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**WARDIS: Amhara Region**

**SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
REHABILITATION PROGRAMME  
THE WEREDA AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES (WARDIS)  
UNECA**

**Women in Development : Programme  
Proposal for Oromiya Zone of the  
Amhara Region**

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i  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
SUMMARY	
1.INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND . . . . .	1
1.1 Agricultural and Rural Development Policies . . . . .	1
1.2 Women's Economic Contribution and the Household Production Sector . . . . .	2
1.3 General Picture of the Rural Household in the Oromiya Zone of the Amhara Region . . . . .	3
1.4 Objectives of the Study . . . . .	4
2. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY . . . . .	6
3. CURRENT SITUATION . . . . .	8
3.1 General Information . . . . .	8
3.1.1 Means of Living and Women's Contribution to Family Livelihood . . . . .	8
3.1.2 Women's Share and Position in the Formal Education System of the Zone . . . . .	9
3.1.3 Dietary Patterns of People in the Surveyed Kebelles . . . . .	12
3.2 Social and Cultural Attitudes Towards Women . . . . .	13
3.2.1 Cultural and Religious Influences in Women's Marriage and Divorce Rights . . . . .	13
3.2.2 Conditions of Divorce and Property Share of Women . . . . .	15
3.2.3 Family Property Inheritance of Women . . . . .	17
3.3 Women's Role in Agricultural Production . . . . .	17
3.3.1 Women's Participation in Crop and Livestock Production . . . . .	18
3.3.2 Women's Involvement in Decision Making in the Production, Management and Marketing Aspects of Agricultural Produce . . . . .	19
3.3.3 Women's Role in Housework Production Activities . . . . .	20
3.3.4 Food Storage and Loss at Household Level . . . . .	23
3.4 Women's Role in Natural Resource Conservation and	

	Access to Credit and Extension Services . . . . .	25
	3.4.1 Women's Role in Natural Resource Conservation . . . . .	25
	3.4.2 Women's Access to Credit Facilities . . . . .	25
	3.4.3 Women's Access to Extension Services . . . . .	26
	3.5 Women's Health Status and Family Planning . . . . .	27
4.	OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN THE SURVEYED KEBELLES	29
5.	PROGRAMME FORMULATION . . . . .	31
	5.1 Introduction . . . . .	31
	5.2 Project Rationale . . . . .	32
	5.2.1 Promotion of Fuel Energy Saving Rural Household Technologies . . . . .	32
	5.2.2 Provision of Goat on Credit for Rural Women Living on Sale of Fire Wood . . . . .	33
	5.2.3 Promotion of Societal Positive Attitudinal Change Towards Women . . . . .	34
	5.3 Objectives . . . . .	35
	5.4 Project Component . . . . .	36
	5.4.1 Promotion of Energy Saving Rural Household Technology . . . . .	36
	5.4.2 Provision of Goat on Credit for Rural Poor Women Living on sale of Fire Wood . . . . .	42
	5.4.3 Promotion of Societal Positive Attitudinal Change Towards Women . . . . .	46

iii  
List of Tables

	<u>Table</u>
1. Table 1 - Households' Source of Means of Living in the Sample Kebeles (%) . . . . .	8
2. Table 2 - Husbands' and Wives' Average Labour and Time Input in Family Means of Living in the Sample Kebeles Surveyed (%) . . . . .	9
3. Table 3A - School Enrolment and Dropouts of Boys and Girls by Wereda (First Semester of 1988 E.C.) . . . . .	10
4. Table 3B - School Drop outs by Sex (First Semester of 1988 E.C.) . . . . .	11
5. Table 4 - Qualification of Teachers in the Surveyed Weredas by sex . . . . .	12
6. Table 5 - Marriage Agreement and Range of Hak Payment in the Surveyed Kebeles . . . . .	14
7. Table 6 - Conditions for Property Sharing During Divorce in the Surveyed Kebeles . . . . .	16
8. Table 7A - Labour and Time Input in Agricultural Activities by Women (%) . . . . .	18
9. Table 7B - Women's Involvement in Decision Making in Agricultural Production, Consumption, and Marketing Activities (%) . . . . .	19
10. Table 8 - Annual Average of Labour and Time Input in Housework Activities by Women in the Studied Sample Households by Kebeles (Hours) . . . . .	21
11. Table 9 - Firewood and Drinking Water Consumption per Household per Year in the Surveyed Kebeles. . . . .	22
12. Table 10 - Food Loss/Damage at Household Level in the Surveyed Weredas (%) . . . . .	24
13. Table 11 - Number of Clients and Type	

		of Birth Control Methods Taken in the Zone . . . . .	28
14.	Table 12 -	Estimated Cost for the Promotion of Energy Saving Rural Household Technologies . . . . .	40
15.	Table 13 -	Estimated Cost for the Promotion of Goat on Credit for rural Poor Women Living on Sale of Firewood. . . . .	44
16.	Table 14 -	Estimated Cost for the Promotion of Societal Positive Attitudinal Change Towards Women . . . . .	48
17.	Table 15 -	Consolidated Estimated Budget for the Three Proposed Projects for Women in Development (Birr) . . . . .	50

## S U M M A R Y

The main purpose of this study is to assess and analyze the actual role of rural women in agriculture and household production activities, including their involvement in decision making and access to resources in the Oromiya Zone of the Amhara Region.

The data collection methodologies used in this study were participatory rural appraisal, personal observations and selected case studies. The sample Kebeles were selected to represent the major agro-ecologies of the zone.

Mixed farming is the main means of living of people in this zone. Few poor families, women in particular are noted also live from sale of fire wood. The labour and time input of husbands and wives in the daily living maintenance of their families ranged between 33-52 and 48-67 per cent, respectively. In monetized value wives contribution to their families source of income is estimated to be lower (41%) than the husbands (59%).

Zonal school enrolment of boys and girls for the first semester of 1988 (E.C.) is relatively close between both sexes, even though boys' was slightly higher. On the other hand number of women teachers who are diploma (5) and degree (1) holders in the zone are very few.

Women in this society are looked as inferior and have very low participation in peasant association meetings as well as administrative posts, involving decision making activities. Both monogamy and polygamy marriage types are widely practiced in the zone. Since the majority of the rural people are Muslims, marriage rituals/oaths are performed based on the Kadi judicial system. Marriage agreements (Nicka) are done in a form of Hak (money payment agreed by the man to pay to the wife during divorce) payments. Usually the Hak payment in this system ranges from Birr 50-100 and 40-50 for the girl who gets married for the first and second time, respectively. Women in this socio-cultural system do not have any legal rights to share farm land or other properties when divorced. Normally when the man wants the divorce, the woman

gets the Hak payment and he takes back the jewellery he bought for her during the wedding or engagement ceremonies. If the wife requests for divorce, she leaves him the Hak payment, jewellery and she is obliged to pay him compensation to get divorced. Likewise, female children only share one-third of their father's property, whereas male children take two-third of the family's wealth and own the farm land of the father. Widows are allowed to keep the farm land after death of the husbands and they are recognized as household heads.

Women in the surveyed Weredas participate in various agricultural production activities. The labour and time input of women ranged from 15-39 and 53-75 per cent in crop and livestock production activities, respectively. Participation of women in decision making related to marketing, storing and family food security of farm produce are noted to be very low. In the housework activities women play major roles. Among all the housework activities performed in these localities the highest labour and time inputs are in the provision of fire wood (34%), family food preparation (29%) and fetching drinking water (19%). The staple food in these localities requires frequent cooking or baking. Sorghum-Enjera is noted to have poor storage quality and loses its palatability, when kept over night.

An average consumption of fire wood per household per year is 309 donkey loads. Women fetch water at an average of twice a day. The daily water consumption per household is between 40-50 litres.

The selected households studied reported that there is a significant loss of food at household level, caused by various factors, such as lack of proper storage facilities and food processing tools. If food is not treated with pesticides, the pit storage loss of food grain is noted to be 25-50 per cent. The loss in processing is estimated to be 11 per cent.

Women's participation in natural resource conservation is low, due to cultural and religious drawbacks. Only widows are usually eligible to get credit facilities, since they own land of their husbands. Mostly extension services of improved seed and fertilizers are given to women household heads (widows). Apart from this, no extension services like improved

household technologies, food management, rural model house construction, fuel saving techniques, nutrition education, labour saving devices etc. are not given to women or men in the communities surveyed. Women's lack of access to credit and extension services are the results of multi-dimensional factors and problems.

Vaccinations against childhood diseases, family planning education services are being given in each Wereda surveyed. However, it is noted that the majority of the men still have negative attitudes towards controlling birth of a child. Thus some wives take contraceptives without their husbands knowledge; this on the other hand endangers their marriage life.



## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Family food security involves more than increasing the agricultural production. Therefore, understanding the rural family living conditions and integration of the household production sector in development are important aspects in achieving SAERP/WARDIS objectives. Besides, rural women's role in development can be better recognized and accounted for if only these sectors are carefully studied and analyzed.

### 1.1 Agricultural and Rural Development Policies

Agriculture is the main means of living of the Ethiopian people and plays major roles in the country's economy. It accounts 45 per cent of GDP and more than 85 per cent of the country's exports (MOA, 1995).

Despite the nation's resources and series of efforts tried to bring positive change to the economy, due to various natural and man-made constraints, production and productivity have remained low.

Ethiopia's prime concern today, therefore, is to increase the growth and efficiency of agricultural and rural developmental sectors. More rapid progress in development is required not only to improve the quality of life of the rural people, but also to ensure adequate food supplies for the rapidly growing population.

In order to facilitate the development of these sectors and minimize their constraints, appropriate policy is needed. Among the points emphasized in the draft policy of the Ministry of Agriculture, a particular focus has been placed on the development of the peasant sector of the agricultural economy. In order to develop the peasant sector of the rural economy, policy emphasis concerns in the application of appropriate technologies that will help lighten the burden of rural women and improve their productivity (MOA, 1995).

Likewise, the policy supports corrective measures to ensure fair and equitable allocation of land to the landless people in the rural areas. The national policy of Ethiopian women (NPEW) also recognizes equal rights of women to own and control a fair share of national resources and participate in decision making in all sectors of development and public affairs (NPEW 1993).

The measures taken by the government in drafting these policies are encouraging and will have significant contributions in improving the living conditions and status of women in the Ethiopian society. The challenge, however, is still in meeting the desired objectives of these policies.

In order to translate these into deeds, orientation and awareness creation among the rural society is badly and urgently needed.

Thus, drafting women's policy and strategies alone could not economically or politically empower women and help them solve their problems. Monitoring these policies and strategies supported by enforcement mechanisms would however, be useful. Budgetary support at all levels are also needed to ensure that policies and strategies developed for women's advancement are implemented.

### 1.2 Women's Economic Contribution and the Household Production Sector

Since the issue of women's socio-economic status is interrelated with the stereotype problems of the housework, it is necessary to understand how the household production sector, where women are mostly engaged, functions.

The household production sector is a sector, where purposeful activities are performed in individual households to create the goods and services that make it possible for a family to function as unit (Wudnesh 1991). Rural households which depend on subsistence form of living are responsible for the production of food and for providing other basic needs of their families.

Therefore, to exactly know the role of household members in the daily living maintenance and to find out the labour and time input in producing these goods and services, the household is classified into four major work (production) areas. They are: the housework, farm work, livestock care and production and the off-farm and social obligation work areas.

The household production sector is classified in such a way as to clarify the magnitude and influences of the work areas on the total economic growth and well being of a society. A nation's development cannot only be measured from the point of view of market economy (production of market goods), but also in terms of its social production value, such as the reproduction of human power, the production of qualified work force, the regeneration of its society and the cultural values (Wudnesh, 1991). Such goods and services are produced particularly in the housework area. This work area includes activities such as food preparation, food grinding, provision of water and fire wood, care of a child and family management of the sick etc.. Unfortunately, these production and service giving activities, where women spent most of their energy and time do not have monetary values. Since they are not sold in the market, they are not considered as a real work. Traditionally, the term "work" alone is used to refer only to paid activities.

The unremunerated work of women has affected their social status and made them economically dependent on their husbands and usually became the poorest group in a society. Therefore, neglect of the household production sector in developmental plans and programmes means ignoring women's economic contribution and excluding them from access to resources and extension services.

### 1.3 General Picture of the Rural Household in the Oromiya Zone of the Amhara Region

The principal means of living of people in the Oromiya zone is mixed farming, and pastoral livelihood. Poor families, particularly women are also known to sell fire wood as a means of livelihood.

Majority of the people in the zone are muslims. Both monogamy and polygamy (about 50% each) are the prevailing marriage types in the area.

Most of the rural houses in the zone are circular huts, often built of wood, plastered with mud and have thatched roofs and dirt floors. They are mostly located in hilly areas, making it difficult for the provision of drinking water and household fuel wood and access to flour mills and market centres.

The main staple food of the people is sorghum and/or maize-enjera and wot (Pancake like bread and sauces prepared from vegetables, legumes, or meat). People use three stone stoves for cooking food. Fire wood is the main source of household fuel in these areas.

Common storage containers used by the majority of the households are Gotera and outside pits. Food spoilage and damage by rodents, weevils, mould and termites are major concerns of most households in the area.

#### 1.4 Objectives of the Study

Women are key contributors to the economy and to combatting poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in farm fields. However, their participation in these and other developmental activities are generally not properly addressed. The primary purposes of SAERP/WARDIS programmes are, therefore, to assess and analyze the actual role of rural women in agricultural and household production activities, including their participation in natural resource conservation. This exercise is useful for articulating and developing programmes for women in the zone. It is therefore to formulate programmes on outstanding problems of women in the Oromiya Zone. The specific objectives of the study are to collect data on the following activities.

Main source of means of living and women's contribution to family livelihood.

Women's share and position in the formal education system;

Social and cultural attitudes towards women and their involvement in social and public affairs.

Women's labour and time input in agricultural and household activities, including their participation in decision making.

Women's role in natural resource conservation.

Women's access to resources, support and extension services.

Women's health status and family planning.

## 2. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The studied Kebelles were selected with the consultation of the leadership of the Wereda Council and sectoral offices operating in the Weredas. The selection was made to represent major agro-ecologies of the Weredas. The Weredas and Kebelles surveyed are indicated below:

<u>Wereda</u>	<u>Kebele</u>
Batti	Garero
	Mamad
	Fura
Artuma-Jille	Bette
	Cheffa-Dire
Dawa-Cheffa	Selama
	Teref

The data collection techniques used in this study utilized participatory Methodologies, personal observations, selected case studies, and use of secondary documented information.

The key informants in this study were women farmers and development agents (DA<sub>s</sub>). In addition, information had been gathered from various sources such as from discussions made with groups of local elders, male farmers, agricultural experts at all levels, Antsoquia II World Vision gender officer, group of women workers from Cheffa-State Farm and Dawa-Cheffa Wereda judges. Identification of problems and suggestions of possible solutions to the problems were made with the help of the informants (target groups). Likewise, prioritizing of the problems were also made together with target groups.

Secondary data about the role of women in development, agricultural activities including natural resource conservation were not available at all levels, except for school enrolment and

family planning records found in the Departments of Education and Health of the zone. The labour and time input of rural women in housework activities are also not recorded. The main source of the data therefore, is mainly primary information.

The collected data, are analyzed and presented in a form of tables. Based on the identified problems in this study, various recommendations are made for programme formulation, which is an important phase of this work.

### 3. CURRENT SITUATION

#### 3.1 General Information

##### 3.1.1 Means of Living and Women's Contribution to Family Livelihood

The main means of living of most households in the surveyed Kebeles (sub-division of sub-districts) is mixed farming (crop and livestock production). As indicated in Table 1, few Kebeles like in the Salama area were reported to be mainly pastoralists. It was reported that 60 per cent of the households' source of means of living comes from livestock production. Some people in these Kebeles are also engaged in trading activities. It covers, in some cases, up to 40 per cent of the families' income. It was also noted that some households in Garero and Mamad supplement their means of livelihood from the sale of fire wood and craft works.

In most of the Kebeles, particularly in Fura, divorced women are known to live only on sale of fire woods.

Table 1 - Households' Source of Means of Living in the Sample Kebeles (%)

Type of Means of Living	Wereda and the Surveyed Sample Kebeles						
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa		Artuma-Jille	
	Garero	Mamad	Fura	Selama	Teref	Bette	Cheffa-Dire
1. Mixed Farming: -crop farming	30	65	55	75	-	68	78
-livestock	60	25	45	25	-	32	22
2. Pastoralism	-	-	-	60	-	-	-
3. Sale of fire wood	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Craft or trading	-	10	-	40	-	-	-



Table 2 shows an estimated percentage of husbands' and wives' labour and time (the labour expended and time spent in accomplishing an activity) input in the daily living maintenance of their families. Husbands' contribution in this respect ranges from 33-52, whereas wives share is 48-67 percent (Table 2). When, however, the same informants were asked again to estimate their contribution in terms of monetized value, husbands' contribution is estimated to be higher (59%) than their wives (41%). This indicates the societies' low perception and definition to women's contribution even to family living maintenance and their economic activities.

Table 2 - Husbands' and Wives' Average Labour and Time Input in Family Means of Living in the Sample Kebeles Surveyed (%)

Family members	Weredas and Surveyed Sample Kebeles						
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa		Artuma-Jille	
	Garero	Mamad	Fura	Selama	Teref	Bette	Cheffa-Dire
Husbands	41	33	34	40	40	37	52
Wives	59	67	66	60	60	63	48

### 3.1.2 Women's Share and Position in the Formal Education System of the Zone

All women in the sample households interviewed were illiterate. However, informants have confirmed that school enrolment of young girls have increased than previous years, even though it is noted that the majority of the girls still drop out of school, when they reach 12 years of age.

Table 3A - School Enrolment and Drop Outs of Boys and Girls  
by Woredas (First Semester of 1988 E.C.)

Grade Level	Weredas Surveyed								
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa			Artuma-Jille		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1. Elementary School	2511	2049	4560	3477	3890	7367	1640	1087	2727
Per cent	55	45	100	47	53	100	60	40	100
2. Junior Secondary School	380	194	574	257	207	464	53	19	72
Per cent	66	34	100	55	45	100	74	26	100
3. Senior Secondary School	272	142	414	411	324	735	-	-	-
Per cent	66	34	100	56	44	100	-	-	-

Source: Oromiya Zone Education Department, 1996, Kemissie

Out of the total enrolled pupils in the elementary schools 55, 47 and 60 per cent were boys in Batti, Dawa-Cheffa and Artuma-Jille Weredas, respectively. Generally girls' enrolment in the elementary schools was not bad, even though that of boys' was higher in the two Weredas (Table 3A).

Likewise, the number of pupils who dropped out of school after registering for the half school in the year of 1988 E.C. in the elementary schools was relatively close between both sexes. Out of those who dropped out of school, 53 per cent were girls, slightly higher than boys. The same was true in the senior secondary schools (Table 3B). However, school drop outs for boys in Arthuma-Jelle Elementary schools were higher than girls.

Table 3B - School Drop Outs by Sex (First Semester of 1988 E.C.)

Grade Level	Weredas Surveyed								
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa			Artuma-Jille		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1. Elementary School	-	-	-	742	825	1567	550	417	967
Per cent	-	-	-	47	53	100	57	43	100
2. Junior Secondary School	-	-	-	51	21	72	1	2	3
Per cent	-	-	-	71	29	100	33	67	100
3. Senior Secondary School	-	-	-	31	38	69	-	-	-
Per cent	-	-	-	45	55	100	-	-	-

Source: Dawa-Cheffa and Artuma-Jille Wereda Education Office, 1996, Kemissie

With regard to women teachers' share in skill up-grading training opportunities and administrative positions, their participation in these activities is known to be low. According to the reports of the zonal training office, training on the education policy (which encourages more participation of women) was given as the first step of its implementation. The participation of women teachers in the three phases of trainers training was lower than that of the men participants as indicated below.

	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>
First phase	5	33
Second phase	121	241
Third phase	2	13

Source: Education Training Department, 1996, Kemissie

It was also noted in the report that there were no women directors or other office holders in all grade levels of the zone. Likewise, there are only five and one in the zone, who are diploma and degree holder women, respectively (Table 4).

Table 4 - Qualification of Teachers in the Surveyed Weredas by Sex

Qualification	Weredas								
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa			Artuma-Jille		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
Teachers' Training (TTI)	133	42	175	156	47	203	78	41	119
Per cent	76	24	100	77	23	100	65	34	100
Diploma (12+2)	10	3	13	16	2	18	-	-	-
Per cent	77	23	100	89	11	100	-	-	-
BA/BSc. degree	10	-	10	9	1	10	-	-	-
Per cent	100	-	100	90	10	100	-	-	-

Source: Oromiya Zone Education Department, 1996, Kemissie

### 3.1.3 Dietary Patterns of People in the Surveyed Kebeles

The staple food of people in most of the Kebeles, except in Teref (which is maize-Enjera and Wot) is sorghum-Enjera and Wot. Majority of the families reported that they eat three times a day and cook food twice a day. Since sorghum or maize-Enjera does not have good storage quality, they have to bake Enjera every day and use heavy Mitad (baking plat made of earthenware) for baking. Such type of Mitad on the other hand is known to consume a lot of fire wood. This adds additional burden to

women in fire wood fetching and cooking activities. Besides it has also an adverse effect on environmental degradation.

With regard to family members dining pattern, members usually eat at the same time, but in a different basket. Majority of the women reported that they serve the husbands first and give the best and the most, whereas some acknowledged that both eat the same food from the same basket. Children are given the same type of food as their parents, but in a separate plate.

### 3.2 Social and Cultural Attitudes Towards Women

Like in other parts of Ethiopia, women in the Oromiya Zone society are looked as inferior to men. They are traditionally limited to narrowly defined roles of mothers and cooks. Women's own attitudes towards themselves is also low. They assume women do not have leadership ability as men do.

According to the information gathered from the informants, in most cases, women do not attend peasants association meetings. In Mamad it was even reported that women do not want to sit in a place where men normally meet. Women in this society therefore, do not involve in public affairs that require decision making and eldership activities such as negotiation of disputes, marriage rituals or oath and peasants association administrative roles.

#### 3.2.1 Cultural and Religious Influences on Women's Marriage and Property Share Rights During Divorce

Since majority of the people in the zone are muslims, the culture of marriage is very much influenced by the religion. Both monogamy and polygamy types of marriages are widely practised in the zone. The common marriage age in this locality is fourteen years for girls and twenty-five for boys. However, it is known that girls marry as early as 12 years of age, if the girl is physically grown up. Boys marry also at the age of 20 if their fathers are dead.

Marriage rituals or oaths are done based on the Kadi judicial system and Nicka agreement (marriage agreement). The man agrees to pay the girl certain amount of money, what is locally called Hak. This is the promised money which the woman is paid when divorced. The payment of Hak varies from locality to locality (even from family to family). If it is the first marriage for the girl, the Nicka payment is higher than the second marriage (Table 5). At engagement and wedding ceremonies the man buys the girl jewellery and clothing.

Table 5 - Marriage Agreement and Range of Hak Payment in the Surveyed Kebeles

Marriage Rules and Norms	Weredas and Surveyed Sample Kebeles						
	Batti			Dawa Cheffa		Artuma-Jille	
	Garero	Mamad	Fura	Selama	Teref	Bette	Cheff a-Dire
<u>Marriage type: 'Kadi'</u>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<u>Marriage agreement: 'Nicka'</u>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<u>For 1st marriage: Ranges of 'Hak'</u>							
35-100 Birr				X			
50-100 Birr	X	X	X		X		X
400-500 Birr						X	
<u>For 2nd marriage Ranges of 'Hak'</u>							
15-20 Birr			X				
40-50 Birr		X			X		X

Table 5 shows that the common Hak payment for a girl who gets married for the first and second times. The Hak payment ranges from Birr 50-100 and 40-50 for the first and second

marriages, respectively. Marriages in the rural areas are usually arranged by parents, but it is also common in this society for boys and girls to be friends before marriage.

### 3.2.2 Conditions for Divorce and Property Sharing

According to the information gathered from the various informants, women in this religious culture have no legal rights to share farm land and any other household property or assets in the event of divorce. She only takes the Hak money agreed in the Nicka marriage agreement.

The Hak is paid to the wife only if the husband wants the divorce. During divorce the husband takes back the jewellery he bought for her during the engagement and wedding occasions (Table 6).

But if the wife wants the divorce, she leaves him the Hak and pays him additional money for compensation. In Cheffa-Dire men elders reported, that the compensation money paid to the man to get the woman divorced ranges between Birr 500-950. The money is paid by the woman's family.

Furthermore, women informants explained the various conditions for wives to divorce. For instance, the man might want the divorce, but he does not want to declare it, in order not to pay the Hak to his wife. So he makes her life miserable and she is forced to request for divorce herself. In this respect she does not only leave him the Hak payment and her clothing, but she might also end up paying compensation. Table 6 indicates the various conditions in property sharing during divorce and the Kebeles where this state of affairs is practiced.

After divorce the woman is obliged to wait for three months before making any kind of friendship with a man (to make sure that she was not pregnant from the previous husband), whereas the man is not expected to make any commitment to support her. However, in case they came into agreement to live together again as husband and wife, a new Nicka agreement

has to be made and this can be done only twice. Traditionally, it is not allowed to make Nicka agreement for the third time and they have to finally get divorced.

Table 6 - Conditions for Property Sharing During Divorce in the Surveyed Kebeles

Property Share Conditions	Weredas and Surveyed Sample Kebeles						
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa		Artuma-Jille	
	Garero	Mamad	Fura	Selama	Teref	Bette	Cheffa -Dire
<b>Wife has no legal rights to:</b> -share farm land	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
- share any property or asset	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>When husband files for divorce:</b> he takes her jewellery and gives her only the 'Hak'	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>When the wife files for divorce:</b> she has no legal rights to take the 'Hak'; she gives him back the jewellery	X	X	X			X	
She leaves him the Hak, jewellery, clothing and pays him compensation to get divorced (500-950 Birr)				X	X		X

Furthermore, if there are children under the age of five years, usually the mother takes them with her. The support given to the mother to raise the children until they choose the parent with whom to live, depends on the father's will. If she is divorced against her will, the



Kadi forces him to pay her ten Birr and give her fifty kilogram of food crop ones a month,. But this depends on the man's financial situation. On the other hand if the divorce was on the mother's will, then children are usually her own burden.

Wereda judges and women informants were asked if women use the government judicial system to enforce their land and property share rights. The judges reported that very few women take divorce disputes to the court. Those who take their cases to court are treated according to the law. The court first orders the divorce case to be studied by local elders and settle the case. However, if the woman is not satisfied with the decision, she is allowed to appeal and get justice. Women informants further noted that they know that it is their right to share farm land, but since it takes them so long to get the case resolved, they do not want to go to the court. Many of the women do not have support and enough money to continuously follow-up the case.

### 3.2.3 Family Property Inheritance of Women

Traditionally male children get two third of the family property or asset, whereas female children share only one third of the total property after the death of the father. For instance, if a family has three daughters and a son, one third of the property is shared among the three daughters, while the son is given two-third of the total wealth. Female children do not also have the right to inherit family farm land.

On the other hand, a widow gets one-eighth of the family property and she is allowed to use the farm land after the death of her husband. So those are the women who own farm land in the zone and they are recognized as household heads.

### 3.3 Women's Role in Agricultural Production

Rural women are involved in all agricultural production sectors such as in the production of crops, livestock and goods and services produced at household level. Women play key roles

in storing, processing, cooking and managing of family foods. However, women's role in these activities and their role in development have been relatively undermined and/or remained unnoticed. From this study one can get better understanding about the significant roles women play in agricultural productions, even in Muslim culture, where women are not expected to work out in the field.

### 3.3.1 Women's Participation in Crop and Livestock Production

Rural women in the Oromiya zone participate, particularly in crop production activities such as in seed clearing, seed bed preparation (gulgalo), weeding, collecting and transporting harvested unthreshed bundles or sheaves of crops and preparation of threshing ground. Ground clearing, provision of cow dung and water and smearing the ground are the activities involved in the threshing grounds preparation. As part of the crop production activities, women are responsible for the preparation of food for people assisting (dobo) during the cultivation and harvesting activities.

The labour and time input of rural women (including female children) in the surveyed Kebeles in crop and livestock production activities ranged from 15-39 and 53-75 per cent, respectively (Table 7A). In the livestock production sector, women are responsible for herding, barn cleaning, milking and milk processing, fetching water for animal drink kept at home, and trekking animals to water source.

Table 7A - Labour and Time Input in Agricultural Activities by Women (%)

Agricultural Activities	Weredas and Surveyed Sample Kebeles						
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa		Artuma-Jille	
	Garero	Mamad	Fura	Selama	Teref	Bette	Cheffa-Dire
Crop production	25	19	39	33	36	34	15
Livestock production	67	75	50	61	54	66	53



### 3.3.3 Women's Role in Housework Production Activities

The housework production activity, where women are mostly involved is one of the rural household production areas, which include crop, livestock, off-farm and social work obligations. Women's labour and time input in crop and livestock care and production in the surveyed areas are noted earlier. In addition to these activities, women play major role in the production of goods and services at home. They provide the basic needs of their families and make it possible for the families to function as units.

In the housework production area, activities such as family food preparation, provision of drinking water and household fuel wood, house care and cleaning, food grinding and/or milling, food processing, child and care of the sick and washing and care of clothes are performed. The labour and time input in these activities are influenced by various factors, like the complexity and difficulty of the work, quality, quantity of the work, tools, and working conditions in accomplishing the activities.

In the selected case study of households, however, the labour and time input calculation included only the actual time spent in accomplishing the actual task, return trip, and frequency and/or queuing time of some activities.

The highest labour and time input of all housework activities (34 per cent) in surveyed Kebeles is in the provision of household fuel wood. The time spent ranged from 624-2520 hours per year per household (Table 8). Households in Salama Kebelle spent about 2520 hours per year only on fetching fire wood. Women informants in these areas reported that they spent seven hours per day in walking and fetching fire wood. The source of firewood is far from their vicinities. The next time and labour demanding among all the housework activity is the preparation and cooking of family food (540-1800 hours/year).

Enjera in this areas is baked every day because Sorghum-Enjera has poor storage quality and loses its palatability if kept overnight. Generally the temperature in these Kebeles is also hot, which is conducive for mould development. This makes it unhealthy to eat it and requires frequent cooking or baking. There is lack of proper storage facilities for freshly prepared foods.

Table 8 - Annual Average of Labour and Time Input in Housework Activities by Women in the Studied Sample Households by Kebeles (Hours)

Type of Housework Activities	Weredas and Surveyed Sample Kebeles							Per cent
	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa		Artuma-Jille		
	Garero	Mamad	Fura	Selama	Teref	Bette	Cheffa-Dire	
1. Family food preparation and cooking	1080	1800	900	1260	1080	1080	540	29
2. Food milling	144	36	72	96	36	96	144	2
3. Food grinding	126	312	300	90	130	-	-	4
4. Food processing	100	36	-	76	48	24	132	2
5. Provision of drinking water	539	1825	365	1278	547	270	183	19
6. Provision of household fuel	1350	1440	780	2520	624	1080	1080	34
7. House care and cleaning	52	183	24	304	365	30	183	4
8. Washing and care of clothes	94	208	104	144	24	45	96	3
9. Child care	91	-	183	-	-	-	540	3
10. Total	3576	5840	2728	5768	2854	2625	2898	100

Furthermore, the Mitad (baking plate) is observed to be very heavy and requires extra fire wood. Women noted that it is made to be extra thick than Teff-Enjera Mitad, because sorghum-Enjera does not have the quality of elasticity and it breaks easily unless carefully baked in such Mitad. All these factors make the food preparation activity to be labour intensive and fire wood consuming.

An average consumption of fire wood per household per year is 309 (ranging from 183-360) donkey loads in the surveyed Kebeles (Table 9). Almost a donkey load is consumed per day per household. Unless serious measures are taken to save household fuel wood consumption in rural households, it will have an adverse effect on depletion of forests and bushes of the zone.

Table 9 - Firewood and Drinking Water Consumption per Household per Year in the Surveyed Kebeles

Item	Batti			Dawa-Cheffa		Artuma-Jille	
	Garero	Mamad	Fura	Selama	Teref	Bette	Cheffa-Dire
Fire wood consumption (donkey load)	360	360	183	360	360	183	360
Drinking water consumption (litres)	13688	14600	13140	18250	16400	29000	14600

Likewise, 19 per cent of the total labour and time input in housework activities is spent in fetching drinking water. The main sources of drinking water in the surveyed Kebeles are rivers. Among the studied households, Mamad and Selama households spent the highest time in fetching drinking water (Table 8). Women fetch water at an average of twice a day. They

carry about 20 litres of water per trip. Nowadays plastic jars are also commonly used to carry water. However, majority of the households still use earthenware jars, which is quite heavy and decreases the amount of water to be carried at a trip. An average household consumes 40-50 litres of water per day. Table 9 shows the average litres of water consumed per year per household in the surveyed Kebeles.

As indicated on Table 8, women spent four per cent each of their total housework time in food grinding and house care and cleaning. Except for Salama and Teref, the other Kebeles walk up to Batti and Artuma-Jille Weredas to get their food milled. Therefore, women quite often grind food at home, particularly when it is in small quantity.

As observed in Salama, Teref, Cheffa Dire and Bette, domestic animals are kept in the compound in front of the houses entrance. This adds heavy burden to women in these areas in their daily cleaning and care of their houses (Table 8). Every morning women have to remove the cow dung and clean the compound, in addition to the daily inside house cleaning activities. During the rainy season it is even more time consuming and unsanitary. The animal dung gets looser and becomes difficult to remove it and creates unhealthy conditions for people living there.

#### 3.3.4 Food Storage and Loss at Household Level

Traditionally, food crops such as maize and sorghum are stored in pits, whereas Teff and other food types are stored in Goteras and earthenware pots and baskets. The selected households studied reported that there is a significant loss of food at household level caused by various factors. Some of the factors causing food loss or damage are: weevils, ants, termites, rats, domestic animals, mould and/or fungus, heat stress like in butter and fresh foods and in processing foods (husking, grinding, drying etc.).

According to the information gathered, if food grains are not treated with pesticides, the loss or damage caused by pests in pit storage ranges from 25-50 per cent (Table 10). It was also

reported that even after treatment, there is high food damage. For instance, in Garero farmers complained that the pesticides they buy in the market are not effective and have experienced food loss after applying the pesticide tablets.

According to women informants in Fura, people use traditional methods of controlling pests. Besides, the drying and cleaning methods of controlling pests, women mix clean wood ash with castor plant leaf and chilly powder, then the top part of sorghum filled pit is covered with this mixture. Though this method protects the food from pests to some extent, women conformed that it develops mould. The top part is therefore, carefully taken out and husked, then sold for Tella (home made beer) brewing purposes. Forced sale of food or using it for unintended purpose is also a wastage and affects family food security.

Table 10 - Food Loss/Damage at Household Level in the Surveyed Weredas (%)

Causes of food loss/damage	Weredas Surveyed		
	Batti	Dawa-Cheffa	Artuma-Jille
Pit loss by weevils and other pests (if not treated)	30-50	30-50	25-50
Loss in food processing	10-15	5-10	5-25



### 3.4 Women's Role in Natural Resource Conservation and Access to Credit and Extension Services

#### 3.4.1 Women's Role in Natural Resource Conservation

At present the participation of rural women in the surveyed Weredas in activities such as soil conservation (terracing), afforestation and water harvesting are reported to be low. There is also a lack of recorded information about women's involvement in decision-making, training and time and labour input of those few women who participated in such activities.

The reason given for their low participation in natural resource conservation is that women are not expected to work in the field in Muslim culture in this localities. Experts and development agents in this sector however indicated that women actively participated in conservation during the "food for work" programme activities.

#### 3.4.2 Women's Access to Credit Facilities

From the information gathered, there are only few credit services and income generating activities intended to improve women's economic situation. Those who give credit to women are non-governmental organizations like World Vision. World Vision gives credit for women who are poor, to use it for petty trading activities. Those who are legible for credit are selected by the Peasant Association in their Kebeles. The criteria used for women to get credit are:

- . Kebelle administration assurance of getting the credit payment back;
- . guarantor;
- . farm land ownership;
- . being household head and
- . member of peasant association.

Mostly women who fulfil these criteria are widows. Widows, particularly who have grown-up sons get credit facilities easily. Those who do not have grown-up sons usually give their farm land to men for a share of the produce. On the other hand, divorced women do not own farm land and they are not usually eligible to credit services. Therefore, insignificant number of women have the opportunity of using credit facilities.

### 3.4.3 Women's Access to Extension Services

According to extension experts at all levels and development agents, improved agricultural inputs or household technologies are rarely given to women in the zone. Mostly extension services of improved seeds and fertilizers are given only to women household heads (widows). Only women in Teref Kebeles have reported that they get extension services in some household improved technologies by World Vision home extension agents. Among the services they get are the constructions of improved fuel wood saving stoves. They further noted that these stoves have gained popular acceptance and are being used in their areas. Women in Salama and Cheffa-Dire indicated also that they have heard of such stoves and would have liked to also get such services.

Apart from this, extension services such as introduction of improved household technologies (like improved storage facilities, cooking tools, fuel saving techniques, food processing tools, carrying carts etc.), improved rural model houses, food management, family nutrition education, family health and planning, rain water collecting techniques at household level etc. are not included in the present agricultural extension structure of the zone. The sector which used to deal with such activities is deleted from the extension structure by the Region. In deleting this sector, it was expected that the general development agents would cover it along with the other extension activities. However, the reality and the actual report of the development agent indicated that they lack the knowledge and skill to give extension services to both men and women in this sector. Most of the agents are food crop oriented and spent most of their time in crop production extension activities. Furthermore, the present extension services

are field oriented. Women farmers who are mostly busy with the household chores are left out from getting any modern agricultural training or extension services conducted outside the home.

Furthermore, the development agents have reported that it is also difficult to organize women for developmental activities, because of the cultural and religious drawbacks and negative attitudes towards women's participating in such activities in general. Thus women's lack of access to extension services and their participation problem in developmental activities are results of multi-dimensional factors.

### 3.5 Women's Health Status and Family Planning

The Oromiya Zone Health Department reported that information on women's health and nutritional status are not available. Likewise, there are no records about mother-child mortality rates related to birth or malnutrition. However, it is noted that there are vaccination programmes for pregnant women and children against childhood related disease in each Wereda of the zone. Health coverage is estimated to be 38 per cent.

The major health problems reported by the zone are malaria epidemics and diarrhoea. The latter affects particularly children under 5 years of age.

With regards to family planning it was indicated that men generally have negative attitudes towards controlling birth of a child. The studied selected households further confirmed, that since husbands are not willing, wives take contraceptives without their husbands knowledge.

However, at present, family planning education is given in each Wereda and some changes of attitudes are observed among men towards taking birth control methods (Table 11).

Table 11 - Number of Clients and Type of Birth Control Methods Taken in the Zone

Year (E.C.)	Type of Birth Control Methods	Number of Clients Taking Birth Control Methods	
		Men	Women
Hamle 1986-Sene 1987	Pills	-	2556
	Condom	428	-
	IVCD	-	17
	Other	-	88
Total		428	2661
Hamle 1987 - Tahsas 1988	Pills	-	2052
	Condom	553	-
	IVCD	-	21
	Other	-	216
Total		553	2289

Source: Oromiya Zone Health Department, 1996, Kemissie

#### 4. OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN THE SURVEYED KEBELES

Based on the study's current situation analyses of the surveyed Kebeles, the following outstanding problems were identified:

scarcity and high labour and time input by women in fire wood fetching was widely felt major problems of all Kebeles surveyed. The distance of fire wood source, depletion of forests and bushes in nearby vicinities and mismanagement of household fuelwood are identified as the main causes of this problem;

difficulty of organizing women for extension services and developmental activities was noted as a key problem by agricultural experts and development agents in the zone. Cultural and religious influences, husbands negative attitudes towards their wives participation in developmental activities and training, and women's low perception about themselves are reported to be major factors leading to this problem;

lack of means of living for divorced women was raised as a main problem of women in this situation. Problem of property inheritance, land ownership rights and share of assets during divorce were noted to be major causes to the problem;

lack of information in household production sector and women's contribution in rural development aspects at all levels was raised as major problem by experts. This has caused to neglects of part of agricultural development sectors such as the integration of the household production sector and rural women's productive role in development plans and programmes of the zone;

absence of flour mill and lack of drinking water sources in nearby vicinities are other major concerns of women in the surveyed Kebeles;

high food loss at household level was also identified as major problems of most households studied. Lack of proper storage facilities for both fresh and grain foods and unimproved food processing practices and tools are noted to be major causes of the problem.

Out of these outstanding problems, the first priority of concern for all women in the Kebeles surveyed were the scarcity of firewood; lack of means of livelihood for divorced women and negative societal attitudes towards women. Thus, the programme formulation work of this study will deal and focus on these most challenging problems of the people in the Oromiya zone of the Amhara Region.

## 5. PROGRAMME FORMULATION

### 5.1 Introduction: Gender and Agricultural Development in Oromiya Zone

Gender indicates socially or traditionally defined roles and power relationships between men and women. In a society like Ethiopia, where gender bias and patriarchal power and structure are deeply rooted, it is not uncommon to find women being neglected in various developmental sectors and being denied in sharing produces of their labour and time inputs.

Like other women in Ethiopia, the rural women in the Oromiya Zone of the Amhara Region are also reported to suffer from religious, cultural and social biases. Despite their active participation in crop, livestock and household production, and their skill in developing indigenous technologies both save time and money to bring in additional income for their family; they are not involved in decision making and have no control over family resources. Women in the traditional society of the Oromiya zone are not even secure with their marriage. They can be divorced at any time, with no legal rights of share of land and property. The analyses of the study in this area showed that they are being usually by-passed when training, agricultural inputs, access to credit, and extension technical assistance are being passed around.

Furthermore, the study indicated that the Regional Government has assumed that assigning general extension agents to transmit messages of extension work to men household heads would be effective in improving the household members' farming practices and living conditions. It concluded that there is no such "Women extension services". As a result the extension services which used to be provided by home agents dealing with developing the household production sectors was removed from the agricultural extension service structure. As noted by Blumberg (1992), this justifies that giving information to the male household head is the same as that treating the household as a single-production-function entity. It also assumes that everything is redistributed within the household. The data however, indicates the assumption is wrong. The development agents have indicated that they do not have the knowledge and skill to deal with the household sector. The present extension services are

gender biased, crop production and field work oriented. Therefore, women farmers have no information about improved agricultural inputs, nor is there the concerns for improving the household production sector in the Zone. These assumptions have and will aggravate problems related to gender issues more than ever before. This in return will have an adverse effect in the agricultural and rural development plans of the zone and the Region at large. For agricultural and rural development problems cannot be fully resolved until the position and constraints of women farmers are addressed.

Since rural women are the ultimate experts on the application of household technology and post harvest that move agricultural efforts beyond the edge of the field into homes and families of Ethiopia; their vital role in development have to be fully recognized.

Furthermore, no society can achieve sustainable development unless rural women's role in development are fully recognized and assisted to gain a sustainable livelihood (Bellamy 1995). The strategy to promote rural women's economic viability, therefore, need low cost improved technologies both in household and agricultural production sectors. They should be provided with education, skill training, credit and be given decision making power in their community.

## 5.2 Project Rationale

The outstanding problems of rural women in the Oromiya Zone which needed to be addressed as a project in this programme are presented as follows:

### 5.2.1 Promotion of Fuel Energy Saving Rural Household Technologies

Since forests and bushes in the Oromiya Zone are being depleted in the nearby vicinities, rural women spent hours and walk long distances in search of fire wood.



Provision of household fuel wood is not only time consuming for rural women, but it is also labour intensive. This in return causes unbalanced human energy expenditure in relation to the calorie intake of the persons involved, particularly in poor families, where food intake is marginal. The result would be a decline in capacity of people to produce food and other goods. As noted by Bellamy (1995), the time or money spent to search or buy fire wood to prepare family food is not spent on activities that are the essence of development. Thus the scarcity of fuel wood caused by environmental degradation has made women's burden even more worst, by depleting their energy and putting them into increased health risk. The project in this respect focuses on simple and less expensive household technologies that save fuel wood energy and minimizes women's burden of fetching fire wood, such as the promotion of energy efficient stoves.

#### 5.2.2 Provision of Goat on Credit for Rural Women Living on Sale of Fire Wood

Poor families in the Oromiya Zone, particularly divorced women have often no choice except to exploit the natural resources in order to survive. They do not have land and property share rights, therefore, they mainly depend on fire wood sale as means of livelihood. Rural women spend their time in such unproductive activity, when they can be promoters of sustainable environment and economically productive, if they had other alternative sources of income.

Thus rural women need projects that promote their economic viability, like goat, vegetable and poultry production or flour mills, etc.. They need credit facilities and management skill training in order to effectively and efficiently run such projects.

Women in the studied kebeles suggested that goat production would help them generate income. Fura Kebele women particularly have even recommended the goat breed type they want. They noted cross breeds of Afar and their local goats would give better milk and easily adapt the environment. The experience of Farm Africa (non-governmental organization) on goat

project for rural poor women in other areas of Ethiopia has been successful. It is also encouraging to support the idea of Fura women in this respect.

Goat production is not only means of income source, but it is also a source of milk for children. Since women have shown interest and traditionally goat keeping is mainly their responsibility, the provision of goats on credit basis for rural poor women in the lowland areas of the studied kebeles would be feasible.

### 5.2.3 Promotion of Societal Positive Attitudinal Change Towards Women

The Oromiya Zone family behaviour is largely governed by Islamic religious laws. Sivard (1995) noted, that the traditional Islamic law allows divorce by husbands without court formalities. It is further reported that it decrees that a "Woman must be under a male guardian" and cannot leave the house unless accompanied by male relatives; in court, a woman's testimony is worth less than a man's; a daughter inherits less than a son."

Even though the degree of adherence to this religious practices might vary from place to place, such laws might have influences on the low status and property rights of women in the studied areas. For instance, women in this zone are not expected to participate actively in community and public life and in developmental activities outside the home.

Likewise, they are by and large economically dependent on men. They are not involved in important decision making aspects. Women do not even have the right to regulate their fertility and those few who take contraceptives do it without the husbands knowledge, risking their marriage life.

Similarly, since men control the acquisition of technology, women do not use even the existing technologies to lighten their load, when donkeys, mules and horses are available, women carry water and fire wood on their back.

Such cultural and religious laws are barriers to the participation of women in public affairs and it has serious limitations in any developmental activities. Usually these practices might not be intentionally done to discriminate women. They may be practised out of ignorance or lack of awareness.

Hence, in order for women to play key roles in developmental activities and bring positive attitudinal change among the people, a project of awareness creation and societal education is proposed to be promoted at all levels in the zone.

### 5.3 Objectives

The overall objectives of the programme is to obtain an integrated sustainable agricultural and rural development which involves community participation at all developmental processes. It is also to design projects on critical problems of women in the Oromiya zone.

The immediate objectives of the programme are to:

1. minimize women's work burden by promoting rural household energy saving technologies;
2. assist women living from sale of fire wood to have other means of source of income;
3. promote societal positive attitudinal change towards women.

## 5.4 Project Component

### 5.4.1 Promotion of Energy Saving Rural Household Technologies

#### Objectives

Efficient use of the available household energy saves fuel wood and minimizes frequent fetching of fire wood. This can be done by using improved cooking stoves, equipments, improving cooking habits and fresh food storage facilities. The specific objectives of proposing the promotion of energy saving rural household technologies in this respect are to:

- minimize women's work burden of fetching firewood by using improved fuel wood saving stoves;
- save fire wood, labour and time of women through the use of fireless cooker, a technique of saving fuel by applying the principle of heat retention through insulation;
- reduce the depletion of forests and bushes for use of fire wood.

#### Output

In this project three fuel saving technologies are proposed. These are:

1. Home made improved mud brick stoves (both mobile and fixed);
2. Mirt Enjera Mitad (stove), developed by the Ministry of Mines and Energy;
3. Use of fireless cooker (whenever applicable).

Mirt Mitad (Diag.1) and the use of fireless cooker are known to save 50 per cent of the household fuel used in normal stove cooking. The use of fireless cooker is also more applicable

for cooking wot (such as meat, chicken, lentil, potatoes wots etc.), Nifro (boiled whole grain maize, wheat, beans and peas etc.) and boiling sweet potatoes. Cooking these dishes normally consume considerable fire wood, therefore, the use of fireless cooker would be ideal to save the energy loss in long hour cooking. thus in order to promote these simple, but fuel saving technologies, it is proposed to construct:

- . one improved model home made mud brick stoves in each Kebeles;
- . three, trainers training programmes in a year on how to construct these stoves for the first two years at different sites in each kebeles;
- . demonstrating Mirt Mitad and the use of fireless cooker three times each in a year at different sites of each kebeles in the zone.

#### Activities

- . preparation of home made mud bricks;
- . construction of the model stoves;
- . demonstration of the use of fireless cooker and Mirt Mitad;
- . installation of Mirt Mitad;
- . training;
- . seminars on post training evaluation.

#### Inputs

- finance
  - . manpower
    - concerned skilled manpower and unskilled labour from the communities;
- acceptance and efficiency test of stoves
- materials
  - . demonstrational materials (food items, household equipment, fire wood etc.)

naturally available materials (soil, cow dung, ash, straw), old pieces of clothes or news paper, etc.

- training

transport, vehicle, per diem, training place rent, stationery, visual aid etc.

- credit

for families who are interested to install Mirt Mitad and cannot afford to buy it in cash payment

- seminar (post training evaluation).

Table 12 - Estimated Cost for the Promotion of Energy Saving  
Rural Household Technologies (Birr)

Description	Year				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Improved mud brick stove	40,000	30,000	20,000	10,000	100,000
Mirt Mitad	20,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	40,000
Fireless cooker	20,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	40,000
Training cost	60,000	50,000	30,000	20,000	160,000
Seminar (post training evaluation)	-	10,000	20,000	20,000	50,000
Running cost	50,000	50,000	40,000	30,000	170,000
Grand Total	190,000	160,000	120,000	90,000	560,000

### Target Beneficiaries

All rural families in the zone, women in particular are the direct beneficiaries of this project.

### Project Organization and Management

The project should be coordinated and monitored by the home agent section which needed to be restructured under the agricultural extension department of the zone. If rural women have to benefit and the household production sector to develop, in order to ensure family food security, the home science professionals have to be reinstated. These sections have to be strengthened with manpower, budget and other logistics necessary for the extension work.

The proposed project can be better managed when close links are built with concerned sectors such as the Home Science Department (Awassa College of Agriculture), World Vision,

Women's Affairs Offices at all levels, etc. These sectors can give technical assistance and exchange of experiences in implementing the project.

Likewise, for smooth operation of the project and popular acceptance, local elders, husbands and representatives of women target groups should be organized to form a committee and closely work with the home agents.

### Strategy

- requires awareness creation at all levels, including among local administrative bodies;
- make good contact and start the project with progressive families;
- need capacity building in form of training for concerned personnel;
- develop clear term of references of people involved in the project implementation;
- organize follow-up committee;
- close monitoring and immediate adjustments of short comings.

### Implementation

- the concerned sector should prepare detailed plan of action in phases;
- plan of routine activities;
- mobilization of resources in accordance to the plan of action;
- checking and controlling each phase of activities;
- acceptance assessment of the project.

### Expected outcome

- lessen women's work burden and increased opportunity for women to engage in developmental and productive activities;
- improved women's health risk;
- minimized depletion of trees and bushes;



- improved environmental degradation.

### Risk

The risk to implementation of the project arises from shortage of skilled manpower, since the concerned sector that deals with such project is cancelled from the extension structure. So unless this sector is restructured implementation of the project will be at risk.

#### 5.4.2 Provision of Goat on Credit for Rural Poor Women Living on Sale of Fire Wood

### Objectives

Living on sale of fire wood is not only tiresome and health hazardous, but also the income generated from this business is not enough and women still suffer from poverty. Therefore, women need to engage in economically productive and income generating activities. The objectives of proposing the provision of goat as a means of income generating for poor rural women are thus to:

- improve poor women's living condition through sale of goat;
- assist poor divorced women to have sustainable source of income by encouraging savings and credits through organizing women to establish goat groups;
- encourage women grow perennial trees for feed of their animals and at the same time improve the environment;
- improve family nutrition from increased production of milk.

### Output

It is proposed to reach 20 groups (20 women in each group) in four years time. Distribution of two female Afar cross-breed goats for each woman is suggested to be given on credit basis. Each group have to organize themselves and establish Idir association (self-help association) to assist themselves in case of loss of goat.

The project has to encourage growing fodder crops. Therefore, it is proposed that women be allocated land to plant shrubby trees and shrubs in their vicinities.

Representatives from each goat women group is also recommended to visit exemplary women goat project in other parts of Ethiopia.

### Activities

- target group selection and organizing;
- training in forage development, husbandry and health care of goats;
- allocation of land for growing fodder crops;
- purchase or provision of goats;
- planting foder crops;
- capacity building training of concerned personnel;
- women goat projects visits.

### Inputs

- finance;
- credit services;
- manpower;
- training;
- materials
  - . forage seeds and seedlings;
  - . drugs;

- . training materials;
- . vehicle and transport facilities etc...

Table 13 - Estimated Cost for the Provision of Goat on Credit for  
Rural Poor Women Living on Sale of Fire Wood

Description	Year				Total Birr
	1	2	3	4	
Provision of goats	36,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	360,000
Materials	20,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	140,000
Training	20,000	30,000	40,000	40,000	130,000
Goat women group visit	10,000	20,000	30,000	20,000	80,000
Running cost	20,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	110,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>106,000</b>	<b>228,000</b>	<b>248,000</b>	<b>238,000</b>	<b>820,000</b>

### Target Beneficiaries

Poor rural women, particularly divorced women in Fura, Salama, Garero, Cheffa-Dire and Tereff are the target beneficiaries in this Project. However, since some divorced women in Fura Kebele need immediate assistance this project has to first start in this area and give priority to the poorest women there.

### Project Organization and Management

This project should be coordinated by the home agent section at all levels. It should also get technical assistance from the animal husbandry and veterinary sectors of the Weredas.

Since Farm Africa runs similar projects in various parts of Ethiopia, it is appropriate to create link with this organization to get technical advices and exchange of experiences.

The purchasing of goats should involve teams composed of recipients/delegates, representative from Kebele, animal husbandry/veterinary officer and home agent staff.

### Strategy

- trainers training on how to manage the project should be given to the concerned personnel;
- since women in this area are not exposed to such kind of projects, they have to be aware of the cost/benefits and risks of the project;
- orientation should be given to the concerned bodies, in order to get full support and acceptance by the communities, where the project is going to be implemented;
- capacity building for goat women group Idir Association leaders, in order to properly manage and keep the accounting system of their association;
- close monitoring and adjustment of problems is required.

### Implementation

- detailed plan of action should be worked out by the concerned sector;
- work out schedules in organizing the group, distribution of goat, forage seed/seedling distribution, planting, field visit, experience exchange etc...;
- goat health training and arranging supply of drugs;

- project performance evaluation.

#### Expected Outcome

- poverty alleviation and economic empowerment of women;
- property ownership;
- better family nutrition;
- women gain social status.

#### Risk

Failure of the project due to drought risks or shortage of forage could be anticipated, market demand for goat produced by women using credit might be low and thus reduces the money they have planned to earn.

#### 5.4.3 Promotion of Societal Positive Attitudinal Change Towards Women

#### Objectives

Women related activities in the zone are neglected from developmental and extension services, because of low attitudes towards women and their role in economic development by the society as a whole. The objectives of this proposed project are therefore to:

- create awareness among women themselves on their rights, obligations and roles in developmental activities in their zone;
- orient women and men about the countries policies on women's land rights and other issues;

- build women's self-esteem and confidence in order to be involved in decision making and leadership activities;
- create awareness among men and women on negative cultural and religious influences towards the low status of women in the society;
- educate men and women on the productive role women play to promote the wellbeing of their society.

### Output

It is proposed that awareness creation seminars and workshops be organized at least three times a year in the three Weredas. Likewise, gender training be given to various sectoral experts and extension agents at all levels (higher, middle and lower level personnel). Local elders, men household heads and women themselves are to be included in such training. Government policies and laws about women's land rights and property inheritance are to be presented in the seminars to women, religious leaders, household heads and local elders. Women's economic contribution to the nations development are to be exhibited in form of exhibitions and drama shows in women's day to be conducted once a year.

### Activities

- organize:
  - . training;
  - . seminars and workshops;
  - . drama shows and exhibitions in women's day;
  - . correspondence with various concerned sectors;
  - . gather relevant publications and information.

Input

- finance;
- materials - necessary for training and seminars and workshops;
- necessary inputs for drama and exhibition shows;
- transport facilities;
- manpower.

Table 14 - Estimated Cost for the Promotion of Societal  
Positive Attitudinal Change Towards Women

Description	Year				Total Birr
	1	2	3	4	
Training	45,000	45,000	30,000	15,000	135,000
Seminars and Workshop	30,000	40,000	40,000	20,000	130,000
Women's day	40,000	40,000	-	-	80,000
Documentation	10,000	15,000	15,000	10,000	50,000
Manpower	10,000	10,000	-	-	20,000
Running cost	20,000	30,000	15,000	10,000	75,000
Grand Total	155,000	180,000	100,000	55,000	490,000

Target Beneficiaries

The target beneficiaries in this project are women and all participants in the training and seminars.

### Project Organization and Management

This project should be coordinated and monitored by women's affairs offices and administrative councils at all levels,

Building close links with governmental and non-governmental women in development desks in various sectors such as the Addis Ababa University, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, World Vision etc. are important in proper implementation of the project.

### Strategy

- detailed work plan of each activities should be worked out by the concerned departments;
- terms of references of personnel involved in this project have to be clearly defined;
- activities have to be planned and scheduled in phases;
- trainer and resource persons need to be informed well in advance;
- documentation of relevant publications and seminar papers need to be done.

### Implementation

- provision of training and seminar materials;
- close follow-up of activities;
- project assessment and evaluation.



Expected Outcome

- improved women's status in the society;
- increased awareness about women's roles in the society;
- gain knowledge about government laws and policy issues;
- better implementation of policies and law enforcement.

Table 15 - Consolidated Estimated Budget for the Three Proposed Projects for Women in Development (Birr)

Description	Year				Total Birr
	1	2	3	4	
1. Promotion of Energy saving Rural Household Technologies	190,000	460,000	120,000	90,000	560,000
2. Provision of Goat on Credit for Rural Poor Women Living on Sale of Firewood	106,000	228,000	248,000	238,000	820,000
3. Provision of Societal Attitudinal Change Towards Women	155,000	180,000	100,000	55,000	490,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>451,000</b>	<b>568,000</b>	<b>468,000</b>	<b>383,000</b>	<b>1,870,000</b>

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