TWAGR-021

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SLUF is established in 1995 as NOVIB partners Forum on sustainable Land Use in Ethiopia and Eritrea. In February 2002, it was renamed as Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF) and was registered with the Ministry of Justice as a national non-governmental organization (NGO).

SLUF is a membership organization. Membership is open to all organizations engaged in environmental protection and sustainable land management. Currently it has three international and 16 local member NGOs

Introduction

The inaugural activity of the Workshop began by registering participants and handing out background documents. 150 participants drawn from various government and nongovernmental organizations, encompassing a cross section of development, education, farming, and policymaking endeavors have attended the Workshop. The State Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, H.E. Ato Ahmed Nasir was attending the Workshop.

Opening Session

The Workshop opening session commenced by a welcome speech delivered by the Executive Director of Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF), Dr Habtemariam Abate. In welcoming participants, the Executive Director valued the presence of participants, acknowledged the organizers and highlighted mode of deliberations, and elaborated the major focuses, and expectations of the Workshop. Per the program of the Workshop, the following papers are to be presented and discussed.

- Indigenous Agro-forestry Practices and their Implications on Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resources Management: the case of Wonago District
- Overview of Land Tenure
- Impact of Land Fragmentation on Environment, Food Security and Poverty: the case of Wedeb Eyesus, Finchawa and Chancho Obi Kebeles
- Land Registration in Amhara Region
- Gender Dimension of land Registration in Amhara Region

A video show on **"Indigenous Agroforestry Practices and their Implications on Natural Resources Management: The case of Wonago district"** produced by SLUF was presented right after the first paper presentation.

A poster exhibition session, which has more or less similar theme with the video also held during tea and lunch breaks.

Regarding the papers, specific and general discussions also fitted in the Workshop program.

Following this, the Executive Director invited Ato Dereje Balcha, Deputy Director of CRDA to present a keynote address.

In his keynote address, the Deputy Director of CRDA, appreciated the gesture extended by the State Minister to be present in the Workshop, despite the tight

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schedule he has. The presence of the Minister also exemplifies the seriousness of the issues to be dealt with in the Workshop. According to the Deputy Director, the significance of the issues to be presented and discussed and the expected recommendations thereof will have tremendous inputs for various decisions to be made at different levels. He also justifiably elaborated the recent development spanning on land administration and use and the status of indigenous agroforestry systems in the country. The role and responsibility of CRDA in allied issues were also stated. Appreciations were also made to the Dutch Church for funding the Workshop through CRDA. Lastly, Ato Dereje cordially invited the State Minister to deliver an opening speech.

From the outset, the State Minister, H.E. Ato Ahmed Nasir, acknowledged the participants. The Minister went on elaborating the natural endowment of Ethiopia and the choric destruction of forest resources for claiming more farmland and in search of fuel wood and construction materials. The State Minister also highlighted the resulting devastation on the soil resource. The preponderance of more destructive activities are aggravating the loss of natural resources and elevated lowering of agricultural production and productivity, hence food insecurity becomes a lingering phenomenon in different parts of the country. To curb such devastating effects, the Government the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Regional Governments are striving to do their best levels. The role of governmental and nongovernmental organizations in support of materializing the Governments program has been immensely accredited. According to the Minister, a good deal of achievements has been recorded thus far, but he persistently notified participants to be active more than ever before.

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The State Minister cited from the welcome address of the Executive Director of SLUF, and highlighted the possible applicability of the research made by SLUF in different parts of the country. The results of the studies on ***"Indigenous Agro-forestry Practices and their Implications on Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resources Management: The case of Wonago District"*** is believed to be utilized vigorously to support natural resources management activities for sustainable production and productivity in the agricultural sector in similar ecologies elsewhere in the country. He also notified participants and organizers of the Workshop to figure out the prerequisites to do so.

As to the study on ***"Impact of Land Fragmentation on Environment, Food Security and Poverty: The case of Wedeb Eyesus, Finchawa and Chancho Obi kebeles"*** goes, the State Minister, explained the significance it would have in concretizing on-going activities in agricultural land administration and use. By way of expanding such a

study to other areas, inevitably more sufficient information will be generated. Eventually, appropriate actions on sustainable use of the land resource will be made and investment in rural areas encouraged.

Finally, the State Minister duly acknowledged the commitment and sagacity of organizers, forwarded his deep expectation of trustworthy input of the participants to produce viable recommendations, and declared the Workshop officially opened.

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Paper Presentations

Presentation no 1

Title: **Indigenous Agro-forestry Practices and their Implications on Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resources Management: The case of Wonago District** *(by Negussie Achalu and Mesele Negash)*

Presenter: **Ato Melese Negash**

Facilitator: **Dr Abdu Abdulkadir**

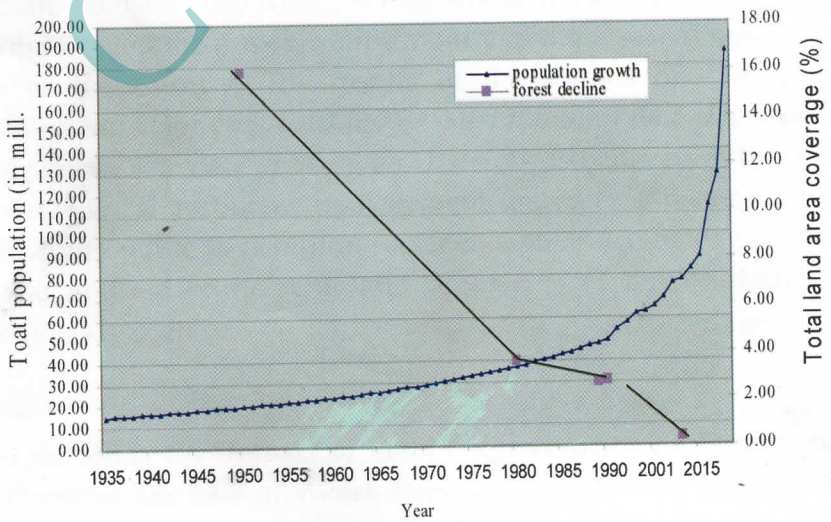
Background

Nearly half of the rural population of Ethiopia is believed to be below poverty line. The occupational system is dominated by ssubsistence-oriented smallholder farming and pastoral activities. Ethiopian agriculture absorbs 85% of the population and contributes 57.2 % GDP and 95% foreign exchange earning.

Over 85% total energy requirement of the population is drawn from biomass. The per capita fuel wood consumption ranges from 90 to 280 kg/annum, per capita dung consumption 450-1100kg/annum, and 700,000 tons of grain annual food deficit at best of times.

Over the years, it is noted that population growth and deforestation rates were lopsided.

Population growth rate and corresponding shrinkage of forest resources



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As to loss of soil resources, because of mainly deforestation, 50% of the fertile highlands highly eroded. Forest devastation has been recorded to be 800,000 ha per year in the 1950s, 200, 000 to 300,000 ha per year from 1967-79, 163,000 ha per year from 1986-1990 and 40,000 ha per year from 1990 - 2000.

As far as soil losses are concerned, the following facts are well documented:

- Excessive soil loss to erosion (300-400t/ha),
- 1.9 to 3.5 billion tons of soil lost for good per annum,
- 27 million ha significantly eroded,
- 14 million ha seriously eroded,
- 2 million ha reached irreversible point,
- 20,000 to 30, 000ha abandoned every year,
- By 2010 ten million ha incapable of crop production, and
- Soil and nutrient displacement cost $ 106 million/ha by 1994.

Exemplary Agricultural Indigenous Knowledge (IK) in Ethiopia

IK	Area	source
Harla civilization (improved SWC)	Eastern Hararghe	Besha 2003
Advanced SWC practice	Konso (southern Ethiopia)	Besha 2003
Organic manuring, crop rotation, short fallow	Kindo Kosha (southern Ethiopia)	Elias 2002
Indigenous irrigation system	Amaro special woreda	Personal comm.
Multilayer indigenous agroforestry LUS	Gedeo	Kkanshie 2002
Regulated water use for livestock	Borana	Chemeda *et al.* 2005
Moringa stenopetala for food as well as purify water	North ommo	Norbert *et al.* 2002

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Most urgent problem with respect to IK are inadequate documentation, rapid disappearance of IK with passing out of elders; as the saying goes "when a knowledgeable old person dies, a whole library disappears," and the need to scaling up the system.

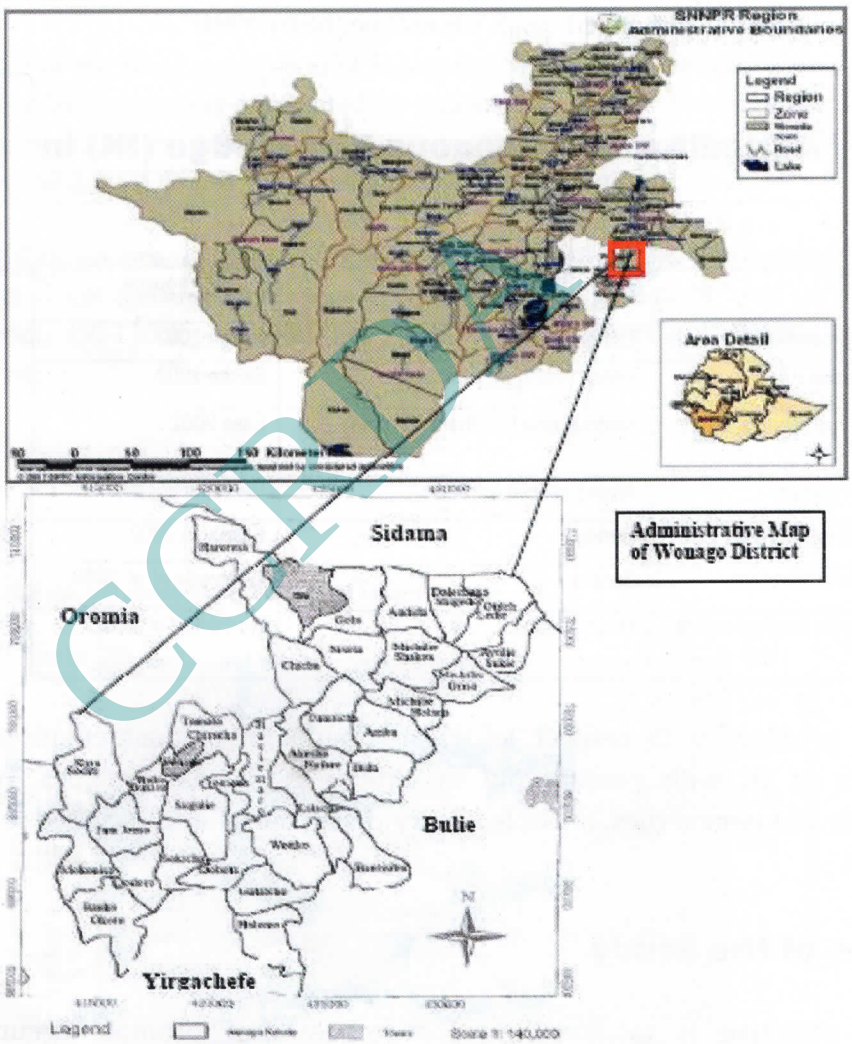
Objectives of the Study

The overall objective is to investigate, document and promote accumulated indigenous knowledge on SLU and NRM practices through detailed characterization of indigenous AF system of Wonago woreda. The specific objectives are :

- To Identify and document indigenous knowledge wisdoms in management and utilization of the agroforestry system
- To elucidate farmers' knowledge on harvesting, storage and marketing of agroforestry products
- To examine the opportunities and challenges of the multi-species agroforestry land-use system and look for scaling up strategies
- To promote transfer indigenous knowledge through photo and video documentaries

Description of Study Area

Wonago woreda is located in Gedio Zone (SNNPR) with a population of 267,371 (57, 965 households), mean population density of 895 persons/km^2 and family size 7 person/Household.

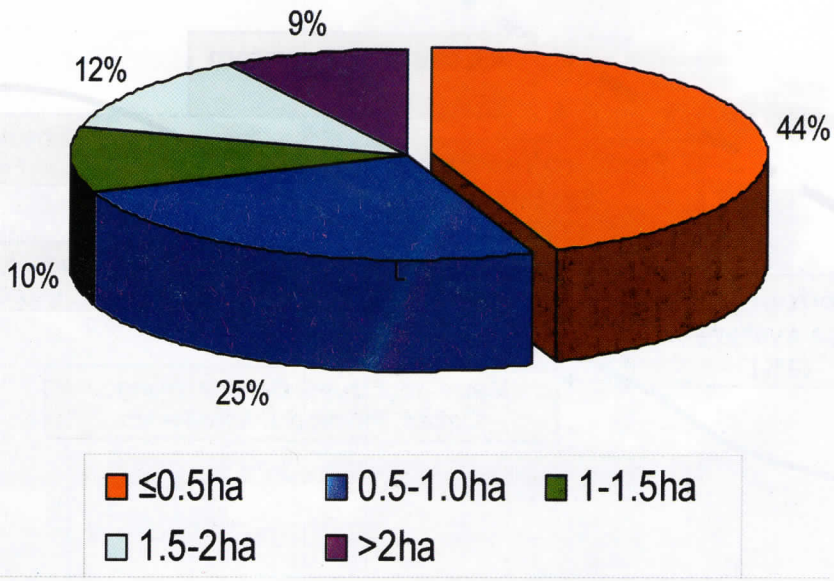


Administrative Map of Wonago District

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Landholding size of the study area as related to percentage of household is depicted in the following figure.

Landholding size *vs* percent of households



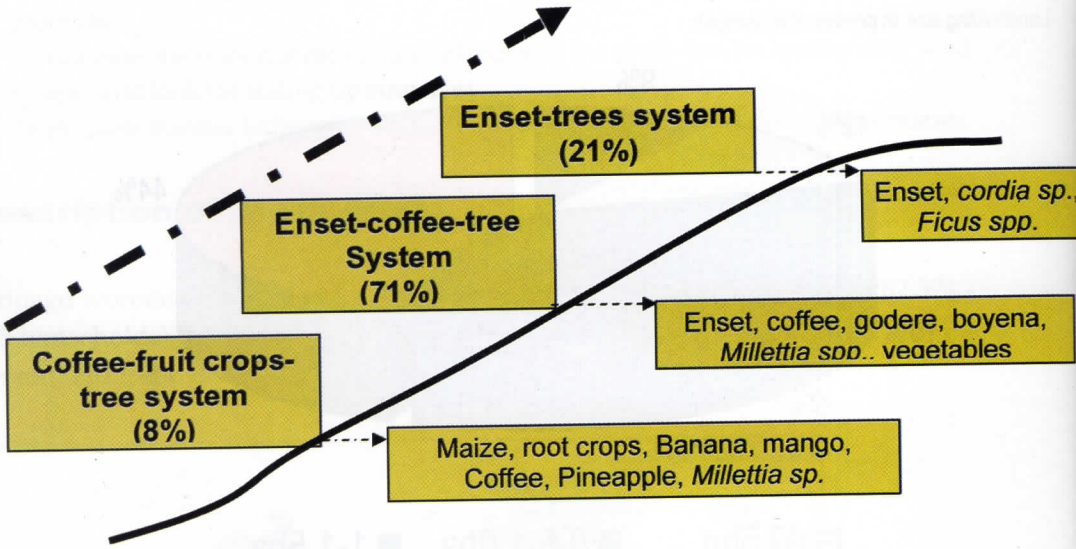
Methodology

The following methodologies were employed for the study:

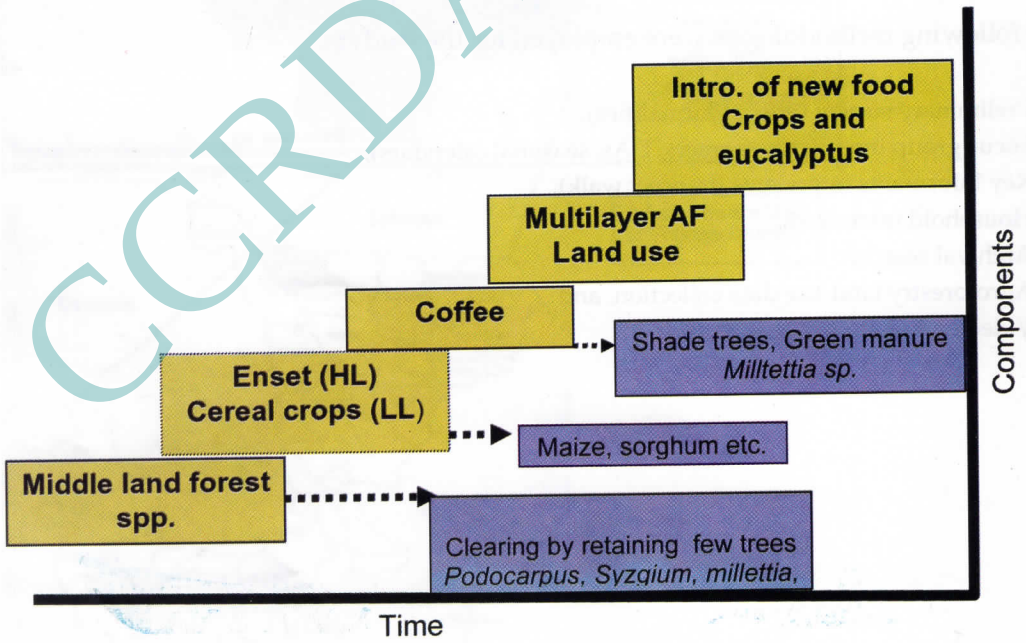
- Preliminary survey (official formalities),
- Focus group interviews (farmers, DAs, seasonal calendars),
- Key informants interviews (transect walk),
- Household interviews,
- Archival search,
- Agroforestry land-use data collection, and
- Video and photo documentation.

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Characteristics of Agroforestry Systems of the Woreda



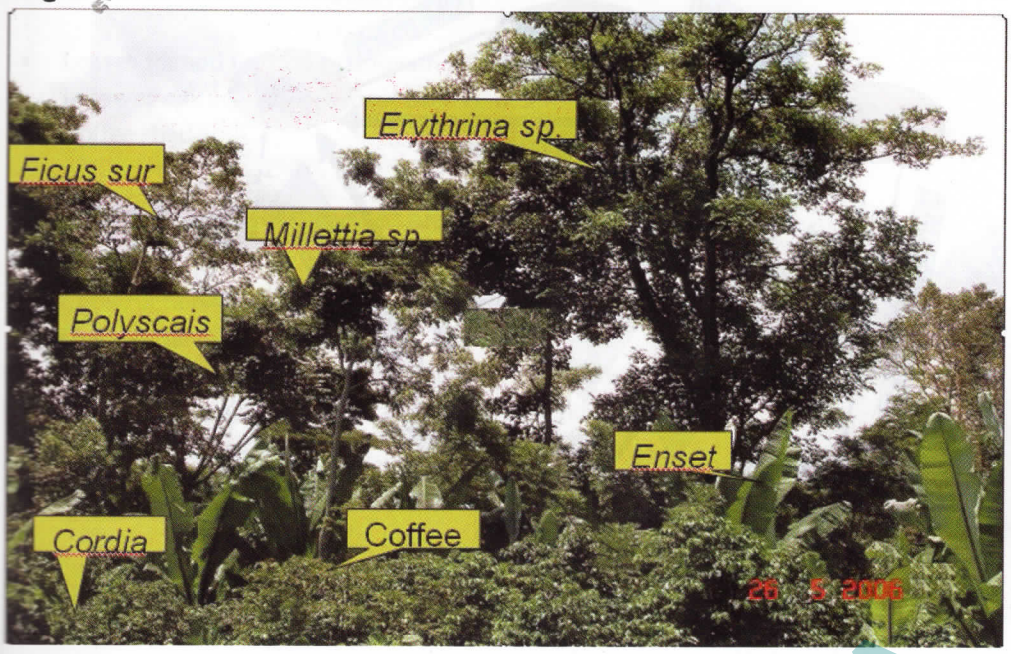
Dynamic of the Wonago Agroforests



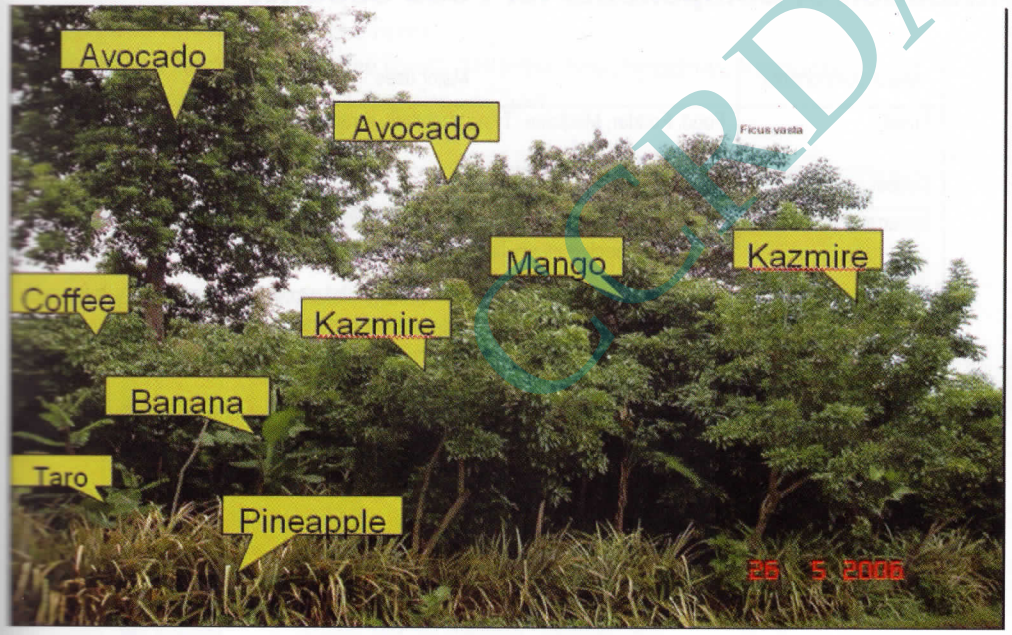
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Structural Architecture of the System

High and Middle Altitude

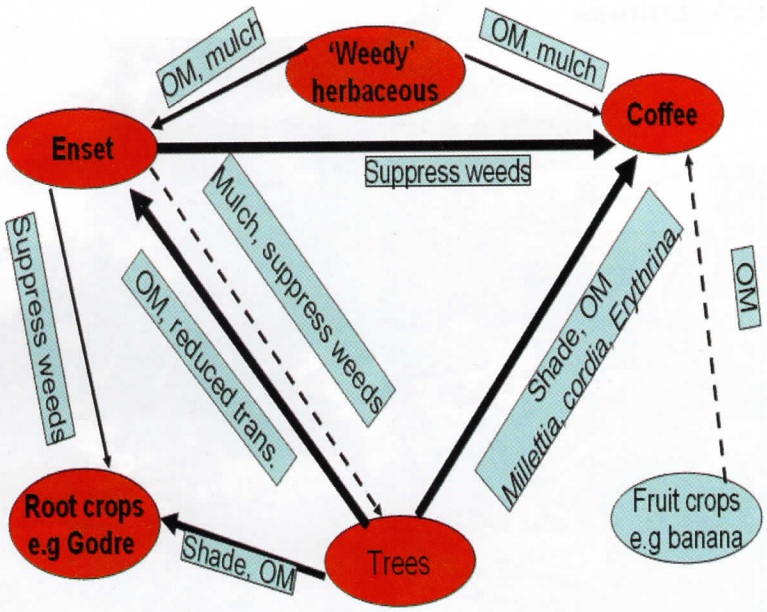


Low Altitude



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Ecological Interaction among Components



Contribution of Components for Food Security

Major components	Major uses
Enset	Food, Fodder, Medicine, Tying materials, Wrapping materials etc
Coffee	Insurance crop ('Dry' bank)
Boyena	Fill the gap of food shortage (10 times higher yield than maize), Source of income, reach maturity both in rainy and dry season
Godere	Food for households, Source of income, Fill the gap of food shortage, Not competing for land, perpetuation of the population
Avocado	Source of food (fat, protein and vitamins), Income source (20-60Birr/sack depends on the cultivars)
Mango	Source of income (60-80 birr/sack), Food, serves as fodder (leaves), bee forage, ornamental shade etc.
Banana	Source of income, Food (A, C, B6 and K), Medicinal values, wrappers, fodder

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Functions of Trees

Ecological roles

- Leaves for soil fertility maintenance (*Millettia, Cordia, Erthyrina* etc.),
- In lower altitude *Ficus* is most preferred, and
- Coffee shade

Meeting household's demand and cash income

- Construction Wood (*Cordia, prunus, setamo,* etc),
- Utensils, farm implement,
- Fire wood (matured standing Millettia =120-320 birr), and
- Timber (Matured standing Cordia tree =150 birr

Medicinal and fodder values

- Fodder (Millettia , Erythrina, Vernonia, Cordia), and
- Medicine (Trichilia sp (bark), croton (bark), Albizia)

Honey production and Cultural values

- *Polyscias fuluva* to hang bee hives,
- Preferred honey spp. Coffee (best), Millettia, Sisa, Syzgium, Vernonia,
- Productivity per hive 10-12kg/annum, and
- Market price 10-12 birr/kg

Establishment and Management of Components

Enset (Ensete ventricosum)

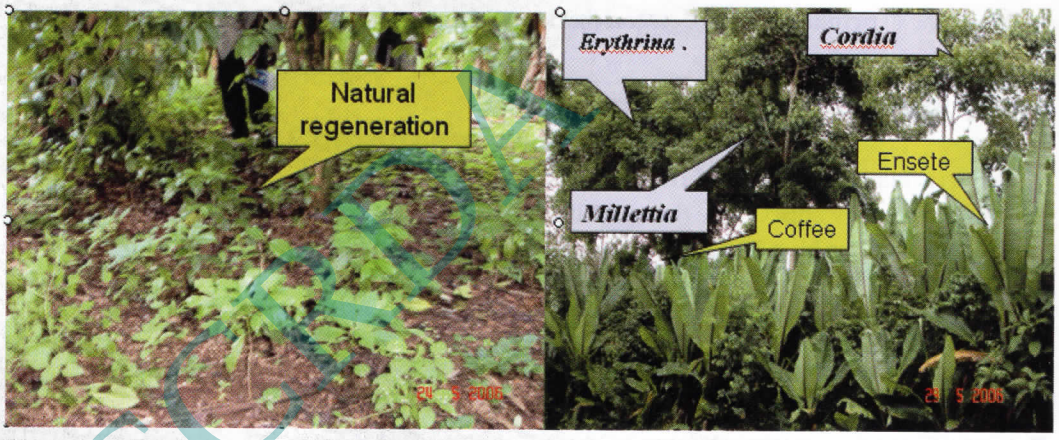


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Slash the weeds found under *enset* twice per year and cultivation is also carried out twice for the first two years

Coffee (*Coffea arabica L.*)



Management

Cultivate and slash 2-3 times, prune as found appropriate, and cut the apical shoot when necessary.

Godere *(Collocasia esculenta)*



Establishment

- Produce root suckers (in march),
- Transplanting March to April, and
- planted within the farm (under *ensete*, coffee and trees).

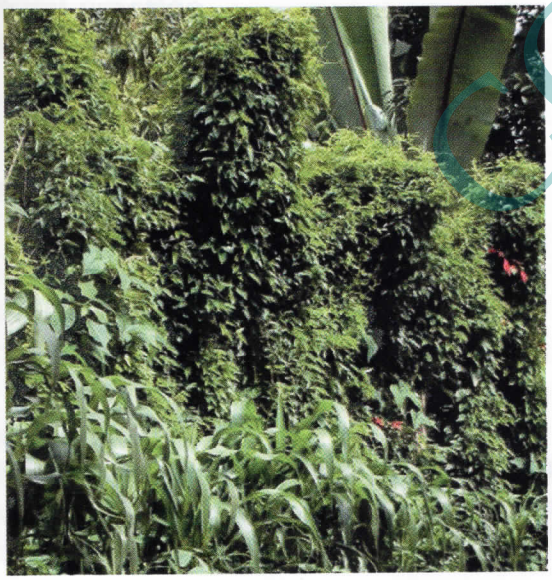
Management

- There is no special management for this crop.

Harvesting

- Yegedeo godere (harvested 1 year),
- Yecanada godere (harvested 2 years),
- Yesidama godere (harvested 1 year),
- Harvesting in dry season (January), and
- Harvesting in 9 months

Boyena *(Dioscorea abyssinica)*



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Establishment and Management

- 4 -5 suckers planted per spot,
- Trees planted at least 3m from boyena, and
- Composting and Cultivating

Avocado (*Persea americana*)

Establishment

- Both natural regeneration and seedlings raised,
- Transplanting for natural regeneration, and
- More prefer seedlings raised

Management

- Composting,
- Tapping, and
- Pinching

Marketing

- Depends on the cultivars,
- Woferam avocato (50-60Birr / sack), and
- Kechen avocato (20-35 Birr per sack)

Major uses

- Source of fat, protein and vitamins, and
- Income source

Major problems

- Cholera,
- Infertility problem,
- Alternative yield, and
- Monkey

Harvesting

- February to March,
- April to May,
- *Ensete*-coffee-trees and coffee-fruit crops-trees agroforestry systems (after 5 years),
- *Ensete*-trees system (after 7 years),
- 3-4 years(tapping), and
- Indicators of fruit ripening
  - change of skin colour,
  - fall from the tree, and
  - yellowish tint to the skin and the stem.

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Mango (*Mangifera indica*)

Harvesting

- Harvesting within 4 years,
- October to December ,
- May (larger quantity), and
- Maturity indicators
  - changes in colour,
  - fullness, and
  - hardened endocarps

Processing and storage

- Sun drying,
- wrapping with dry banana leaves, and
- Storage the basket

Major uses

- Source of income and food,
- Farmers more prefer mango than avocado, and
- serves as fodder (leaves), bee forage, ornamental shade etc.

Major problems

- Disease (*kollara*),
- The fruit is not testy if no rainy at flowering season, and
- Too much rainfall shed the flowers

Cultural practice

- Remove infected tree and burn

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Banana (*Musa acuminate*)

Establishment

- Root suckers Pit dug before a month, and
- Transplanting before on set of rainy

Management

- Cultivating and composting 3-4 times per year,
- Weeding before canopy closure,
- Unwanted suckers removed, and
- Removal of dried leaves

Harvesting

- harvesting within 2 years, and
- Maturity indicators
  - the fruit get bigger size and feels hardy ,
  - the tip of the flower will be smaller size, and
  - bird start eating

Processing and storage

- Wrapping with dried banana ,
- Cultivars like *Yeabesha Muze, Yeferje Muze, Dinkeye Muze* , and
- suspend on the roof to store it at least for 3 months

Major uses

- Source of income,
- Food (A, C and B6 and K),
- Medicinal values,
- Wrappers, and
- Fodder

Pineapple (*Ananas Comosus*)

The plant is

- Shade tolerant,
- Propagats by roots suckers,
- Intercropped with other crops,
- Weeds decline its yield by 20-40%, and
- Matures after 3-5 years

Resilience of the system

- Wonago homegradens entirely based on indigenous knowledge,
- Neither external inputs nor training involved,
- Forefathers harnessed nature's potential,
- Contained the ever rising economic and ecological needs,
- Continuous vegetation cover sheltered the soil,
- Meticulous species selection and juxtaposition improved carrying capacity,
- Most effective, efficient and sustainable use,
- Something to harvest all year round,
- Crop species resistant to drought (enset, avocado, mango, banana and pineapple),
- No threat of soil erosion and fertility decline,
- Less fluctuation in climatic conditions, and

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- More evenly distributed rainfall patterns

Scaling up Strategies

- Evaluating local socioeconomic and agro-ecological conditions,
- Assess Biophysical conditions (flora, fauna, climate, soil…), level of infrastructural development (marketing), and local cultural conditions (food and work habits),
- Further modification and intensifications/flexible,
- On-station and on-farm trails + demonstrations,
- Awareness creation, field day, field tours and training, and
- Sensitization: Convictions and interest

Major Challenges of the System

Plant diseases and pests

Components	Disease/pests	Cultural practice
Enset	Mealy bag (*xe'te*), bacterial wilt (we'lo), moll rates (lower altitude)	Planting euphorbia Composting Runoff
Coffee	Mealy bag (*xe'te*), Coffee berry shedding disease, (*'kollera'*), *Parasitic plants ('sharerite')*	Flooding, Planting *Euphorbia spp.*, Hand picking, Up root the plant and burn
Root crops	Mealy bugs, Diseases (*Santo*), leaf blight (godere) , Defoliation	Up root and burn, Plant at open spacing (Boyena),
Fruit crops	*Kollera, infertility and alternative yield (Avocado), flower shedding (mango), Monkey*	Uproot infected plant and burn

Socioeconomic challenges

- Increasing landholding fragmentation,
- Lack of employment opportunities even for educated,
- Mismanagement of money,
- Less access to credit,
- Over harvesting of indigenous valuable tree spp. and
- Expansion of lucrative cash crops.

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Conclusion

- The Wonago farming system represents one of the oldest traditionally intensified farming systems in the country,
- Teaching of the forefathers on the need to protect and maintain trees in and around the farms has also contributed to the multi-species nature of the land use system,
- Soil productivity maintenance entirely depends on the application of green manure and household refuses. Animal manure plays insignificant role as the number of livestock is too few,
- Weedy vegetation provides green mulch which plays a vital role in nutrient cycling besides their diverse roles,
- Farmers have well founded ingenious knowledge to manage each components of the system,
- Seasonal production lines from the system are continuous. Farmers are able to harvest something all year round either for household consumption or for sale, and
- Despite the diverse merits of the system, it is phony to perceive the existing system as a panacea for every type of needs and problems.

Recommendations

Remedies to increasing population

- Planned settlement of selected families,
- Upgrade academic standards,
- Creating new job opportunities (non-agriculture), and
- Strong and effective family planning

Further intensification of the land use system and value addition

- Intensive experimentation (improve/exploit productive potential),
- Introduction of more productive innovations, and
- Product processing (value addition) for cash income and employment generation

Preservation and safeguarding of the system

- Designating the traditional farming system as a cultural heritage, and
- Ecotourism development (local and foreign visitors)

Promotion of the multi-species land use system

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Comments

Following the presentation, a discussion session was arranged to deal with the paper. The following points emerged from the discussion:

- Regarding to the role of enset in the Wonago agroforestry system, it was underlined that, the plant is potentially a "water tanker" for the viability of the system.
- Enset is also serving as soil conserving agent in the system particularly in clay dominating soils.
- Additionally, because of the structure of its root system, enset is also helpful for soil aeration
- The agroforestry tradition of Wonago is believed to have a history of over 5000 years. This calls for recognition and subsequent certification of this national heritage.
- The need to consider the Wonago area as eco-tourism destination was also suggested
- Trees in the Wonago traditional agroforestry system harbor a number of wild animals particularly birds. Most frequently, these animals move from place to place within and outside of the system. As a result, they disperse seeds of plants. By doing so they are enriching the biodiversity of the system. So, the issue of wildlife conservation should be thoughtfully realized by concerned bodies.
- One of the fundamental issues to be considered, when attempting to scale up the traditional knowledge of Wonago to similar other places is to look into the food culture of the other place, for example, enset has a particular affinity to the Wonago area for its food value and other uses. Therefore, the location where the system is to be replicated should be studied before commitments are made.
- Without affecting the indigenous knowledge of the Wonago community, the system should be backed up with scientific approaches, for instance, introducing enough technologies to the area may be considered.

Question and Answer

Q: In terms of income how much do farmers in the study area get annually?
A: *According to the study, the annual household income is in the order of birr 10,000*

Q: How can the sustainability of the system assured before solving the existing drawbacks of the system?

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A: *We know that there are problems in the area, however, keeping in mind to tackle the problems in priority order, the traditional knowledge of Wonago agroforestry system should be encouraged and its continuum maintained.*

Q: How can research intervene to maintain the system?

A: *Forestry research and other related research should be identified by the national agricultural research system and make practical interventions in the system. Moreover, by way of improving the lives and livelihoods of the communities in the system, value-addition of commodities from the system should be encouraged*

Note: The paper presented in this session is published by SLUF. The correct citation of the publication is **"Sustainable Land Use Forum (SLUF).2006. Indigenous Agroforestry Practices and their Implications on Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resources Management: The Case of Wonago Woreda. Research Report No 1. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia."**

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Presentation no 2

Title: **Rural Land Tenure in Ethiopia: Overview** *(by Yigremew Adal)*

Presenter: **Ato Yigremew Adal**

Facilitator: **Gizachew Abegaz**

Introduction

Significance

- Land is the primary means for generating the livelihood for most of the rural poor,
- In any agrarian economy, access to and rights in land and natural resources are central to livelihood security,
- The poor who operate land can benefit a lot: they can combine it with labor, skills and other inputs, eating or selling the product and reaping a higher share of income,
- Access to land will affect not only productive outcomes but also the ability of the poor to access other assets and benefits,
- The right to adequate land is a key element in reducing rural poverty, and
- Access to land and other natural resources is also considered as one of the indicators of food security.

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Land tenure

- Land tenure system largely determines access to land,
- Land tenure, is "the system of rights and institutions that governs access to land and other resources", and
- It is about property rights in land that include rights of ownership, use, transfer.

Some Important Elements of a Land Tenure System

Access to land

Mechanisms of access to land:

- state-managed coercive/expropriate land reform,
- intra-family transfers ,
- access through community membership,
- access through land transactions,
- access through specific non-coercive policy interventions such as colonization schemes,
- de-collectivisation and devolution, and land market-assisted land reform, and
- Based on existing situations, these access mechanisms may benefit or disadvantage a given section of the society.

Tenure security

Tenure security exists when an individual perceives that he or she has rights to a piece of land:

- on a continuous basis,
- free from imposition or interference from outside forces, and
- has the ability to reap the benefits of labor and capital invested in that land.

The three interrelated elements of tenure security are:

- the robustness of such rights,
- the formal duration of rights, and
- the protection of such rights (enforcement).

Tenure insecurity could be thought of as a function of four elements:

- inadequate number of absolute rights,
- inadequate duration in one or more rights, and
- lack of assurance in existing rights, and/or high costs of enforcing rights.

Land Administration

Land administration is defined as the processes of determining, recording and disseminating information about the tenure, value and use of land when implementing land management policies.

Importance

A good land administration system will:

- guarantee ownership and security of tenure,
- support land and property taxation,
- provide security for credit,
- develop and monitor land markets,
- reduce land disputes,
- support environmental management , and
- produce statistical data.

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Introducing a new land administration system requires undertaking the following (among many) series of operations:

- the determination of user needs,
- the creation of new administrative arrangements,
- the preparation of new legislations,
- the determination of existing land and property rights,
- the demarcation and survey of plots,
- the establishment of new registers and procedures for storing and retrieving land data, and
- the development of public awareness as to how the system works.

Ethiopian Rural Land Tenure Systems

The 1975 Land Reform

- made all lands state-owned,
- abolished the diverse tenure regimes,
- provided land to peasants,
- has done away with some of the land tenure problems (e.g. unchecked tenancy, lengthy litigations over land, land concentration and underutilization), and
- prohibited land transfers through land sales, mortgage, and exchange.

Features

- frequent administrative land redistribution,
- constrained access,
- tenure insecurity,
- diminution of size of holdings,
- fragmentation of plots,
- inefficient allocation of land,
- discouraging peasant movement outside the countryside and farming occupation, and
- arbitrary and political land administration.

Access problems include young peasants, pastoralists, women, resettles and other displaced people had faced land access and control problems while land was arbitrarily taken from peasants for different and futile development projects (collective farms, villagization, state farms, etc).

Under present Government

Features

Some policy changes from the Derg:

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- Acknowledged land tenure problems (e.g. tenure insecurity and initiatives on land registration and certification),
- more relaxed transfer rights e.g. in the form of rental arrangements,
- attempts to establish land administration policies and institutions including land registration and certification,
- recently developed legal provisions on compensation, and
- ban on some policy measures that negatively impact on land tenure, for example, no collectivization, villagization.

But fundamental changes in terms of access and control are not achieved yet.

- state ownership of land is maintained and even enshrined in the 1995 constitution,
- Constrained access and transfer (residence-based, no land sales, mortgage and exchange, restrictions on transfer),
- arbitrary and political land administration (at least until recently), and
- tenure insecurity,

Current Challenges

- Growing landlessness: solutions including resettlement do not seem to cope with the scale of the problem,
- Progressive Diminution of holding size: continuing demographic pressure in rural areas.
- Constrained access to land: Restrictions on land transactions, access to land restricted to residence within a kebele, inheritance much restricted, and
- Tenure insecurity: limited rights, limited duration of those rights, lack of respect for rights, and lack of adequate laws and institutions.

Distribution of rural agricultural holders by size of holding

All holders	Size of holding in hectare						
	Under 0.1	0.10 – 0.50	0.51- 1.00	1.01 – 2.00	2.01 – 5.00	5.01 – 10.00	Over 10.00
10,553,514	767,740	3,104,141	2,727,486	2,585,278	1,264,421	95,068	9379
% of holders	7.3	29.4	25.8	24.5	12.0	0.9	0.1
Cumulative %	7.3	36.7	62.5	87.0	99.0	99.9	100
Average number of parcels / holder (Total = 3)	1	2	3	4	5	7	7

Source: Figures taken from Central Agricultural Census Commission (2003).

Introducing Land Administration Systems

- Recently (since 2000) and since started in the Amhara, Tigray, Oromiya and SNNPR,
- Focus, officially stated, is more on bringing tenure security and its benefits, and
- An important beginning, given the existing problems.

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But some concerns:

- Unclear jurisdictions and lack of coordination among different agencies,
- Serious capacity constraints challenging sustainability of the system,
- High costs to farmers in instituting and, maintaining the system,
- Challenges to sustainability: work burden and limited institutional capacity, the ad hoc nature of the structure at local level, lack of adequate participation at the local level,
- More is to be done in terms of political commitment: respect for rights, timely legislative and administrative measures, and
- Could land certification by itself bring about tenure security and increased investment in land, as assumed?

Fragmentation

- Fragmentation is also cited in the literature as a serious problem constraining agriculture in all periods under review,
- But no national study after the 1975 reform,
- Around 1975 the national average number of parcels was reported to be 2.46,
- Literature indicates that fragmentation has been aggravated as a result of land redistribution mechanisms,
- Still figures are less than 3 parcels (2003 Central Agricultural Census) and walking distance about half an hour,
- Studies seem to focus more on theory about the disadvantages of fragmentation.
- Is fragmentation that serious problem and unwanted by farmers in Ethiopia? and
- Could we, within the existing conditions of agriculture, recommend consolidation?

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Presentation no 3

Title: **Impacts of Land Fragmentation on Environment, Food Security and Poverty: The case of Wedeb Eyesus, Finchawa and Chancho Obi Kebeles** *(by Bezabih Emana)*

Presenter: **Dr Bezabih Emana**

Facilitator: **Gizachew Abegaz**

Introduction

Relevance of agriculture to Ethiopian economy:

- Means of Livelihood,
- Employment,
- Income (40% of GDP), and
- Raw materials for industries

Features of Ethiopian agriculture:

- Smallholders dominating,
- Small landholding size,
- Increasing fragmentation,
- Low use of improved technologies, and
- Low productivity

Impacts of agriculture on land use system:

- Declining fallow system,
- Increased soil degradations/land erosion, and
- Low forestation/low biomass recycling

The Study Areas

The study was conducted in three districts located in three different regions:

- Wedebe Yesus PA of Debay Tilat Gin district in east Gojjam Zone, Amhara region,
- Chancho Obi PA of Toke Kutaye district in west Shewa Zone, Oromia region, and
- Finchawa PA of Awassa Zuria district in Sidma Zone of the SNNP were included in the study.

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The three districts fairly represent different socio-economic, cultural, and agro-ecological settings.

Objectives of the Study

- Investigate the extent of land fragmentation and dispersion,
- Investigate the causes of land fragmentation and dispersion,
- Analyze the economic and environmental impacts of land fragmentation,
- Investigate land management modality and land access mechanisms,
- Assess the perception of farmers on the problem of land fragmentation, and
- Assess the available policy options proposed by the farmers;

Methodology

Survey

On average 13% of households and 10% households were covered in each study area.

PA	Male		Female		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Weddeb Eyesus	176	89	22	11	198	34
Chancho Obi	166	90	18	10	184	32
Finchawa	181	90	20	10	201	34
Total	**523**	**90**	**60**	**10**	**583**	**100**

Data Collection

PRA

Number of participants of farmers groups

Type of group	Number of participants by PA/district			
	Wedebe Yesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	Total
1. Elders (above 45 years)	7	5	5	17
2. Adult farmers (30-45 years)	9	6	7	22
3. Young farmers (18-30 years)	13	6	5	24
4. Female headed	6	5	6	17
5. PA administration	9	6	4	19
6. Woreda level experts	4	3	2	9
Total	48	31	29	108

CCRDA

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Field observations

- Throughout the study time, extents of land fragmentation, land size, land use systems, land degradations etc. were observed and documented (photographs), and
- Project sites of SLUF was also visited

Land Tenure System

The land tenure system has been the issue of power and governance in Ethiopia. Land tenure systems evolved in response to:

- political environment,
- rural demographic dynamics,
- expansion of markets,
- natural resource conditions, and
- social and physical infrastructure.

The Current Land Tenure System

The article 40(3) of the constitution gives land ownership to the state and the peoples of Ethiopia and declares land as a common property of the nations, nationalities and peoples of Ethiopia and shall not be subject to sale or to other means of transfer. Accordingly, the farmers have the right to use land indefinitely and lease it temporarily to other farmers and inherit to their children. Regional governments rectified their own land administration polices (Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya, SNNP,) defined land holding size, lease period (2-15), land certifications, etc.

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Farmers' Perceptions

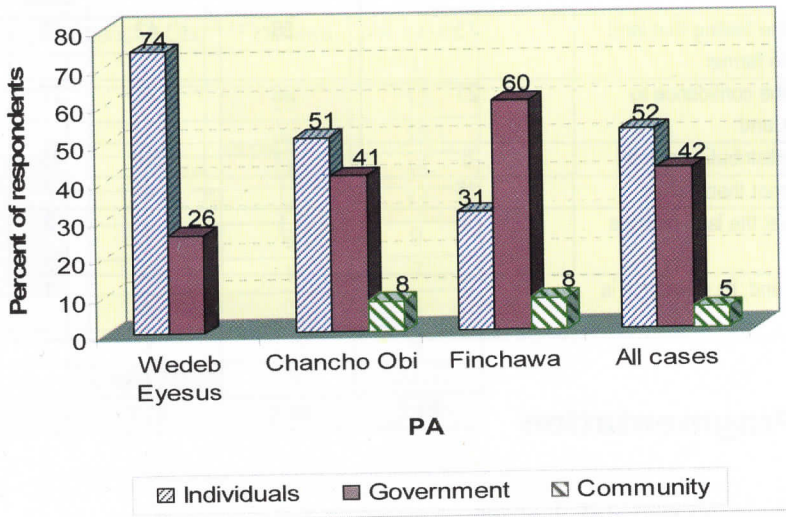
- How do you feel about the current land policy?
- Their opinion on who should own land?
- What impact the current land use policy has?

Proportion of Respondent Households

How do the farmers feel?	Wedeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Happy with the current land policy	55	62	93	70
Land should not be redistributed	7	23	19	16
Feel that the land belongs to me	19	66	49	44
Mixed feeling	51	19	5	25

Views on Land Ownership

Figure 4.1: Opinion of the farmers on land ownership



Perceived Impact of Land Policy

Perceived impact	Wedeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Reduced soil conservation measures	19.7	0.5	20.9	14.1
Low motivation to grow perennial crops	18.7	0.5	24.9	15.1
Low input use	15.2		25.4	13.9
Lack of confidence on ownership of land	25.3	1.6	5	10.8
Degradation of natural resources	18.2		9	9.3
No impact	52	88.6	47.8	55.8
The policy does not meet the needs of youths (limited redistribution)	6.6	2.2		2.9
Others		2.7		0.8

Land Certification

Percent of households aware of land certification

PAs	Aware of land certification (%)	Received the certificate
1. Wedebe Yesus	94	90
2. Chancho Obi	96	3
3. Finchawa	73	4
All PAs	87	33

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Relevance of Land Certification

Judgment	Wedeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
It increases the feeling that land belongs to the farmer	73	96	42	69
It increases the confidence to invest on my land	21	38	23	27
No further redistribution of land	5	21	31	19
It is not different than before	15	1	4	7
I don't feel that the land belongs to me	9	1	-	3
I don't have land, its relevance is not known	2	-	-	1

Land Fragmentation

- Land holding size and changes,
- Plot number and changes,
- Plot dispersion, and
- Factors affecting land fragmentation

Land Use

Land use	Wedeb Eyesus		Chancho Obi		Finchawa		All cases	
	Mean area (ha)	Household (%)	Mean area (ha)	Household (%)	Mean area (ha)	Household (%)	Mean area (ha)	Household (%)
Cropland: Irrigated	0.28	45.96	0.57	37.5	0.3	12.4	0.40	31.7
Rainfed	0.96	93.94	2.36	95.7	0.4	97.0	1.21	95.5
Pasture/grazing land	0.14	7.58	1.09	51.1	0.1	3.0	0.91	19.7
Forest/wood land	0.11	4.55	0.85	7.1	0.1	6.5	0.39	6.0
Homestead including gardens	0.17	37.37	0.43	57.6	0.2	60.7	0.26	51.8
Degraded land (out of production)	0.10	1.52	0.55	6.5	0.2	8.5	0.31	5.5

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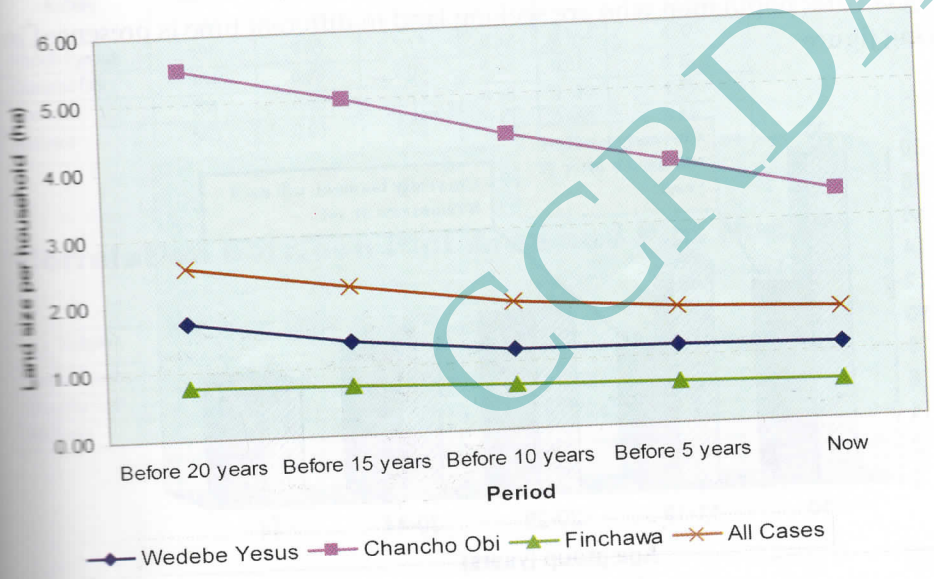
Landholding

Frequency distribution of land owned (% of households)

Area (ha)	Weddeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
0	2	1		1
< 0.25	8	6	23	13
0.26-0.5	8	2	34	15
0.51-0.75	16	3	26	15
0.76-1.0	18	7	9	11
1.01-1.25	15	4	6	9
1.26-1.50	14	5	1	7
1.56-1.75	8	5	0	4
1.76-2.0	8	3		4
> 2	4.5	64.7	0.50	22.1
Mean area	1.12	3.39	0.58	1.65

Trends in Landholding

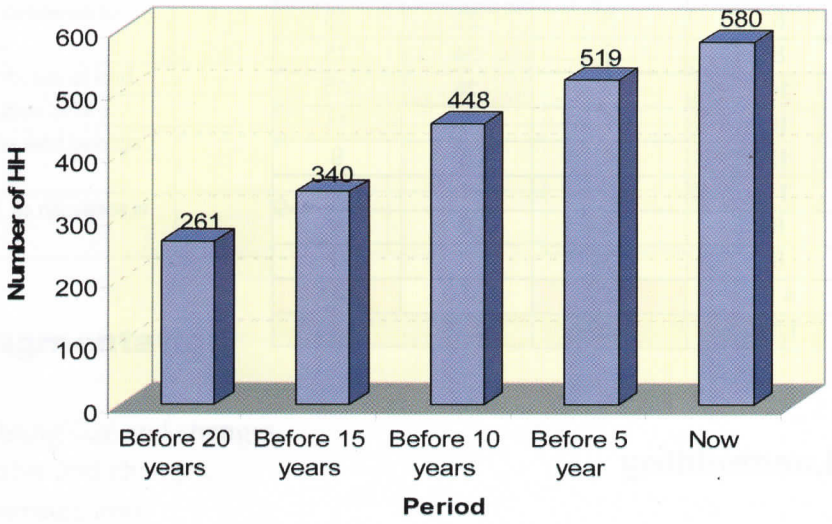
The trend of land holding size in the study areas can be elucidated as follows



CCRDA

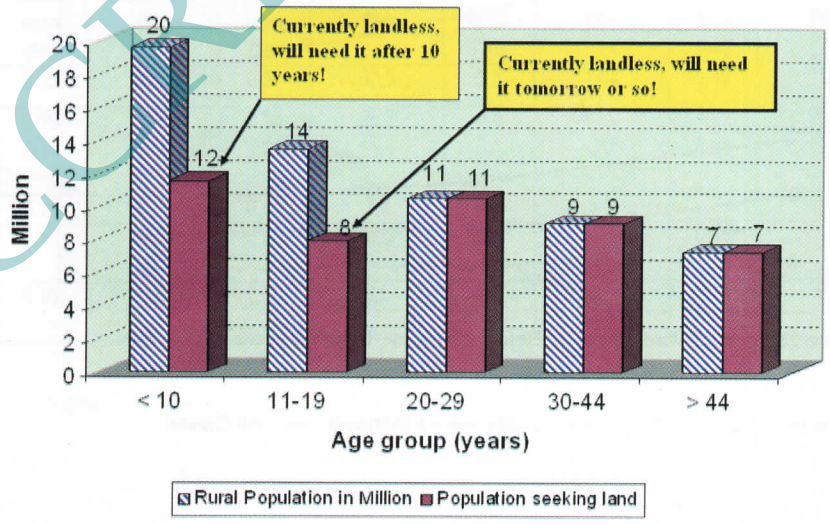
Increasing Pressure on Land

The trend in number of households due to increasing land pressure is presented below



Seeking Land

The finding of rural population who are seeking land in different time is presented in the following figure



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Reasons for Increase in Land Size

Reasons	Weddeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Land redistribution	**44.6**	7.9	7.6	24.7
Inherited land	**28**	15.8	**37.1**	26.9
Land Purchased		0.9	12.4	3.5
Land leased/rented	14	**25.4**	**25.7**	20.2
Gift from relatives	13.4	**50**	17.1	24.7
Total N	186	114	105	405

Reasons for Decline in Land Size

Reasons for the reduction of land size over time	Wedeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Voluntary land distribution to children or relatives	28.9	63.4	75.0	58.4
Land distributed to other farmers	53.3	22.0	2.9	22.7
Land allocated to other purposes (forestations, villagization	2.2	4.9	1.5	2.6
High population pressure	15.6	9.8	20.6	16.2
Total No. of Cases	45	41	68	154

Plots Area (ha)

Kebele	No. of case	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	SD	Average no. of plots
Wedeb Eyesus	198	0.03	1.13	0.32	0.154	4.37
Chancho Obi	184	0.25	7.00	0.94	0.816	4.12
Finchawa	201	0.06	1.13	0.35	0.188	1.75
All cases	583	0.03	7.00	0.53	0.556	3.45

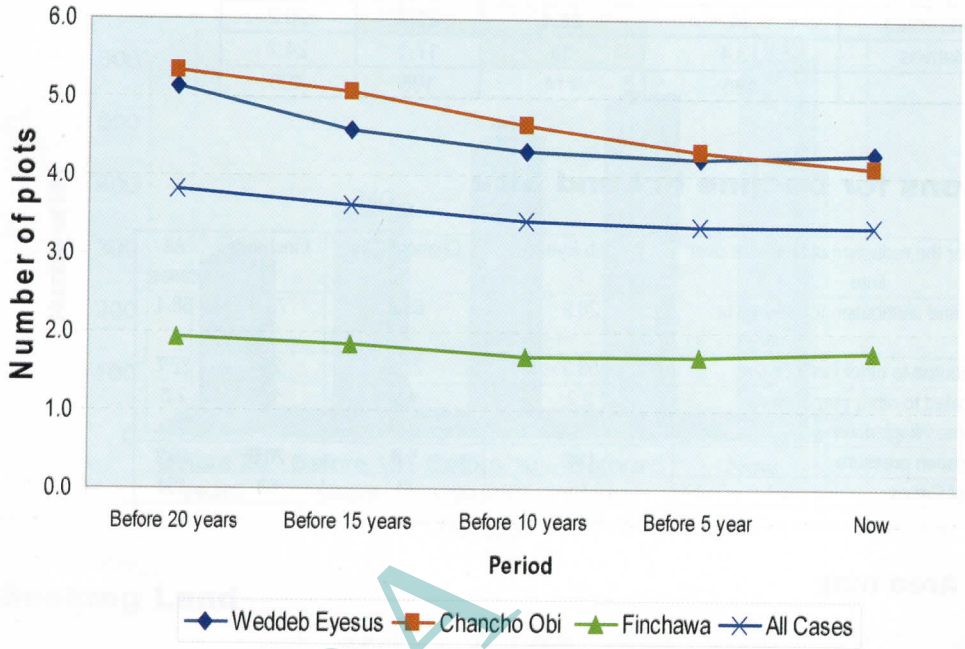
Correlation between Plot Area and Plot Number

Kebele	Pearson Correlation	Sig. (2-tailed)	N
Wedeb Eyesus	-0.279	0.0001	198
Chancho Obi	-0.287	0.0001	184
Finchawa	-0.194	0.0059	201

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Changes in plot number per Household

The trend in number (mean) of plots per household over the years has been computed from survey results. The finding is presented as follows:



Disadvantages of Land Fragmentation

Effect of the increased number of plots	Wedebe Eyesus	Chancho-Obi	Finchawa	All case
Long distance between plots and home	37	63	22	**40**
Difficulties in land management	40	39	21	**33**
Crop protection is difficult to manage	29	44	25	**32**
Limit the type of crops to be grown	18	18	17	18
No impact	49	25	41	39

Advantages of Plot Dispersion

Importance of scatterd plots	Weddeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cas
Large scale production possible		10	31	18.2
Minimize the risks	**93**	**70**	**33**	**56.2**
Enables increased productivity		**20**	**25**	**19.7**
Enables production of different types of crops			11	5.1
No importance	7			0.7
Total	15	61	61	137

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Reasons for Land Consolidation not Possible

- Land productivity difference: differences in potential for irrigation, soil fertility, slope, and altitude,
- Risk aversion factor: different sites differ in terms of vulnerability to risk of crop failure subject to hail, frost and soil erosion, etc,
- Conflict avoidance: the existing plot boundaries have been well established and recognized, and
- Prestige: most plots have been inherited from parents and historically associated with the families owning them.

Means of Accessing Land

Means of accessing the plots currently cultivated	Weddeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All Cases
Inherited	14	**21.9**	**53.4**	**24**
Gifts from relatives	**19.3**	**28.8**	**24.1**	**23.9**
Purchase		0.1	5.5	1
Lease	8.1	4.2	0.9	5.3
Sharecropping	5.6	15.8	12.4	10.8
Allocated by administration	**53**	**29.2**	3.7	**35**

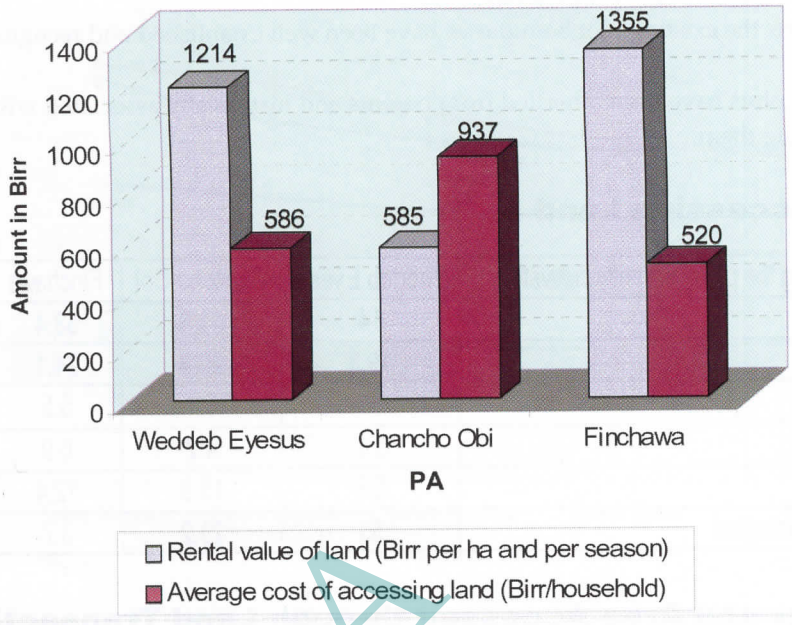
Plot Number and Area Accessed through Land Transaction

Details	Wedeb Eyesus		Chancho Obi		Finchawa	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Total No. of plots leased in	1.55	0.52	1.35	0.78	1.67	0.58
Total No. of plots shared in	2.04	1.37	2.14	1.25	1.11	0.39
Total number of plots transacted in	2.48	2.22	7.30	4.69	1.47	0.80
Area of leased in land in ha	0.56	0.24	0.95	0.62	0.54	0.36
Area of shared in land in ha	0.61	0.56	1.75	1.16	0.37	0.20
Total area accessed through transaction (ha)	0.61	0.52	1.84	1.19	0.38	0.21
No. of cases	60.00		76.00		43.00	

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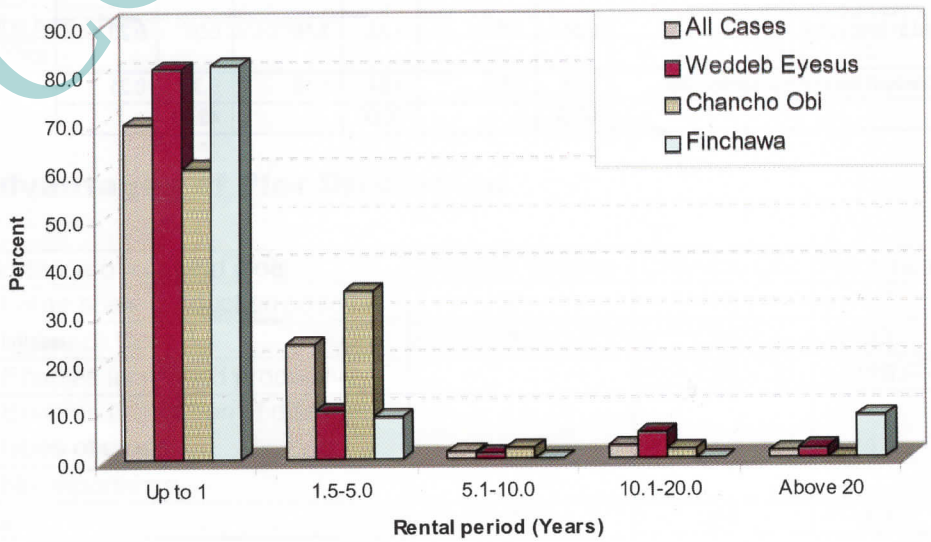
Rental Value

Rental value and average cost of accessing land for the study areas is summarized as follows



Rental Period

Distribution of leases by lease period (years) for the study areas is presented in the following figure.

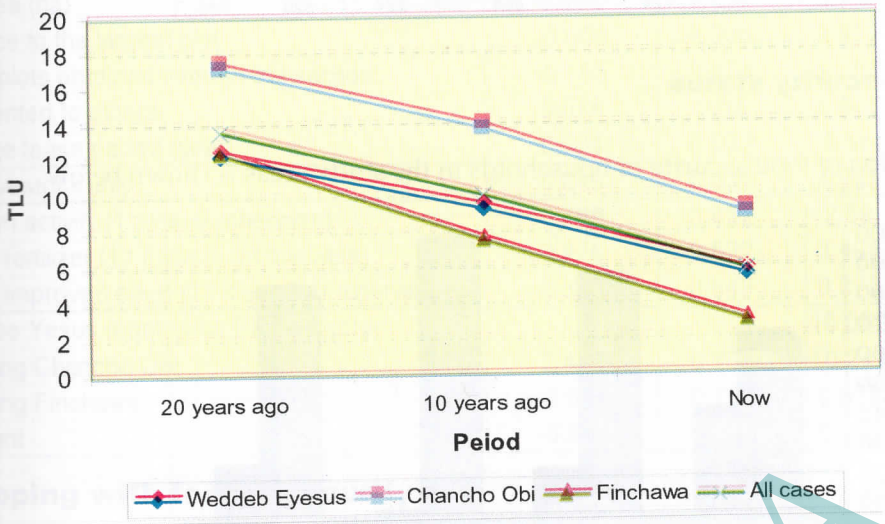


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Impacts

Declining TLU per household

The change in TLU over the last 20 years (counting down from 2005) as a result of land fragmentation is calculated and presented as follows.



Perception on food security (% household)

PA	Able to support family from own land	
	Yes	No
Weddeb Eyesus	11	89
Chancho Obi	62	38
Finchawa	46	54
All cases	39	61

Causes of food insecurity

Reasons	Weddeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Declining land size	25.8	19.9	18.8	**22.2**
Long distance to plots	13.5	14.6	5.7	11.1
Plots are scattered	13.8	12.9	6.5	11.1
Rainfall shortage	9.2	1.8	18	10.5
Declining soil fertility	35.8	29.2	18.4	**28.6**
Shortage of inputs	1.1	17	21.5	11.4
Lack of market	0.9	1.8	11.1	4.5
Others		2.9		0.6

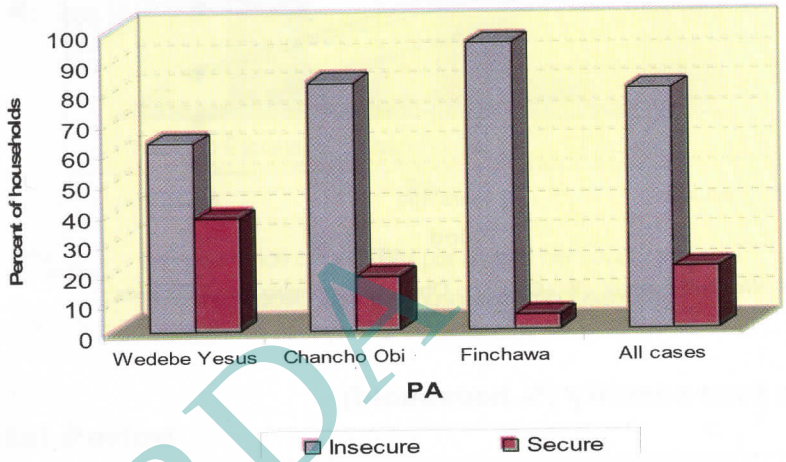
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Household income (Birr)

Source of income	Wedebe Yesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All Cases	
				Mean	No. Cases
Perennial crops	928	833	973	936	119
Off-farm activities	762	726	350	734	46
Leasing out land	82	255	208	**207**	31
Share cropping arrangement	736	435	279	**566**	71
Annual crop production	2492	2254	545	1753	574
Total income (weighted)	2878	2506	880	2076	577
Income per AE	**774**	**568**	**221**	**520**	**576**

Food insecurity status

The situation of food security of households in the study areas is shown below



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Determinants of food insecurity

Variables in the Equation	B	S.E.	Wald	Sig.	Exp(B)
Age of the household head (year)	-0.012	0.017	0.501	0.479	0.988
Sex of the household head (Female=1, Male=2)	0.365	0.932	0.153	0.696	1.44
Adult equivalent	-0.926	0.168	30.262	**0.000**	0.396
Marital status (1=married, 0 otherwise)	-1.076	0.733	2.154	0.142	0.341
Literacy (=1 if atleast primary school, 0 otherwise)	0.365	0.446	0.67	0.413	1.44
Plot number	0.184	0.134	1.89	0.169	1.202
Plot area (ha)	0.158	0.051	9.717	**0.002**	1.171
Distance to the largest plot	-0.006	0.006	0.902	0.342	0.994
No. of plots obtained through transaction	-0.195	0.174	1.256	0.262	0.823
Area rented to others	0.074	0.08	0.845	0.358	1.077
Average lease period (year)	0.024	0.032	0.56	0.454	1.024
Total livestock unit	0.049	0.035	1.985	0.159	1.05
Off-farm activity (1=yes, 0 otherwise)	0.769	0.452	2.89	**0.089**	2.158
Use of fertilizer (1= if used, 0 otherwise)	0.976	0.522	3.496	**0.062**	2.654
Use of improved seed (1= if used, 0 otherwise)	0.335	0.549	0.373	0.541	1.398
Wedebe Yesus (control for PA category)			16.069	**0.000**	
PA being Chancho Obi	2.487	0.777	10.241	**0.001**	12.025
PA being Finchawa	-0.694	0.759	0.835	0.361	0.5
Constant	-0.626	1.69	0.137	0.711	0.535

Coping with food insecurity

Strategies	Weddeb Eyesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Rent land from others	21.5	38.1	21.9	**27.5**
Share cropping	21.1	44.8	35.6	**35.2**
Rear livestock	44.7	13.1	18.6	23.3
Trade	3.4	1.8	13.7	6.9
Engage in off-farm works	6.8	1.8	9.3	6
Prepare and sell local drinks	2.5	0.3	0.8	1.1

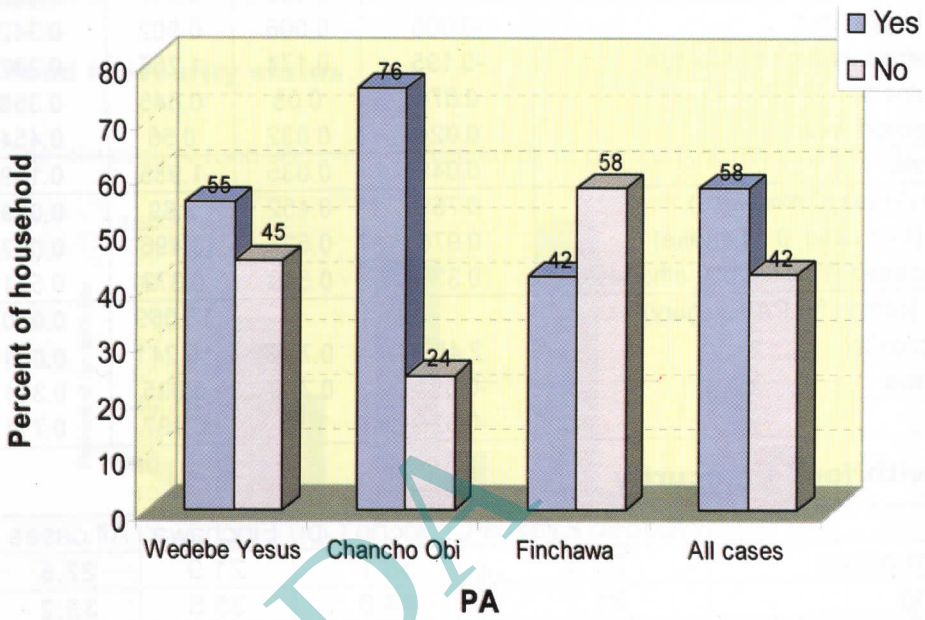
Perception on causes of degradation (% household)

Causes of degradation	Wedebe Yesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Low conservation work	77	79	60	**72**
Cutting of trees	95	96	91	**94**
Inappropriate cultivation	33	62	76	**57**
Lack of confidence in land ownership	28	18	22	23

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Does land fragmentation affect soil conservation?

The Perception of households on impact of land fragmentation on soil conservation in the three study areas is summarized below



Does plot dispersion affect soil conservation?

The perception of farmers is summarized in the following table.

Effect	Wedebe Yesus	Chancho Obi	Finchawa	All cases
Yes	50	48	21	**41**
No	50	52	79	**59**
N	195	176	161	532

CRDA

Tree planting decision

Variables in the Equation	B	S.E.	Wald	Sig.	Exp(B)
Age of the household head (years)	0.009	0.01	0.705	0.401	1.009
Sex of the household head (male=1, 2=female)	-1.041	0.731	2.029	0.154	0.353
Marital status (marries=1, 0 otherwise)	0.11	0.555	0.039	0.843	1.116
Literacy (1=if attended school, 0 otherwise)	0.485	0.271	3.191	**0.074**	1.624
Family labour (Man equivalent)	0.154	0.058	7.114	**0.008**	1.167
Plot number	-0.174	0.093	3.507	**0.061**	0.84
Plot area	0.028	0.023	1.482	0.223	1.028
No. of plots leased in	-0.082	0.13	0.395	0.529	0.922
Average length of lease period	0.041	0.033	1.574	0.21	1.042
Distance to the furthest plot (min)	0.009	0.005	4.272	**0.039**	1.009
Distance to the largest plot (Min)	-0.009	0.005	3.521	**0.061**	0.991
Plot position (1= in four directions from home, 0 otherwise)	0.35	0.442	0.626	0.429	1.419
Fertility of plot (if infertile=1, 0 otherwise)	0.239	0.356	0.449	0.503	1.27
Credit service (1=if received, 0 otherwise)	0.497	0.287	3.002	**0.083**	1.644
Off-farm activity (1=if participated, 0 otherwise)	-0.61	0.274	4.953	**0.026**	0.543
Constant	-0.391	1.262	0.096	0.757	0.676

Terracing decision

Variables	B	S.E.	Wald	Sig.	Exp(B)
Plot position (1= in four directions from home, 0 otherwise)	0.0522	0.3026	0.0298	0.8630	1.0536
Fertility of plot (if fertile=1, 0 otherwise)	0.0984	0.2562	0.1473	0.7010	1.1034
Average length of lease period	0.0055	0.0161	0.1157	0.7340	1.0055
No. of plots leased in	-0.1788	0.1286	1.9336	0.1644	1.0412
Plot area	-0.0143	0.0205	0.4889	0.4840	0.9858
Plot number	0.3216	0.0655	24.1055	**0.0000**	1.3794
Literacy (1=if attended school, 0 otherwise)	0.2784	0.2170	1.6460	0.2000	1.3210
Marital status (marries=1, 0 otherwise)	-0.1803	0.3894	0.2143	0.6430	0.8350
Sex of the household head (male=1, 2=female)	-0.2340	0.4375	0.2860	0.5930	0.7914
Age of the household head (years)	-0.0067	0.0073	0.8509	0.3560	0.9933
Livestock unit per AE	0.1557	0.0933	2.7827	**0.0950**	1.1685
Food security status (1 if secured, 0 otherwise)	0.4749	0.2502	3.6012	**0.0580**	1.6078
Participation in off-farm activity (1=yes, 0 otherwise)	-0.1044	0.2222	0.2206	0.6390	0.9009
Credit (1 if received, 0 otherwise)	0.2875	0.2038	1.9907	0.1580	1.3331
Constant	-1.4121	0.8774	2.5901	0.1080	0.2436

CGIAR

Conclusions

- Land fragmentation has been increasing during the past few decades. Due to increases i population, land size per household declined from 2.5 ha to 1.7 ha,
- The total number of plots has increased overtime in a given PA and declined per household,
- Advantages of land dispersion has been viewed as a means to reduce risk, though reduces labour use efficiency. The former option outweighs and serves as a challenge to land consolidation,
- Land fragmentation affects land management and hence food security of the households (61% food insecure household),
- Conserving the natural resource is difficult when people are starving,
- Land transaction (share cropping and leasing) is getting importance,
- Imperfect land transaction has been instigated by land shortage and limited policy options (the poor cannot easily get it),
- Alternative land use policy options suggested by farmers correlate with their age,
- Older farmers need privatized land ownership,
- Younger farmers need further land redistribution, which is possible only through government,
- Hence, generalized policy decision without a wider and in depth policy analysis (in a participatory manner) would inappropriate, and
- The continuously increasing number of young farmers will be a potential for further land use policy reform in that there is strong claim for land

Recommendations

- Engage in alternative income generation activities in a way of association with land and ecological improvement complements,
- Since there is not as such enough land to accommodate for the growing demand for it, promote non-farm activities; build the capacity to do so,
- Practical engagement of soil conservation in a participatory manner; use innovative approach, and
- Engage in advocacy work on impacts of land fragmentation

Comments

- In certain places, farmland fragmentation seems to have its advantages for having variations in soil fertility and other traits each plot may have, nevertheless, as the number of plots increases managing them by a household becomes difficult and costly. Therefore, there should be a compromise for a farmer to opt for several plots over a few fertile plots.

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- Agriculture is just one aspect—though major—of rural development. In future, we should be able to look into investing in the rural areas and establish additional options of income generation by way of rural industrialization. This would require a general structural change, as it requires investment and, above all, attitudinal change of the people to move from urban to rural areas. Perhaps, this also calls for readjustment in land administration and use policies.

Question and Answer

Q: Like elsewhere in the world, land transaction has both advantages and disadvantages so how can this be reconciled?

A: *It should be noted that land ownership is just one aspect, while land transfer and other politically sensitive aspects associated with land could also come into the picture. If we expend the debate, on this line, it would not be useful for anyone and is just a mere waste of money and efforts. Therefore, it is wise for a farmer to practice all other means of owning land, use it sustainably, and get out of the poverty cycle.*

Q: As land size diminishes, because of fragmentation, farmers do not feel secured and at the same time poverty will take over the situation. This may require improving land productivity. How can this be achieved?

A: *The use of modern technologies (crop varieties, fertilizer, and production techniques) and proper utilization of water can improve land productivity per unit area. However, no one can bravely claim that it is the last and sole resort; this should be objectively substantiated by changing the working and thinking behaviours of farmers at the same time.*

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Note: The paper presented in this session is published by SLUF. The correct citation of the publication is "**Impacts of Land Fragmentation on Environment, Food Security, and Poverty: The case of Wedeb Eyesus, Finchawa, and Chancho Obi Kebeles. Research Report NO 2. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.**"

Presentation No 4

Title: **Study on the Experience of Land Registration Process in the Amhara Region** *(by Birhamu Adnew and Feyera Abdi, SOS Sahel Ethiopia)*

Presenter: **Dr Birhanu Adnew**

Facilitator: **Ato Gizachew Abegaz**

Land and Socio-economic Development

In Ethiopia land is a crucial resource with economic, social, cultural, and political importance. Land resource is at the center of economic development plan and strategies:

- ADLI,
- Poverty reduction, food security, settlement ,
- PRSP, PASDEP ,
- Investment plans: attracting domestic, FDI,
- MDGs, and
- The five years plan for agric. development (May 2006)
  - market oriented small-holder agriculture development,
  - envisages expansion of arable land, and
  - improved productivity

The Land Question in Ethiopia

- How can the land serves the development needs?
  - Agricultural development (efficient/economic allocation and use and limited land market operations, i.e., investment demands)
  - Conservation and proper uses of land (lack of secured rights cited as one factor of lack of proper care and land degradation)
- Access to land and growing population
  - It is a constitutional right for every body (who wishes to cultivate) to get land; but availability;
  - Increasing demand, scarcity and competition for land
  - Resettlement
- Tenure insecurity - major factors are:
  - uncertainty created by perceived future redistribution
  - land redistributions were major causes before 1991
  - the current policy allows land taking by the government (in principle compensating for investment made on land) for future expansions of urban areas, for industrial investment zones, for real-estate developments, and for public services ,etc

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- The existing policy allows redistribution of irrigated land
  - land taking and compensation issues (no compensation for user right lost , effects on the livelihood of the poor (around urban), studies show that (e.g. two Master Theses researches conducted around Addis Ababa) the poor landholders were economically and socially negatively affected.
- One loses a right to land when he/she leaves his/her rural kebele for:
  - over 10 years (Amhara) ,
  - more than 2 years (Tigray),
  - fallow land for more than 2 years (SNNPR), and
  - and if one fails to conserve land (Oromiya, SNNPR, Amhara)
- Lack of land administration system and land database
  - No proper land database for use by investors, planners, and
  - Lack of land use plan and hence misallocation of the scarce resource

Why Land Tenure Secure?

It is widely documented that property rights to land that are secure and easily transferable are recognized to be key elements for:

- higher levels of investment
- access to credit,
- reallocation of production factors in order to maximize allocative efficiency in resource use,
- the development of an off-farm economy.

How much tenure security?

From legal perspective of tenure security is there when one when one confidently rely on enjoying the land rights. In addition, it needs an easy means of providing rights, a rule-of-law environment, and institutions to settle disputes.

From economic perspective:

- More exclusive rights to manage, and access income/benefits from the land,,
- A longer time horizon to promote investment,
- Marketability of property rights to promote efficient land distribution, and possibility of borrowing against security in land, and
- Mortgageability of property rights, allowing part of the value of land to be borrowed by the owner as liquid assets, with the land serving as security for the lender.

Current Land Policy and Tenure Security Programs

In response to the land tenure insecurity challenges, the government has recognized land tenure insecurity as a real challenge, and adopted a program of land registration and title certification. It could be said, this was a result of lots of empirical research and dialogue at various fora, and lobbying and advocacy works.

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Land registration and user right certification started in the four major regions (since 2002; 1998 in Tigray). The rural land registration process is the first experience in Ethiopia. New structures/organs have been created from regional offices to community (kebele) level to implement it.

The objectives of registration and title certification program were to improve security of land users promote land conservation, develop land administration system, and facilitate investment. The new land Administration and Use Proclamation provided 2005.

Land Registration Experience

The **specific objectives** of land registration in Amhara Region are:

- To **analyse the registration process and** assess **the perceptions and expectations of the land users and implementing agencies,**
- To **study the nature of the land registration process - institutions built, level of participation of communities, instruments used, efficiency, capacity, problems encountered and solutions sought,**
- To **provide a preliminary assessment of** some **of the effects of the registration process- conflicts, effects on women farmers, land transfers, etc,** and
- To **draw lessons for land registration programs elsewhere in the country.**

Methods Followed in the Study

- regular contacts with officials and experts of the EPLAUA in Bahir Dar.
- Interview of experts at woreda level and visit to the pilot project site.
- Survey of selected households in four woredas conducted in July 2004.
- Bahir Dar Zuria, Fogera, Meket, and Gozamen woredas.
- Discussion with land administration committee members in selected kebeles.

Major Observations from the Study

Two approaches were simultaneously implemented in the registration program:

- a pilot in 4 kebeles in 2 woredas with GIS based land registration; and
- the so-called 'traditional' system in other woredas.

Community members were selected and trained

- to demarcate boundaries, measure holdings and register, and
- to handled disputes

Awareness raising and limited trainings were made.

- Communities were mobilized for participations in land measurement and registration and
- Community members contributed free input in measurement and demarcation.

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Improving conservation and use of land and natural resources is an integral objective of the registration process, i.e., land conservation obligations are stated on certificates.

Level of technology in use

- 'traditional' : simple and traditional measurements, and
- pilot programs: cadastral survey uses high-tech

Certificates:

- First stage –preliminary , distributed now, and
- Second stage- permanent one (needs map of land holding)

The documentation and certification process took longer time most likely due to shortage of work force. Some effects and benefits observed:

- Land conflicts said to have reduced/minimized,
- local level social courts, and elders mediate boundary conflicts, and
- Empowerment and rights of women (jointly included on certificates)

Realization of the broader expected benefits need time to hold (also need monitoring and documentation).The process involves demarcation of boundaries of holdings/tenure types: kebele land, communal, private. In Amhara, participatory demarcation of common property resources is hoped to reduce danger of encroachments to non-private lands.

In general, participation of women in local level land administration committee is low. In 2004 out of the 18890 committee members elected to work, only 7% (1318) were female. This was believed to be because:

- it is demanding work,
- cultural influence of women participation, and
- other household workloads.

Women and certificates

If land is jointly owned, should be issued in the name of both husband and wife. The name of both recorded in the book of holding and both photographs attached.

Adequate training of land administration committee members is found to be important. The plan was to cover all lands in the region within 3 years, seems to be ambitious. Hence, 20%, 30%, and 50% of the land to be registered in 2003/04, 2004/05, and 2005/06. Benchmark for holding registration is taken to be the1997 land distribution. Conflicts of diverse nature have been reported emerging in the process of land measurement and registration related to illegal annexing of lands after the 1997 land redistribution, informal land sales, boundary demarcation disputes, inheritance disputes, rights and access of resettled people, etc. Level of awareness of

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the community about the process was low, but varies across the study woredas. Perceptions of community members:

- **a number of respondents did not want to register land, but were told to do so, but why this is the case was not clear,**
- **On the other hand, most respondents believe that land registration will have effect on land conservation,**
- **Other reported perceived advantages of land registration and certification were: better tenure security, the possibility to leasing land over a longer period of time,**
- **Few reported that as a benefit, land registration would end land redistribution,** and
- **Some fear less access to communal lands.**

The Challenges and Future Needs

From the assessment made in the study the following implications may be drawn:

- The need for efficient conflict resolution mechanism is imperative,
- Capacity building for community participation (lack of resources (financial, human) to do the vast job of registration and certification is reported),
- Urban planning and territorial expansions need to be conscious of the effects on the poor rural communities,
- Sustainable record keeping and updating mechanism (updating records with transfers of holdings transactions, inheritance, etc),
- How to improve accuracy of holding measurements and maps,
- Awareness raising of communities about the registration and titling program is needed,
- The need for standardization of land measurement and registration practices (ELTAP, ARD workshop April 2006),
- In some cases urban expansion is said to have overridden rural land claims, as a result delayed certificates,
- Land taking (expropriation) is a major concern, especially in areas of high demand for land. It has a potential effect of undermining the benefits of titling/ certificates,
- Recognition of common property rights and management is vital also for natural resources management. There was a case reported from Eastern Gojam Zone where common pasture land is attempted to be parceled for private use.
- **The poor** land holders **lack information, resources and confidence to defend their rights,**
- Possible ways for SCO/NGOs' engagement in land tenure security measures. Lobbying for harmonization and integration of urban expansion with peri-urban development,
- Capacity building for local level land administration organs. Training, material support and conflict resolution mechanisms,
- Working towards promoting participation of women, rehabilitation, and integration programs for people displaced by urbanization and industrial investment zones. and research and documentation, and
- Realistic plans must be set so that given the sensitivity of the land issue suspicion will not be created in the rural people as a result of a delay in handing over the title certificates

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after land is measured and registered. While some farmers had to wait for the certificates for many months, others got it.

Some Cost Assessments for Land Registration

For a household having average holding of 3.6, costs of certification was 3.5 USD per household or less than 1USD per parcel (World bank Mission, 2005), 30 USD per household or 8.4 USD per parcel (when total stations and GPS receivers are used), and a significant amount of time input of local committees not accounted for.

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Presentation no 5

Title: **Land Registration and Women's land Right in Amhara Region** (*by Askale Teklu, SOS Sahel Ethiopia)*
Presenter: **W/ro Askale Teklu**
Facilitator: **Ato Gizachew Abegaz**

Women's Rights to Land in Amhara: historical background

Before 1974, inheritance was the form of right to land. *Derg* (1975-1991): Derived rights only (through marriage) where husbands control land. Through land distribution of 1997: women acquired rights to land.

Land Policy and Land Administration

The Amhara regional government has developed a land use and administration policy/ proclamation no 46/92 in the year 2000. The proclamation defines the right of possession to include the right to use, rent, or inherit regardless of sex.

Land Policy *vs.* Women Right to Land

It confirms rights of women to land and strengthens women's rights to land in relation to marriage and inheritance. If marriage breaks, it provides equal share of the land under their holding (article 9:1, 2003). Transfer of land through inheritance can only be legal when the wife counters signs on the testament.

Joint Titling

Land use right certificate is granted with photograph of husband and wife. Certificates only released to husband when the wife acknowledges receipt of certificate. In cases of land transfer women should agree.

Registration/certificates were given to:

- 28.9% female,
- 38.6% joint titling, and
- 32.5% men holding title alone

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Impact of Registration on Women for Access and Control of Land

Tangible improvements have been attained to facilitate women's access to land. The pattern of women right to land has, changed overtime from only access to use land to control over land

Factors Affecting Women Controlling Land

The following factors were conspicuously observed affecting women in controlling their land:

- Women land use is determined by the availability of men labor and the term attached to it,
- Women lack of control over labor has indirect impact over control of land and direct Impact on their income, and
- Access to agricultural tools ,such as oxen and accessories

Situations for Loosing Rights

The following risk situations are being observed as factors for loosing the right over land by women:

- Divorce,
- Inheritance disputes,
- Boundary disputes,
- Poor women, with no family helping to protect their rights (elderly and chronic ill are also at risk), and
- Many women have no accurate information on their rights (they do not attend meetings but use informal ways to acquire information)

Claiming Rights and Access to justice

- Women tend to give up 'formal' rights: pursuing legal procedures is time consuming and costly,
- Women claiming rights are regarded as trouble makers and not welcomed by local authorities or social courts (which are dominated by men),
- Women prefer arbitration by the elders, not social court,
- Often under pressure, they take settlements for less than what they are entitled.

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Problems with Registration

The following issues are often noted as problems associated with ownership registration of land:

- Divorced women entered in sharecropping with ex-husband: while registration some committees have given 2/3 of land to the man (and not ½),
- Some husbands tried to divorce their wife to prevent her gaining rights to the land, and
- Inheritance disputes: fear that others will use the registration process to claim her land

Land distribution alleged to be biased against the poor

- No birth registry system: Girls >18; boys> 24 years looking young (under nourished - poor physical condition) not given land,
- More land for those having political alliances and greater social and economic resources,
- Possibly, poor female-headed with limited capacity to influence local administrative bodies- lost out,
- Most problems women face in protecting their right result from implementation and interpretation of the policy, not the policy itself, and
- Committees interpretation of law is not uniform,
  - inadequate staffing at the woreda level,
  - insufficient training of committees by woreda, and
  - lack of follow up by the woreda desk offices.

Limited participation of women in land registration committee

- Only 7 % of committee members are women ,
- woreda land use administration desk officers did not promote women's participation in these committees, tasks perceived as too difficult, and time consuming for women, and
- Few women participated in meetings where committee was elected, not informed; views that women should not attend public meetings; Some women consider this as task of men

More women needed on the comittees

- Women now tend to complain at womens desk-rather than land registration desk,
- Women prefer to seek information with female members on committee,
- Female members may be able to prevent injustice (pressure on comittee), and
- Woreda desk officers now instruct communities to elect at least two women in the land administration committee.

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Recommendations

- Introduce gender implementation guideline and checklist. Provide assistance to the woreda desk to mainstream gender issues in their operation,
- Women involvement in decision-making: affirmative action required to ensure that women are represented in land administration bodies the social court system,
- Education training and legal aid Social court members and kebele administration should be sensitised in gender issues,
- The woreda land use desk needs to put extra efforts to make sure the right of elderly and the poor who have no social and family ties,
- Strengthen women's organizational capacity,
- Increase the availability of gender-disaggregated data., such as number of men and female holding land right, number of landless individuals by gender, number of cases arbitrated by social court by gender, land use by gender, and
- Further research , comparative studies to better understand the gendered interest around land

Comments

- As land administration and use is a continuous process, studies in this regard should be based of data not on unrealistic guesses and perceptions of a certain group.

Question and Answer

Q: What practical changes does land registration brought to the women in the Amhara Region?

A: *Several benefits could be listed in this respect. Among other things,* the *joint ownership of land by husband and wife is believed to herald to empowering women in rural Amhara, as they are the most deprived group in the farming communities of the Region. However, women should be encouraged more to cope with the process of administering and using farmland in their circumstances.*

Besides, women are allowed to participate in committees that are related to settling land related conflicts. Women's participation in such kind of activities should be encouraged unabated.

From this study, it was concluded that most problems associated with land registration and gender relevance did not appear due to the registration policy per se, but due to the inabilities of implementing it. Therefore, more work is needed to build the capacity of those who are handling the registration process

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General Discussion

The facilitator tabled three perspectives or broad issues from the overall discussions and paper presentations. The issues were discussed by participants and several specific issues or activities were suggested. Those specific issues, which were highly preferred by more participants, were taken up by SLUF.

The outcomes are presented as follows:

Broad issue	Specific issue
Indigenous agroforestry system	• The traditional agroforestry system of Wonago area should be registered and certified as national treasury/heritage. The study has to be replicated to other areas and recognition provided to similar systems. • Traditional knowledge and farming systems such as the Wonago system, should be considered as research and dissemination agenda in the agricultural research and extension systems of the country • The evolution and historical perspectives of the Wonago agroforestry system should be studied, refined and documented sufficiently • The proper system combinations (livestock, trees, crops, etc.) of the traditional agroforestry systems should be studied sufficiently and practical recommendations drawn
Land policy	• Vast tract of land not suitable for agriculture are being continuously used by individuals, which are mostly unlawful. This kind of attitude should be investigated and legal actions taken • Studies on land administration, registration and fragmentation should continue with more relevant parameters considered and methodologies employed • Studies on pastoral and agro-pastoral land administration and use should begin as soon as possible
Gender and land administration	• Land tenure and gender should be taken up as researchable agenda covering more regions.

Note: the listing of issues is not based on priority; it is just a mere listing. Priorities are expected to be drawn later by concerned stakeholders.

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Closing Session

Before winding up the Workshop, the Executive Director of SLUF recapped the issues identified by participants and called up on appropriate local governments, research h and higher education establishments, rural development and agricultural bureaus and non-governmental organizations to take up these issues further to be able to produce workable solutions to the problems ironed out during the Workshop.

On behalf of the organizers, he also reiterated thanking presenters, facilitators, and participants for their active involvement in the deliberations and appreciated their contributions in identifying points that need further workout.

Finally, he declared the adjournment of the "Workshop on Land Tenure Land Management" at 5:45 P.M.

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Participants

No	Name	Organization	Position	Duty station
1.	Abbadi Girmay	Tigray Agric. Research Inst.	NROM Director	Mekelle
2.	Abdu Abdelkadir (Dr)	Wondo Genet College of Forestry	Head	WGCF
3.	Abdulkadir Mohammed	O.W.D.A	Finance and Admin.	Jijiga
4.	Abdulrahman A.Kala	MARDA	Managing Director	HARAR
5.	Abebe Kirub	EIAR	Head. Information	Addis Ababa
6.	Abebe Mulatu	ARD		Addis Ababa
7.	Abebe Tipie	Wonago	Farmer	Wonago
8.	Abera Wulla	Hawassa, BoARD	Office Head	Awassa
9.	Abraham Bantirgu	Jimma University	V/Dean	Jimma
10.	Abraham Saltako	Pastoralist, North Omo Zone	Farmer	Awassa
11.	Achamyelch	AFD	Project Advisor	Addis Ababa
12.	Achamyeley Begashaw	RLAD		Awasa
13.	Afework Hailu	EWNRA	General Manager	Addis Ababa
14.	Ahmed Ali	Oxfam GB	Poliy coo.	Addis Ababa
15.	Ahmed Nasir (H.E.)	MOARD	State, Minister	Addis Ababa
16.	Albert Diglaviye	FAO	Project Coordinator	Addis Ababa
17.	Alelegna Dagnew	EPLAUA, Amhara Region	Department Head	Bahirdar
18.	Alelign Necho	DTG. Woreda	Head of Agriculture and Rural Development.	Kuyi
19.	Alemayehu Gebeyehu	SuNaRMA	Program Coordinator	Addis Ababa
20.	Alemayehu Negassa	EIAR	Researcher, DZARC	Debre Zeit
21.	Alemu Kelkay	SDA	Manager	Awassa
22.	Anteneh Shifuraw			Wonago
23.	Asnake Abera	Water Action	Natural Resources Division Manager	Addis Ababa
24.	Ayele Bekele	EENGO	Project Coordinator	Ambo
25.	Ayenew Tessera	GNBDF	Coordinator	Addis Ababa
26.	Aynalem Gezahegn	SLUF	Project Officer	Addis Ababa
27.	Aynew Melese	Good Samaritan Ass	Coordinator	Addis Ababa
28.	Aytenew Meheret	WCAO	Prof. Manager	Addis Ababa
29.	Balew Alemu	DTG Woreda	Administrator	Kuyi
30.	Bayou Bure	Wonago Woreda	Administrator	Wonago
31.	Bayu	Ministry Agric.		Addis Ababa
32.	Bekele Hambissa	EENGO	Executive Director	Addis Ababa
33.	Belay Demisse (Dr)	USDA	Agric. advisor	Addis Ababa
34.	Belayneh Ayele	Bahirdar University	Lecturer	Bahirdar
35.	Belesti Fentie	ORDA	Liaison Officer	Addis Ababa
36.	Belete Debebe	-	Teacher	Addis Ababa
37.	Berhanu Adenew (Dr)	EEA	Senior Researcher	Addis Ababa
38.	Beteraw Amare	Good Neighbourhood	Vision offi.	Addis Ababa
39.	Bezabih Emana (Dr)	Consultant - SID	Managing Director	Addis Ababa
40.	Bitew Getinet (Dr)	BoARD	Department Head	Debre Markos
41.	Brhanu Adinew	EEA	Senior	Addis Ababa
42.	Chaka Murti	Wenago Woreda	Farmer	Wonago
43.	Chene Melese	African Development Association	Project Officer	Addis Ababa
44.	Chernet Taddesse	Peasant Association	Farmer	Wonago
45.	Damite Workneh	DTG. Woreda	Drover	Kuyi
46.	Dasie Qoushie	SEDA	Director	Addis Ababa

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47.	Dawit Degu	FTE	FTE	Addis Ababa
48.	Dawit Kebede	Norwegian Church Aid	Program Director	Addis Ababa
49.	Debalaa Baay'saa	Farmers Association	Chairman	Chancho
50.	Debela Dinka	SLUF	PO	Addis Ababa
51.	Dechasa Jiru	Forestry Research Center	Ass. Researcher	Addis Ababa
52.	Dejene Mebratu	MOARD	Crop Protection Expert	Addis Ababa
53.	Demamu Mesfin	University of Haramaya	Lecturer. and Department Head	WGCF
54.	Dereje Balcha,	CRDA	Deputy Director	Addis Ababa
55.	Derekey Mann	CRDA	A.S.O	Addis Ababa
56.	Elias Qheleta (Dr)	SMDE		
57.	Elias Roba	Finchewoa	Farmer	Awassa
58.	Enyew Adgo (Dr)	ARARI	Director, NRR	Bahirdar
59.	Esubalew	WALTA Information Center	Reporter	Addis Ababa
60.	Etefa Gutema	Farmers Aso.	Farmer	"
61.	Eyasu Elias (Dr)	ICRAF	Country Director	Addis Ababa
62.	Fana Tesfaye	SLUF	Info. and Doc. Officer	Addis ababa
63.	Fantahun Wakie	SNV	Advisor	Addis Ababa
64.	Fekadu Reda	Society of Int. Mission	CS Manager	Addis Ababa
65.	Fekede Kora	GPSDO	Project Officer	Addis Ababa
66.	Feyera Abdi	SoS Sahel Ethiopia	Director	Addis Ababa
67.	Genet Lema	BOAWN	Executive Director	Addis Ababa
68.	Getachew Kifle	SLUF	Extension worker	Gojam
69.	Getachew Mamo	SOS Sahel Ethiopia	P. Officer	Addis Ababa
70.	Getenesh Sintayeyu (Dr.)	ERSHA	Executive Director	Addis Ababa
71.	Girma Kelboro	Wondo Genet College of Forestry	Lecturer	Wondo
72.	Girma W/mariam	ENA	Journalist	Addis Ababa
73.	Gizachew Abegaz	ARD	Land Specialist	Addis Ababa
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