojulu Gillo		
6	Cham: Ojuato		
7	Akwata: medo		
8	Chibi: Obaya		
9	Nyinyiew Omod		
10	OKONGO Obang		
11	Nyinyiew Othoy		
12	Kieba Omod O		
13	Owar abalir		
14	Owar Gillo		
15	JK CAHM		
16	Omod Ocan		
17	Othoy Obang		
18	NGATH Ojulu		
19	Okok Ochoy		
20	OKHO OJULU		
21	Odocha Bel		
22	Owar cham		
23	Obang Abulla		
24	Omod BOD		
25	OKiera Othow		
26	Neluy Ogala		
27	deag Ojaay		
28	Oriemi Oman		





























19- male
10- female

18- male
11- female

Oromia

✓ Munesa District
Gandak Garbi XISS O

Date : 26-03-2007 E.C

No	Name	Sex	Signature
1	Fayyiso Jaxar	du	
2	Fayyiso Jaxar	du	
3	Jaxar Hunder	"	
4	Abdullah Jaxar	"	
5	Muhammad Balch	"	
6	Hussein Wanyiso	"	
7	Kamari Goban	"	
8	Turk Balch	"	
9	Muhammad Gamar	"	
10	Abbas Fayyiso	"	
11	Dawar Dhugum	"	
12	Bojan Edaro	"	
13	Begar Edaro	"	
14	Qujan Wanyiso	"	
15	Mamoo Abash	"	
16	Amari Bobbe	"	
17	Bobbe Bahar	"	
18	Gamar Leenjiso	"	
19	Arigga Gurmu	"	
20	Kadir Hamar	"	
21	Caam Ejers	"	
22	Moham Edaro	"	
23	Jidhar Gurmu	"	
24	Faxum Habib	DUB	
25	Makida Gamarum	DUB	
26	Sanyan Fayyiso	DUB	
27	Fatigga Daffoo	DUB	
28	Amin Wanyiso	DUB	
29	Obsee Bojan	DUB	
30	Kibbi Butar	DUB	
31	Habibo Gamar	DUB	
32	Caatu Gamarum Tolose	DUB	
33	Begale Ejers	DUB	
34	Kushum Shum	DUB	
35	DHarrar Kassar	DUB	
36	Bahamu Tolose	DUB	

File: 26-03-2017 E.C

Munessa Woreda

Kessa Town

04.12.2014

Meeting with
Members of Tehnazal C.

Servo	Name	pos. Aron	Tel. No	Signature
1	Mustafa Huluk	Vice head of Agri	0935993040	
2	Fanta Wodajon	Cultural office	0923733168	
3	Abdulkarim Aman	W/m/m/ D/fac	0910950060	
4	ristak relesse	H/Economics	0913150746	
5	Lulu kecha	Cooperative	0945798093	
6	Asebu Tsige	Seed Expert	0913316821	
7	Zinash Tazema	irr. Eng.	0910948645	
8	Gietahun Dake	Extension expert	0913425678	
9	Museen Tserren	Women Associa	0910004332	
10	Daomera Ababo	Youngst. Assoc	0912857205	
11	Chala Rekebo	Agri-office FP	0910948918	
12	Mutiku Aremu	Itzronomist	0913763292	
13	Dekeba Adugna	Grp protection	0910343005	
14	Geasin Gadaa	Environment	0913328926	

Munessa District
Munessa Kebele

ቀን: 26-03-2007 ደ-ረ

ቁ	ስም	ጾታ
1	Birhaanu Gabree	♂
2	ማሳኒሳ ማሳኒሳ	♀
3	ደምሳሳ ፍቅር	♂
4	ተክተክ	♀
5	ተለማረ ገብረ	♂

Liban Cuzacada District
Ganda Adele M'eechaa

28-03-2007 E.C

No.	Name	Signature
1	gazu latuu	
2	gadi'saa latuu	Gadi'saa
3	Dachii' matkaa	Dachii' matkaa
4	Tam'zoo wazii'	
5	sozsee ye'	+ fcc
6	muluu jodaa	sozsee
7	Abbassee gomoda	muluu
8	Kozbua ye'	gnd 7004
9	Gezasoo madimu	Gezasoo
10	Baggolaababasoo	
11	gagisaa si'saguu	gagisaa
12	hurzee mag'zoo	gagisaa
-		Hurzee














Liban Chuzala District
Ganda Dololo Jilaa

Date: 28-03-2007 E.C.

No.	Name	Signature
1.	Damtissuu nagaash	HPH
2.	Mayyaa Shaambuu mayyaa	Mayyaa
3.	Guddaa Daggaafaa	Guddaa
4.	Fittaaalee Wayyeechaa	F.I.
5.	Galaambu Tufaa	-Galaambu
6.	Beemiyaa Tufaa	Beemiyaa
7.	Tsaggaa Biisaa	Tsaggaa
8.	Sooreecha euggee	Sooreecha

Kalimara District Members of Technical Committee

29-03-2007 E.C

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Signature
1	Dejene Bekele	M	Extension Coordinator	
2	Fufa Uma	M	Technical comite	
3	Fikru Tsegaye	M	" "	
4	Addisu Alemayehu	M	Expert / TC	
5	Fikru Kebede	"	" Livestock	
6	Shemaye Obsuu	F	Home economics	
7	Abdi Fufa	M	Exp. N/Resource	
8	Terefe Shentore	M	Tech. com. of Cooperative	
9	Tsegaye Dinku	M	Inc Authority focal person	
10	Tadesse Tajebe	M	Seed Quality Expert	
11	Zamudee Baayisa	M	Technical committee	
12	Salomon Madheshes	M	Finance focal person	
13	Demissie Zewdie	M	focal person (Agriculture)	

Welmera District
Ganda Barfataa 1st

30-03-2020 E.C

No.(#)	Name (Age)	Signature (beeq)
1	ወ/ሮ መስከፍት ገብረ	መስከፍት
2	ወ/ሮ ወልደሰገሥት ማሞ	ወልደሰገሥት
3	>> ገብረማርያም ገብረ	ገብረማርያም ገብረ
4	>> ገብረ ማሞ	ገብረ
5	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
6	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
7	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
8	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
9	ገብረ ማሞ	ገብረ
10	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
11	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
12	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
13	ወ/ሮ ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
14	ገብረ ማሞ	ገብረ
15	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
16	>> ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
17	መ/ሮ ገብረማርያም ማሞ	ገብረ
18		

Welmeria District
Ganda Subaa

01-04-2007 E.C

No.	Name	Sex	Signature
1.	Darabsee Raguu	M	Darabsee
2	Danyee Bodhoo	M	P. S. N. H. W.
3	Katema Octaeho	M	W. H. O. G.
4	Zamude Gormao	M	W. H. O. G.
5	Sootti Fagii	M	W. H. O. G.
6	Darabe Hande	M	W. H. O. G.
7	Ababe Kabbale	M	W. H. O. G.
8	Chattu Hivpho	F	W. H. O. G.
9	Alamitu Badacha	F	W. H. O. G.
10	Alamitu Badacha Dandhi	F	W. H. O. G.
11	Abbabau monazoo	M	W. H. O. G.
12	Ayyaala Domise	M	W. H. O. G.
13	Warginash Igao	F	W. H. O. G.
14	Alam mabrafum	M	W. H. O. G.
15	firoo Dadhi	F	W. H. O. G.
16	Tammire Guntar	F	W. H. O. G.
17	Dabaabau Bary'saa	M	W. H. O. G.
18	Tissit Dasaleeny	F	W. H. O. G.

Ministry of agriculture
Agricultural Gross program (AGP)

Region Oromia
Woreda Chora

Community Consultation Attendance Sheets

Date of consultation 28-03-2007 CC

S/N	Name	Signature	
1	አባ አባ		
2	ተሰፋ አባ		
3	ታሰፋ ታሰፋ		
4	አባ አባ		
5	አባ አባ		
6	አባ አባ		
7	አባ አባ		
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9	አባ አባ		
10	አባ አባ		
11	አባ አባ		
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14	አባ አባ		
15	አባ አባ		
16	አባ አባ		
17	አባ አባ		
18	አባ አባ		
19	አባ አባ		
20	አባ አባ		
21	አባ አባ		
22	አባ አባ		
23	አባ አባ		
24	አባ አባ		
25	አባ አባ		

AGIP Social Assessment Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Region SNWPR

Zone Kaffa

Woreda Decha

Kebele Aburada Geter

Date _____

SNWPR

S.No	Name	Sex	Signature
1.	Tesfaye Tadesse	M	
2.	Aklilu Ikalo	M	
3.	Melaku Fereaj	M	
4.	Terefe Abebe	M	
5.	Wondimu Wledajo	M	
6.	Italem Tadesse	F	
8.	Asmamaw Fereaji	M	
9.	Admasu Fereaji	M	
10.	Ashebir Ikalo	M	
11.	Terefech Tadesse	F	
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			

AGP Social Assessment Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Region SNPR

Zone Kaffa

Woreda Pecha

Kibele Gomuloja

Date

S. No	Name	Sex	Signature
1.	Aster Haile	F	
2.	Atsedo Haile		
3.	Meerkimesh G/michael		
4.	Almaz G/sellasie		
5.	Almaz Kebede		
6.	Aster W/mariam		
7.	Aster Addisu		
8.	Tadelech W/mariam		
9.	Asmera W/yesus		
10.	Alemnesh W/yesus		
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			

AGP Social Assessment Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Region SNNPR
 Zone Burape
 Woreda Enmore and Enet
 Kebele Kuneber
 Date _____

No.	Name	Sex	Signature
1.	Kibret Hussein		
2.	Belag Mulaga		
3.	Itiyopha W/meriam	F	
4.	Mulatu G/Hana	F	
5.	Tena Hailu	F	
6.	Amarecha Kifle	F	
7.	Sale Ahmed	F	
8.	Sofya Teinal	F	
9.	Ziyada Tenkier	F	
10.	Biriche Delese	F	
11.	Alemwork Yassin	F	
12.	Sofya NU reddin	F	
13.	Hirya mohammed	F	
14.	Worukmel Ahmed	F	
15.	Andu mela	F	
16.	Alemwork Hassen	F	
17.	Yajib Sheriff	F	
18.	Ametu Remsit	F	
19.	Shawad Kerwere	F	
20.	Hadra Ledi	F	
21.	Seube chogenu	F	
22.	Kamla Hailu	F	
23.	Fusti serasa	F	

AGP Social Assessment Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Region SPNPR

Zone Gurage

Woreda Enmore and Enet
~~Woreda~~

Kebele Shanga

Date _____

S. No.	Name	Sex	Signature
1.	Fantu Muri	F	
2.	Buzayehu AmSir	F	
3.	Yirgalem mesfin	F	
4.	Agneda Yirga	F	
5.	Birgu Murga	F	
6.	Belag nida	F	
7.	Getu Zefir	M	
8.	Tanu Befene	M	
9.	Mizatu Gizaw	M	
10.	Mursefa Buseriya		
11.	Barsawi Anuwaqa	F	

AGP Social Assessment Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Region SNWPR

Zone ---

Woreda Konta Special Woreda

Kebele Baba Demota

Date ---

S. No	Name	sex	Signature
1.	Tilahun Aldada	M	
2.	Abate Adele	M	
3.	Afelech Aldada	F	
4.	Arota Aldada	M	
5.	Abayneh Aldada	M	
6.	Pesta Dime	M	
7.	Wlojil menfesha	M	
8.	Malla menfesha	M	
9.	Menfesha ute	M	
10.	Mesfin Agile	M	
11.	Gerume Geze	M	
12.	Askal Kansa	F	
13.	Abayneh Indeshaw	F	

AGP Social Assessment Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Region SNNPR

Zone

Woreda Konta Special Woreda

Kebele Genji Genet

Date

S. No	Name	Sex	Signature
1.	Brhkan Uka	F	
2.	Abansho Chenu	"	
3.	Elfensh Mamo	"	
4.	Almare Segaro	"	
5.	ELfenash Emeru	"	
6.	Damoch Dercha	"	
7.	Asnakech Ateteto Ololo	"	
8.	Balanesh Chofera	"	
9.	Berlech Bezaba	"	
10.	Amarech Dodecho	"	
11.	Zerferash Tesema	"	
12.	Meretta Aymelo	"	
13.	Gesame Sale	"	
14.	Zewdet Dosta	"	
15.		"	

AGP Social assessment community consultation attendance sheet

Region SNPR

Zone Deba Omo

Woreda Senar Ari

Kebele Safnadawa

Date 06/10/14

S.No	Name	Sex	Signature
16	Abigana Teshome	F	
17	Alhebir Kasa	M	
18	Alapir Tafa	M	
19	Addisalem Asefa	M	
20	Ashapte Alemari	M	
21	Teke Sideshi	M	
22	Massi Bulinto	F	
23	Yizeta Senay	F	
24	Adanech Alemari	F	
25	Yidiyena Tsageta	F	
26	Mezgebe Woluzmi	F	
27	Kirasana Belachew	F	
28	Martha Admasu	F	
29	Zelalem Zerfu	F	
30	Yisihak Zerfu	M	
31	Denesh Zinka	F	
32	Gadema Aiga	F	

AGP Social Assessment Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Region SNNPR

Zone Debul Dmo

Woreda Semen Ari

Kebele Ambi

Date - 05/10/14

S. No	Name	Sex	Signature
1.	Magiste Duka	F	
2.	mintaf Kitata	F	
3.	Magiste Nika	F	
4.	Kadana Samadayis	F	
5.	Tabota Ramidayis	F	
6.	Tasfana Bayatar	F	
7.	Chaginagh Bora	F	
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			

Tigray

AGP-II Social Assessment



















- Community Consultation Attendance Sheet
- Name of Region Tigray
- Zone N/West
- Woreda Fladkabo
- Kebele mentebete (commmn)
- Date of Consultation _____

No.	Name of Participants	Sex	Signature	Remark
1	ወይዘሮ ደፃዊ	F	Hop	
2	አጼን ገገሽ	F	As	
3	ሀገረ አባይ	F	As	
4	ተሰገሽ ተደሰ	F	As	
5	የሀገረ ሀገረ ሀገረ	F	in	
6	የደ ሀገረ	F	Shes	
7	ሀገረ ገገሽ	F	4-09	
8	ሀገረ ሀገረ	F	As	
9	ሀገረ ተደሰ	M	As	
10	ሀገረ ሀገረ ሀገረ	M	As	
11	አባይ ሀገረ	M	As	
12	ተሰገሽ ተደሰ	M	As	
13	ሀገረ ሀገረ	M	As	
14	ሀገረ ሀገረ	M	As	
15	አባይ አባይ	F	As	
16	ተሰገሽ ገገሽ	M	As	
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18	አባይ ገገሽ	M	As	



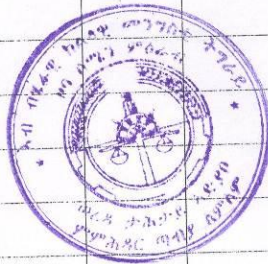
AGP-II Social Assessment

- Community Consultation Attendance Sheet
- Name of Region Tigray
- Zone N/West
- Woreda Tiadiyabo
- kebele Lemlem
- Date of Consultation _____

No.	Name of Participants	Sex	Signature	Remark
01	Gebreu Reda	M		
02	Gettom Beki	M		
03	Sahle Gerari	M		
04	አገረ አገረ	M		
05	ለማርያም ልጅ	F		
06	አበበ ልጅ	M		
07	ደግሞ ልጅ	M		
08	ገብረ ልጅ	M		
09	አለፈ ገብረ	M		
10	የሥራ ልጅ	M		
11	አለፈ ገብረ	M		
12	አለፈ ልጅ	M		
13	አለፈ ልጅ	M		
14	አለፈ ልጅ	M		
15	አለፈ ልጅ	F		
16	አለፈ ልጅ	F		
17	አለፈ ልጅ	F		
18	አለፈ ልጅ	F		









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AGP-II Social Assessment

- Community Consultation Attendance Sheet
- Name of Region Tigray
- Zone Alwest
- Woreda Tiadyabo
- kebele Lemlem
- Date of Consultation _____

No.	Name of Participants	Sex	Signature	Remark
01	Leake - Wilgebrecht	M		D.A
02	Ytza Abrara	m		K/manager
03	Tessay KEGNU	m		Tsk
04	Nigist Teka	F		HA D.A
05	Aja - Gesawa	F	*	250M P/BK NRP Hb
06	Rishan - Tekle	F		??
17	Bahre Jaster	m		የቀበሌ ንብረት



Afa Humera - Adebay Kebele

AGP-II Social Assessment

Community Consultation Attendance Sheet

Name of Region Tigray

Zone Western

Woreda Afa Humera

Kebele Adebay

Date of Consultation 30/03/2007

No.	Name of Participants	Sex	Signature	Remark
1.	አርባ አዲስ	M	[Signature]	
2.	አባይ አዲስ	M	[Signature]	
3.	ደሳለኝ ተአዳ	M	[Signature]	
4.	ተስፋፋሪ ለሀ	M	[Signature]	
5.	ተስፋሪ ገብረ	M	[Signature]	
6.	አዲስ አዲስ	M	[Signature]	
7.	ሌላ አዲስ	M	[Signature]	
8.	ገብረአብ አዲስ	M	[Signature]	
9.	ተስፋሪ ወልደአብ	M	[Signature]	
10.	ደቂቅ ተስፋሪ	M	[Signature]	
11.	ገብረአብ ገብረ	M	[Signature]	
12.	አዲስ ሃይለ	M	[Signature]	
13.	ሙሉ አዲስ	M	[Signature]	
14.	ወልደ ልብ	M	[Signature]	
15.	አዲስ ገብረአብ	M	[Signature]	
16.	ገብረአብ ሃይለ	M	[Signature]	
17.	ገብረአብ ገብረ	M	[Signature]	
18.	ሙሉ አዲስ	M	[Signature]	
19.	ገብረ ገብረ	M	[Signature]	
20.	አዲስ ሙሉ	F	[Signature]	



AGP-II Social Assessment

- Community Consultation Attendance Sheet
- Name of Region Tigray
- Zone Western
- Woreda Khumeka
- Kebele Rawcayan
- Date of Consultation 01/04/2007

No.	Name of Participants	Sex	Signature	Remark
1	tesha G/chesrose	male		
2	esaye w/Aregay	"		
3	Mulugeta G/zeher	"		
4	H/Mariam Kidanu	"		
5	G/Meskel Misgina	"		
6	Kirose Brihan	female		
7	Yisake Zeraye	male		
8	Birhan G/zeher	"		
9	Debalqen Fawdaku	"		
10	haletom wetdu	"		
11	Solomon hailu	"		
12	Aryate Assefa	female		
13	G/irmay Senebe	male		
14	Alqaness G/zeher	female		
15	Aklilis Hmedhen	male		
16	Tirsh Adame	"		
17	Harega tesfay	female		



Annex II: Community Consultation Photos

Semen Ari Woreda



Youth Group engaged in Bull fattening



Women's Group Engaged in Dairy Farming

Konta Special Woreda



Mixed Group Engaged in Sheep Fattening



Women's Group Engaged in Sheep Fattening

Enmorena Ener Woreda



Mixed Group Engaged in Dairy Farming
and Crop Production



Women Group Engaged in Crop Production

Decha Woreda



Youth Group Engaged in Bull Fattening



Women Group Engaged in Sheep Fattening

Munessa Woreda



Discussion with Technical Committees members



Discussion with Community Members

Liban Chuqala Woreda



Discussion with Community Members

Welmera Woreda



Discussion with AGP beneficiaries

Chora Woreda



Community Consultation with Women CIG



Community Consultation with Youth CIG, Chora Woreda

Basona Werena Woreda



Discussion with Steering Committee of AGP

Itang Special Woreda



Community Consultation



Community Consultation, Group Photo

Gambella Zuria Woreda



Community Consultation, Youth Group

Mandura Woreda



Community Consultation



Woman playing significant role in participation

Wonbera Woreda



Community Consultation