One World No Hunger
Global Project Soil Protection and Rehabilitation for Food Security

Afar Soil Rehabilitation Project (ASRP)

Pro-soil Gender Survey Report

September 2021

Contents

Acronyms ii
1. Introduction 1
2. Research Design 1
3. Household Characteristics 3
   i. Household Composition and Age 3
4. Women Activity Participation 4
5. Household Decision Making 6
   i. Decision on Food Crop/Fodder Farming and Crop/Livestock Products 6
   ii. Decisions on Livestock Raising/Selling 8
   iii. Decision on Income 9
6. Access to Inputs 9
7. Participation and Decision Making on Community Level 10
   i. CBO Membership Status 10
   ii. CBO Leadership Status 11
8. Economic Dimension 11
   i. Changes in Biomass/Water Availability 11
   ii. Food Groups, Consumption and Sources 13
   iii. Food Quality, Quantity and Shortage 14
   iv. Changes to Workload, Work Difficulty and Economic Situation 15
9. Conclusion and Recommendation 16
Annexes 19

Acronyms

ASRP	–	Afar Soil Rehabilitation Project
CBO	–	Community Based Organization
DA	–	Development Assistant/Agent
DHS	–	Demographic and Health Survey
DSM	–	Dry Stone Measure
DVR	–	Dry Valley Rehabilitation
FGD	–	Focus Group Discussion
GIZ	–	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HH	–	Household
SDR	–	Strengthening Drought Resilience
SLM	–	Sustainable Land Management
SWC	–	Soil and Water Conservation
ToR	–	Terms of Reference
WSW	–	Water Spreading Weir

1. Introduction

Most Ethiopia's people (83%) live in rural areas, over 25 million of them in the low-lands. The Afar Region in north-eastern Ethiopia is one of these lowland areas. The region's variable and unreliable rainfall regularly leads to droughts and flooding, which frequently jeopardize agricultural production and the life of animal herds on which people's livelihoods depend. Most of the people use traditional agro-pastoral and pastoral farming systems that were previously sustainable, but now lead to soil degradation and production shortfalls due to rising intensities of use. Consequently, Afar is one of the country's least developed regions. More than half of its 1.4 million inhabitants (56%), from which the women took 45% share of the total population, live below the poverty line. So far, no new approaches have emerged for sustainable farming of the pasture lands and cropland, or for restoring the fertility of degraded soils.[1]

To alleviate such incidences, since 2015, the GIZ take into effect the Afar Soil Rehabilitation Project (ASRP) in different districts of the Afar region. The ASRP strengthens the self-help capacities of local communities, which improve their basis for production through improved pasture management, erosion control on pastureland and cropland and improved water management in the valleys. Implementation is based on participatory area-based activity plan for soil protection with the local communities while safeguarding their land access and providing sustainable use options.

In order to achieve the objective and make the program sustainable, strengthening and improving gender equality at household level in particular, and at community level in general had been one of the priority areas of the program. Thus, this study aimed at gaining deeper understanding of gender-based needs, opportunities, and constraints, and improving the approach to gender integration in the ASRP areas. To do so, this report analyses data from a focus group discussion (FGD) of 179 women; conducted in July 2021 to measure the gender dynamics in the ASRP areas.

The main objective of the study is to present gender dynamics in the areas of access to resources, labor participation, income and decision-making. In general, the study aims to gather data and generate insights to translate into strategies and practical interventions for (1) increasing woman's engagement in dry valley rehabilitation (2) identify opportunities for ensuring women benefit equally from income generated from program activities.

2. Research Design

Understanding the demographic and socio-economic characteristics is important to reveal the distribution of men and women. Equally important is to explore the socially constructed norms, challenges and opportunities for women as relate to men mainly in the context of dry valley rehabilitation program. Thus, women only focus

[1] This section mainly extracted from the ToR

group discussion (FGD) was conducted to collect demographic and socio-economic data, and gender norms and challenges in the program area.

Figure 1: Location of Surveyed Woredas

A total of 179 participants were considered in the FGDs to collect data on gender dynamics. The FGD had been conducted in the Afar region, Chifra, Gulina, Yalo, Awra, Ewa, Kori and Teru woredas. Within these seven woredas 16 cascades were used to run the FGDs.

Initially on the ToR the plan had been to involve a maximum of 214 women and 15 women per FGDs. However, after the pilot and the first two FGDs in Chifra, the study team found it would be more efficient if a participant size was reduced. The reasons for reduction were, first both the gender and application questionnaires for female group used to be demonstrated on the same group of women because of that the number of hours the FGD used to be taken was prolonged, as a result participants attention dragged to extent of disturbing the whole session. Furthermore, even participants started to leave the FGDs before the FGDs were concluded. Second, the women have a lot of house commitments at home and community level, due to this made it hard to find the maximum number of women participants that had been initial intended to achieve. So, after these concerns had been shared with SDR-project team the maximum size of participants per FGD was reduced to 12 participants, whereas during the actual survey the number of participants per FGD, on average, was 11 with 7 min and 15 max per FGD.

Table 1: Number of FGD Groups and Total Number of Participants for the Gender Study

Woreda	Number of FGD groups		Total number of participants
	Freq.	Percent	
Chifra	3	18.75	41
Kori	2	12.5	19
Awra	4	25	38
Ewa	1	6.25	10
Teru	1	6.25	13
Yalo	4	25	48
Gulina	1	6.25	10
Total	16	100	179

To be eligible for the gender FGD, participants must be female beneficiaries or at latest adult- female membership of the beneficiaries' households. Once these criteria were communicated with Woreda focal persons, the focal persons in collaboration with village and kebele chiefs call up for participants those who fulfill the eligibility criteria. Before the FGDs were kicked-off participants registration used to be made by the FGD team to make on the spot check whether the turn-out participants had been the eligible once.

Here is worth to stipulate the FGD approach selected for the study helped to address the foreseeable number of samples in very economic ways in a short period of time and to make a regress look on the ASRP performance indicators. However, it had its own limitations. As it was noticed throughout the FGDs there was a tendency to group bias and some highly subjective information used to be responded under the shadow of the group influence. In addition, since it is a bit difficult to track patterns of individual responses from the data compiled from the FGDs, this in turn making hard to probe consistency and develop advanced correlations and indexes.

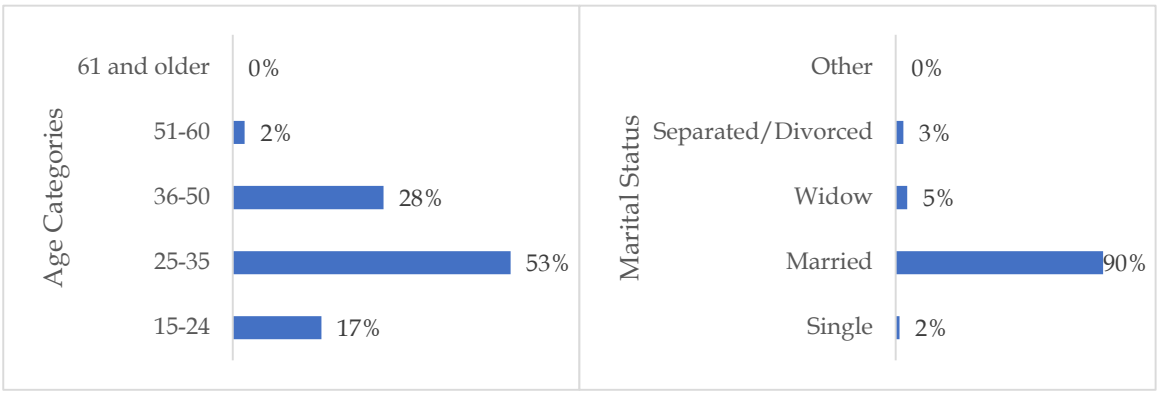
3. Household Characteristics

This section describes the basic demographics and structure of a typical household according to women perspectives in the program area.

i. Household Composition and Age

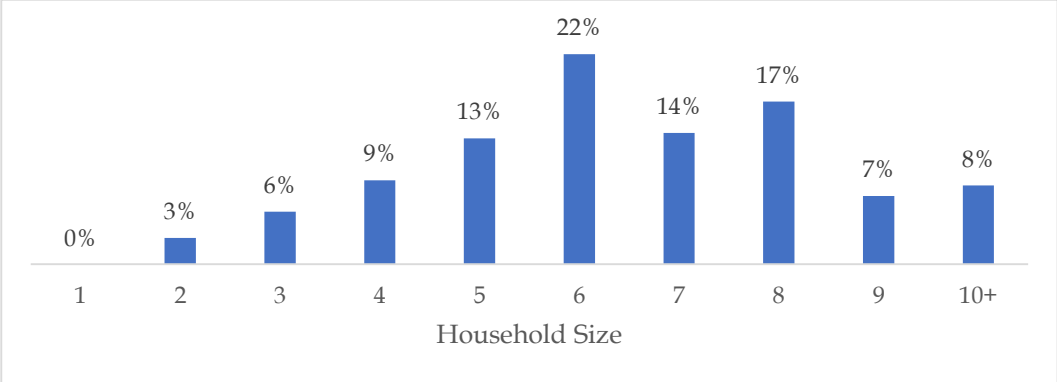
Figure 2 depicts age distribution across the participants, most participants (53%) age fall between 25 and 35 age cohorts. Youth, defined as 35 years or younger, account for 70% of the group composition. Marital status of the participants, as well, depicted in Figure 2, the finding revealed that 90% of them were married, 5% widowed, 3% separated/divorced, and the remaining 2% were single. From those who were married, 90% of them were lived in the same household with their husband.

Figure 2: Participants age group composition (left) and Marital Status (right) (in %) (n=179)



In the program area, the average household had six household members, two parents and four of them being children (0 to 18 years). The average household size in the program areas is quite above compared to the national average; in Ethiopia, households have an average of 4.6 household size (DHS, 2016). This indicates that women in the program area are more likely to engage in reproductive roles than women in other regions. The assumption is that the higher family members in the household implies the more she is busy in managing childcaring and day-to-day household responsibilities instead of engaging in productive and income generating activities.

Figure 3: Household size (in %) (n=179)



4. Women Activity Participation

This section presents the participation of women on different GIZ-SLM program. These includes trainings, construction, or maintenance of physical and biological SWC measures, participatory planning process and livelihood development.

Among the women, 52% of them stated that no household member was participated in any training (e.g., mason, flood-based farming, planning) delivered by the program, but 48% stipulated their households involved in trainings. From those who participated in a training, only 9% of the women (themselves) were participated in a training. Most of them (36%) mentioned that their husband alone participated in a training, and 11% stated their father. The remaining 3% and 4% of women

mentioned that their son and mother were participated in a training, respectively. See Table 2 below for more information.

Regarding construction or maintenance of physical soil and water conservation measures such as water spreading weirs (WSW), check dam, dry stones measure etc. From the total respondents, the percentage of women participated in this activity were 78%. More than half of the women (65%) reported that their husbands were also participated on this activity. Furthermore, 20%, 12%, and 15% of women stated that their father, mother, and daughter were participated in these activities, respectively.

Photo 1: Some of Physical Soil and Water Conservation Measure Sites in Awra & Chifra woreda July 2021(photos by the FGD-Team)

In addition to physical soil and water conservation measures, more than one-third (38%) of the women participated on construction or maintenance of biological soil and water conservation measures such as enclosures, planting elephant forage or grass strips along WSWs, invasive species management, pasture development etc. In addition, 25% and 13% of women stated that their husbands and fathers, respectively, were participated on this activity. However, only 9% and 5% of women mentioned the participation of their mother and daughter, respectively, on these activities.

Almost half of the women (48%) reported that no household member participated on area-based planning activities, in another word 52% of them reported that either

themselves, or their husband or father or mother or son participated in the planning process. Only 2% of women stated that they were engaged in participatory planning process including development of area-based plans and/or bylaws. In contrast, 28% of women mentioned that their husbands were participated in the planning process.

Besides, trainings and various SDR activities the program have been promoting different livelihood development endeavors like flood-based farming including crops and/or fodder production, income generating activities, implementation of bylaws etc. On these livelihood development activities, more than half of the women (52%) were involved. Moreover, 43% of the women mentioned that their husbands had been participating, whereas a tenth (11%) of women stated non-participation of a household member on these activities.

In general, participation of women on different activities of the program is promising.

Table 2: Activity Participation (n=179)

Activity Participants	Trainings		Construction or Maintenance of Physical SWC Measures		Construction or Maintenance of Biological SWC Measures		Participatory Planning Process		Livelihood Development	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Themselves	17	9%	139	78%	68	38%	4	2%	94	53%
Father	20	11%	35	20%	23	13%	10	6%	20	11%
Mother	5	3%	22	12%	16	9%	15	8%	16	9%
Husband	65	36%	117	65%	45	25%	51	28%	77	43%
Daughter	0	0%	26	15%	9	5%	0	0%	5	3%
Son	8	4%	31	17%	10	6%	5	3%	10	6%
Other household member	0	0%	4	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
No household member participated	93	52%	0	0%	70	39%	86	48%	19	11%

5. Household Decision Making

i. Decision on Food Crop/Fodder Farming and Crop/Livestock Products

The following section illustrates women's perspective regarding decision making on food crop or fodder farming and livestock products. Women were asked who decides regarding food crop/fodder farming on communal land. More than half (51%) of the respondents mentioned that their spouse decided for farming on the communal land. Only 12% of women decided themselves (alone) farming on the communal land. Almost a quarter (25%) of the women stated that such decisions are made jointly with their husband.

Regarding decision on provision of inputs to planning processes at communal level, most of them (40%) reported that other non-household member like government body decide on this issue. However, 18% of them decided equally with their husbands. Only 6% of the women from the program area believed women alone decide on providing inputs to planning processes at communal level.

Most women (68%) stated that decision regarding use of crop products for own consumption are made by their spouse. Only less than 17% of women reported that they decided alone on use of crop products for own consumption. From the total, 14% responded that both husband and wife jointly decide on this issue.

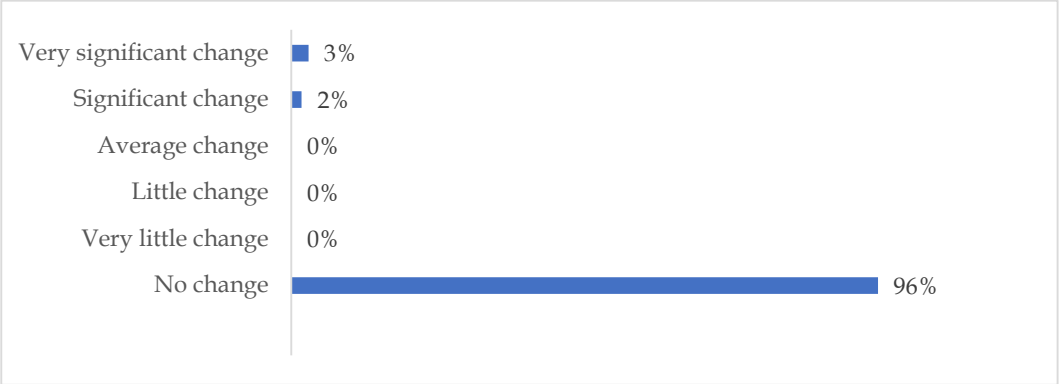
In relation to use of the livestock products (milk, butter, etc.) for own consumption, the women themselves appear to be the main decision maker. More than two-third (82%) of women from the program area said that such decisions are made by themselves. Only 10% of women from the program area reported that their spouse decides on use of the livestock products alone. The remaining 8% said that they decided equally with their husbands.

Table 3: Decision Making on Food and Fodder and Crop/Livestock Products

Decision Maker	Food crop/fodder farming on communal land		Inputs to planning processes at communal level		Use of own crop/livestock products		Use of the livestock products (milk, butter, etc.) for own consumption	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Themselves decided	22	12%	10	6%	31	17%	147	82%
Themselves decided along with group	44	25%	33	18%	25	14%	14	8%
Spouse decided	92	51%	51	28%	122	68%	18	10%
Other household member decided	11	6%	14	8%	1	1%	0	0%
Other non-household member decided	10	6%	71	40%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	179		179		179		179	

The FGDs participants were asked, with the support of the program, how their influence on the decision-making processes has changed. All the participants responded that their influence on decision-making has not been improved. Similarly, 96% of women mentioned that their influence on the decision to use food crops and livestock products for own consumption has showed no change.

Figure 4: Change in Decisions on Use of Food Crops and Livestock Products According to Women (n=179)



ii. Decisions on Livestock Raising/Selling

The role of women on decision making on livestock raising and selling was very low. Only 9% of women decided themselves on raising of sheep and goat and 6% on cattle and camel. However, 47% women reported that men alone decided on raising of sheep and goat and 84% said on cattle and camel. Whereas 44% of women decided jointly with their spouse on raising of sheep and goat and 16% on cattle and camel. See Table 4 for details.

Regard to livestock selling, the decision role of women was negligible. From the FGD participants, 79% of them stated that selling of sheep and goat decided by their spouse alone. Similarly, 92% of women mentioned that their spouse decided alone on selling of cattle and camel. However, only 4% and 2% of women decided themselves on selling of sheep and goat, and cattle and camel, respectively. Whereas 16% of the women decided jointly with their spouse on selling of sheep and goat and 2% on cattle and camel.

Table 4: Decisions Making on Livestock Raising/Selling

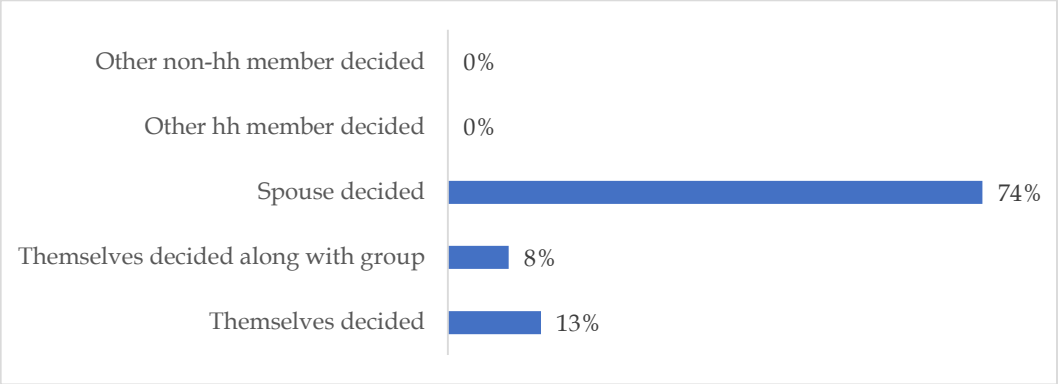
Decision Maker	Livestock raising				Livestock selling			
	Sheep & Goat		Cattle & Camel		Sheep & Goat		Cattle & Camel	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Themselves decided	17	9%	10	6%	8	4%	4	2%
Themselves decided along with group	78	44%	16	9%	28	16%	3	2%
Spouse decided	84	47%	151	84%	141	79%	165	92%
Other household member decided	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%	6	3%
Other non-household member decided	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
Total	179		179		179		179	

In the program area, according to all participants, women influence on the decision regarding livestock production has showed no change since the program activities started.

iii. Decision on Income

In the past 12 months, only 13% of women obtained additional income with their involvement in the program and the income generated through selling of grass and vegetables, whereas 87% of them did not gain additional income. In relation to money generated from cash-for-work activities, almost two-third (74%) of women reported that their husbands alone decided on how to spend the money generated from cash-for-work activities. Only 13% of women decided alone on spending the money from cash-for-work and, on the other hand 8% of the women decided together with their spouses (see Figure 5).

Figure 5: Decisions on Spending Money from Cash-For-Work Activities (n=170)



According to all FGD participants, since the program activities started the influence of women on the decision to spend money from cash-for-work activities have showed no change.

6. Access to Inputs

This section is earmarked to illustrate women's opinion on access to inputs. These inputs included advisory service from government development assistants/agent (DAs) and experts, access to biomass or fodder and water. Concerning advisory service from government DAs and experts, 66% of women from the program area stated that they had access to advisory services from government DAs and experts. However, 33% of women stated that they did not have access to any advisory services.

In relation to access to fodder or biomass, more than half (56%) of women mentioned they had very little to significant access to these inputs. In contrast, 37% of them reported no access to fodder or biomass inputs.

In the FGDs, the women were also asked their perspective on access to water. From the total participants, 63% of women had stipulated they have access to water with ranges of very little to significant levels and most of them fall below the average access rate. Still, 27% of women had no access to water in the program area.

As discussed in the above, women have limited access to input, and this may hinder her role in decision making.

Table 5: Women Access to Inputs

Access to Inputs	Advisory Service (DAs And Experts)		Fodder/Biomass		Water	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
No access	59	33%	66	37%	49	27%
Very little access	4	2%	2	1%	23	13%
Little access	10	6%	8	4%	52	29%
Average access	58	32%	14	8%	35	20%
Significant access	24	13%	54	30%	13	7%
Very significant access	22	12%	22	12%	7	4%
Not applicable	2	1%	13	7%	0	0%
	179		179		179	

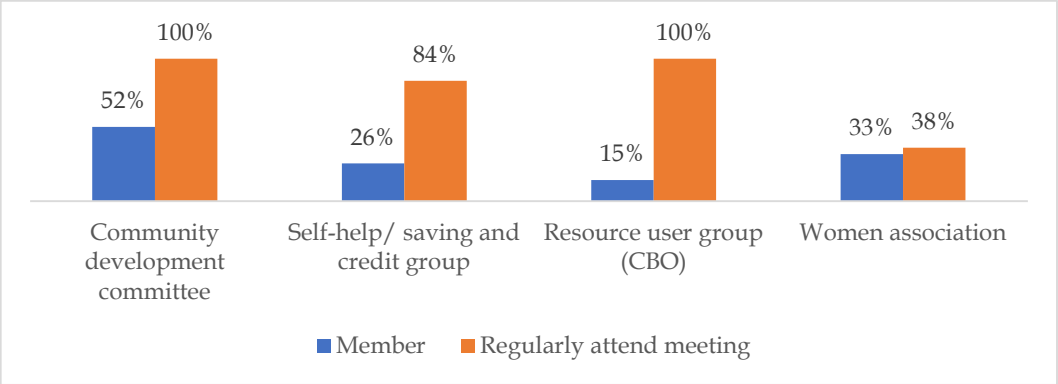
7. Participation and Decision Making on Community Level

i. CBO Membership Status

From the total participants, 68% of women were members of CBOs, whereas 32% of them were not a member of CBO. Figure 6 shows membership status of women in different CBO groups and their regular participation on meeting. From those who were member of CBOs, 52% of women were member of community development committee, 26% were member of self-help/ saving and credit group, 15% were member of resource user group (CBO), and 33% of them were member of women association. This indicated that most of the women were member of more than one group/association.

With regard to regularly attending meeting in different CBO groups. From community development committee and resource user group members, all the women were attended meeting regularly. In addition, 84% of women, from self-help/ saving and credit group, they were regularly attended meeting, and 38% of women from women association members were attended the association meeting regularly.

Figure 6: CBO Membership Status and Meeting Attendance (in %) (n=121)

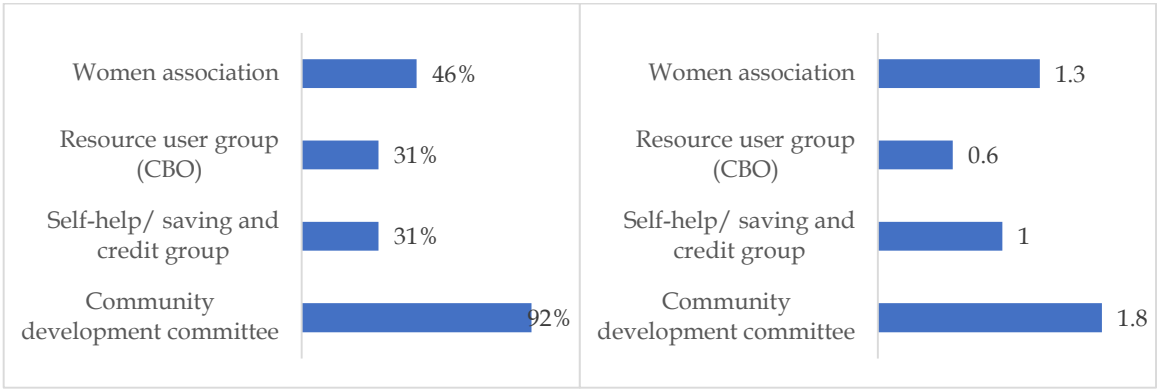


ii. CBO Leadership Status

Member of CBOs were asked whether they are a leader of their groups or not. From the total CBO members only 7% of them were acted as a leader in their CBOs. From the leaders, 92% were community development committee leaders, 31% were self-help/ saving and credit group and resource user group (CBO) leaders, and 46% were leaders of women association group. This also indicated that some of the women were a leader of more than one group/association.

On average, a women leader serves their community development committee for at least 1.8 years, in self-help/ saving and credit groups for 1 year, in resource user group (CBO) for half year, and in women association group for 1.3 years.

Figure 7: Percentage of Leaders (Left) and Average Term of Office Completed in Years (Right) (n=13)

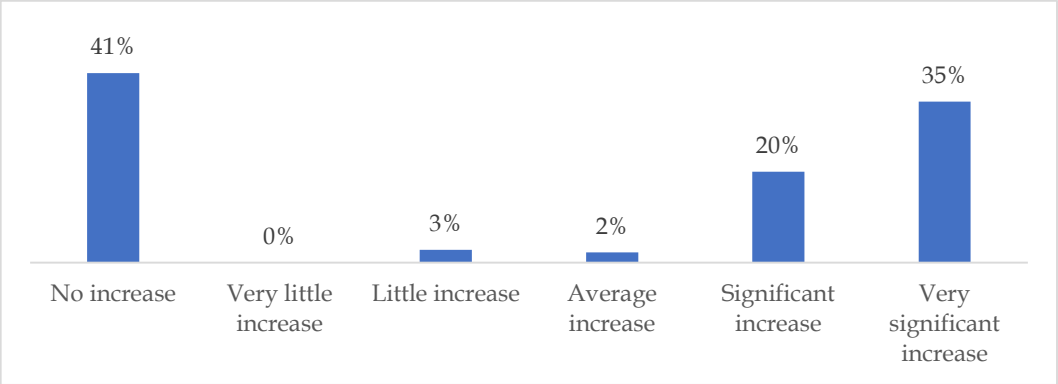


8. Economic Dimension

i. Changes in Biomass/Water Availability

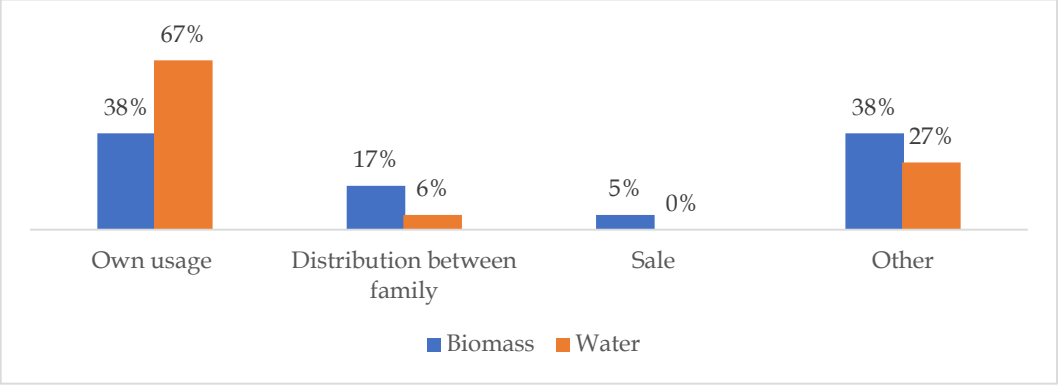
The women were asked how the use of new technologies (WSW, DSM, etc.) has resulted changes in the availability of biomass and water since the program activities started. As Figure 8 below shows, 59% of women observed an increase in the availability of biomass and water from little to very significant level, contrast to this 41% of women mentioned that they did not observe a change in biomass and water availability in their vicinities.

Figure 8: Changes in the availability of biomass and water (n=179)



For the FGD participants those reported little to very significant increase in the availability of biomass and water since the program activities started were asked in what way they used the gains. In relation to biomass, 38% of women used for themselves, 17% used between family members and 5% of them sold biomass for others. Concerning the additional available water, more than two-third (67%) of the women reported that they used water for their own consumption, 6% shared it with their family members, and the remaining 27% used the water for other purposes i.e., they used the water in group in their neighborhood for planting and social gatherings.

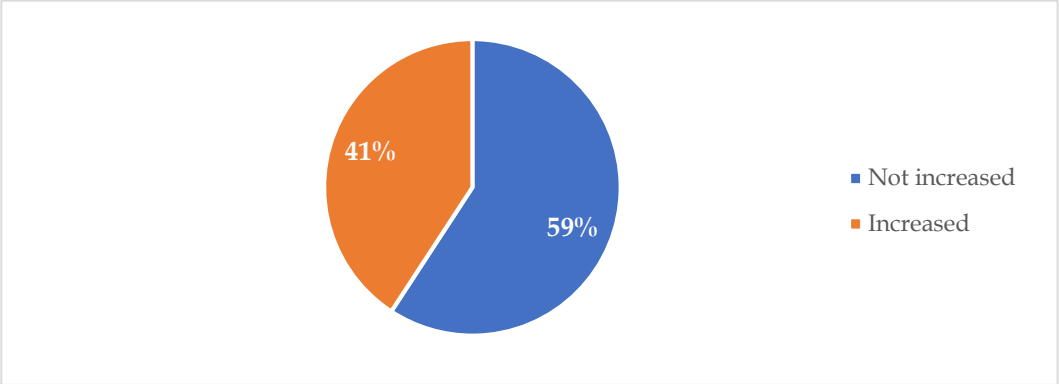
Figure 9: Usage of Biomass and Water (in %) (n=86)



The women were, as well, asked how many hours spent for fetching water per day, on average, a woman in the program area make 1.8 trips and spent 2.8 hours per day for fetching water.

Since the program activities started 59% of women did not observe an increase in workload due to the program, whereas 41% of them mentioned that they observed an increase in workload. The increased workload mentioned by participants were an increase in farm related activities such as land preparation, cultivation, maintaining and preserving physical and biological measures and working as a daily labourer.

Figure 10: Status of Workload Since the Program Started



ii. Food Groups, Consumption and Sources

All FGD participants were asked which food items they had consumed by children and adults in the last 24 hours (breakfast, lunch, dinner and any snacks during the entire period).

Table 6 depicts the major food items households consumed in the last 24 hours. The women stated that, most households, 83% of children and 70% of adults consumed milk and milk products on daily basis. Next to milk and milk related products, 34% of children and 36% of adults consumed cereal and cereal products in the last 24 hours.

Further, 45% and 49% of women said that children and adults, respectively, consumed vegetables in the last 24 hours. Moreover, 60% of women said children consumed pulsus in the last 24 hours and 69% said by adults. Only 6% of women reported consumption of meat by children and adults. None of household members consumed fish in the program area and 6% of women mentioned fruit consumed by adults only.

Table 6: Food Groups and Consumption According to Women

Food Groups	Consumed Within the Last 24 Hours			
	Children		Adults	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Milk and Milk Products	149	83%	125	70%
Cereal and Cereal Products	60	34%	65	36%
Meat	10	6%	10	6%
Fish	0	0%	0	0%
Vegetables	80	45%	87	49%
Fruit	0	0%	8	4%
Pulses	107	60%	123	69%
Others	0	0%	0	0%

According to the women (83%), the major food produced by household for own consumption were milk and milk products. More than one-third (42%) of the women from the total mentioned that the main source of cereal and cereal products for consumption were through purchasing. Similarly, almost half (47%) of the respondents stated that they purchased vegetables for consumption. Moreover, about two-third (69%) of the women in the program area reported purchase of pulses, and 6% of women got meat as a gift from friends or relatives.

In general, most food items that households consume were purchased from the market except milk and milk products, which were from their own herds. Food items like fish and fruits neither produced nor consumed by households in the program areas.

Table 7: Food Groups and Sources According to Women

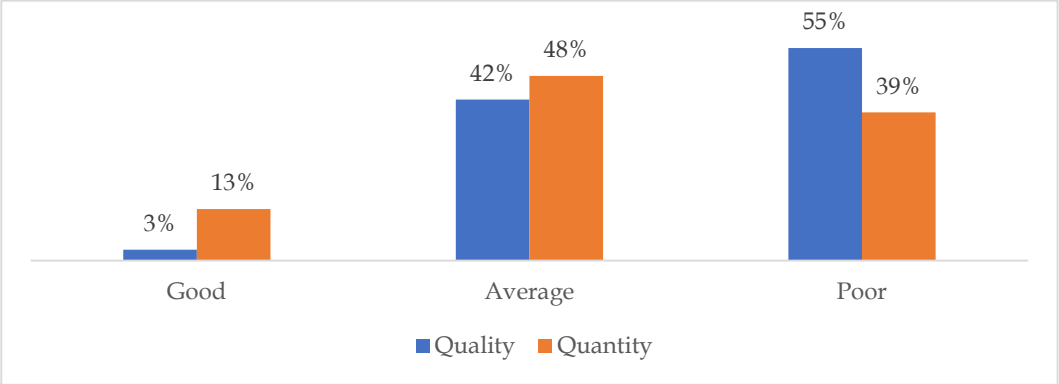
Food Groups	Main Sources					
	Own Production		Own Purchases		Gifts From Friends/Relatives	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Milk and Milk Products	149	83%	0	0%	0	0%
Cereal and Cereal Products	0	0%	75	42%	2	1%
Meat	0	0%	0	0%	10	6%
Fish	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Vegetables	0	0%	85	47%	2	1%
Fruit	0	0%	8	4%	0	0%
Pulses	0	0%	124	69%	0	0%
Others	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

iii. Food Quality, Quantity and Shortage

The quality and quantity of food consumed in the program area assessed by the FGDs participants. From the total participants, only 3% of women reported the quality of food consumed within household was good, and 42% of them said the food consumed was average. However, more than half (55%) of women mentioned that quality of food consumed within households were poor.

In relation to quantity of food, more than half of the respondents reported that the quantity of food consumed was average and above, that is, 13% mentioned the quantity of food as good and 48% as average. The remaining 39% of women stated that the quantity of food available for consumption was poor.

Figure 11: Quality and Quantity of Food Assessment According to Women (in %) (n=179)



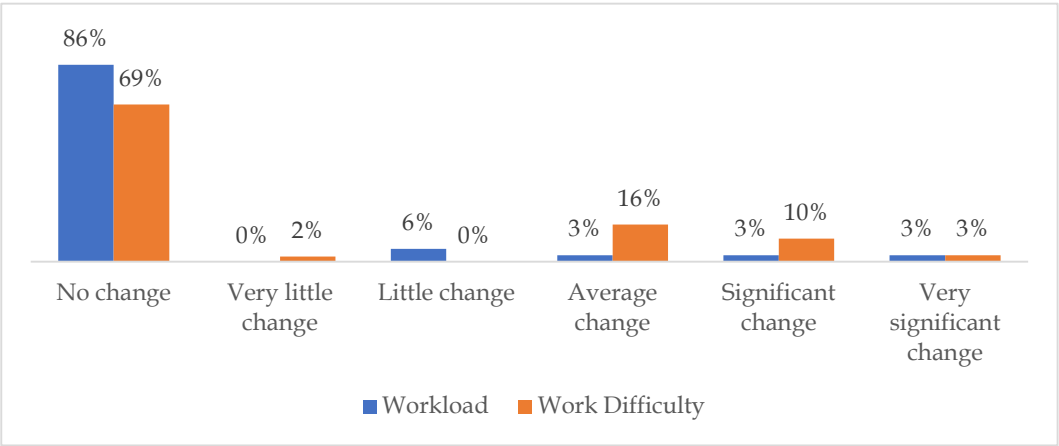
Food shortages can be debilitating for households, adversely affecting their health and ability to work on their farms and livestock rearing. In the program area, however, only 3% of women reported facing severe food shortages over the past three years. In contrast, 97% of them reported that they did not face severe food shortages over the past 3 years.

iv. Changes to Workload, Work Difficulty and Economic Situation

Due to changes in the availability of biomass and water, 86% of women mentioned that their workload had not been changed, whereas the remaining 14% observed a decrease in workload from little to very significant level. The workload was decreased mainly through a decrease in time spent for fetching water.

Concerning the burdensomeness of work, according to 69% of respondents their work burdensomeness has not been improved. However, 31% of the women due to their participation in program activities burdensomeness of the work showed improvement from very little to very significant level.

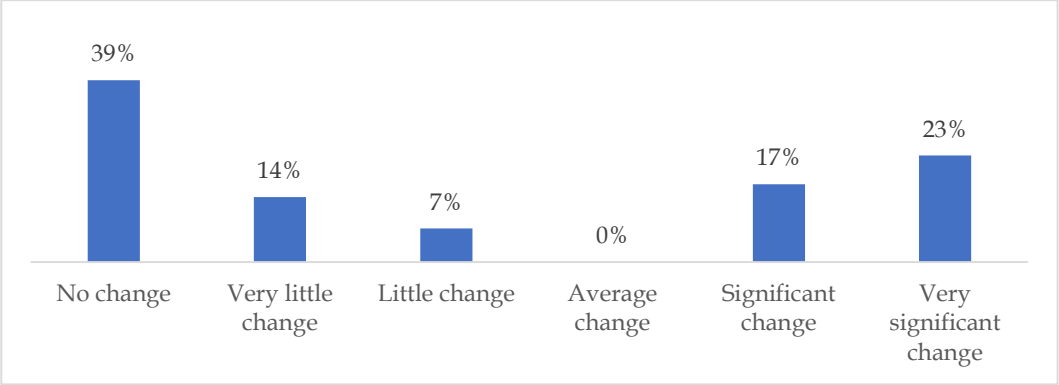
Figure 12: Level of Workload and Work Difficulty Changes (n=179)



Finally, their overall perception about the economic change the program brought on to their economic situation is probed. As Figure 13 below portrays almost two-third (61%) of the women reported that due to their involvement with the program the

economic situation of their households was improved from very little to very significant level. In contrast, 39% of them did not witness improvement of their household's economic situation.

Figure 13: Level of Economic Situation Changes (n=179)



In general, the socio-economic situation of the women in the intervention area should be measured separately: social and economic aspect. In the social aspect, due to project intervention, on average, only 5% of the women observed an improvement in their role in the social dimension, whereas in the economic side 47% of the women observed an improvement. Thus, on average, due to the intervention of the project, 26% of the women witnessed an improvement in their socio-economic situation.

As observed in most of the gender indicators, the mean outcomes for most observant are tiled to upper or lower boundaries. This implies uniform character across different FGD groups and across the different woreda. In another word, there is no much gender performance disparities among the SDR-woredas.

9. Conclusion and Recommendation

Strengthening and improving gender equality in the program area had been one of the priorities of the ASRP intervention. To make a gender-based decision in the intervention area gathering data and generate insights to translate into strategies and practical interventions is indispensable. Thus, this study attempted to mainly explore the status of the project activities and presented gender dynamics in the areas of access to resources, labor participation, income, and decision-making.

Related to household size, households in the program area had more family members than other regions. Having large family indicates that women in the program areas are more likely to engage in reproductive roles.

Except participation in trainings the role of women engagement on the program activities had been encouraging.

In relation to household decision making in use of the livestock products (milk, butter, etc.) for own consumption, the women themselves appear to be the main

decision maker. However, the role of women on decision making on livestock raising, selling and use of generated income had been negligible. All in all, the above result showed that still the women influence on decision-making at household and community level needs to be improved. Moreover, women have limited access to inputs such as advisory service, biomass and water, and this may hinder her role in decision making.

Most food items that households consume were purchased from the market except milk and milk products, which were from their own herds. Food items like fish and fruits neither produced nor consumed by households in the program areas. With regard to food shortage, majority of them did not face severe food shortages over the past three years, although the quality and the quantity of food consumed are mostly graded as poor.

Most of the women, due to their involvement with the program, the economic situation of their households was showed an improvement. Even if the availability of biomass and water in the program area changed, still the women workload had not been changed. Moreover, the participation of women being a member of CBOs was low.

As observed in most of the gender indicators, the mean outcomes for most observant are tiled to upper or lower boundaries. This implies uniform character across different FGD groups and across the different woreda. In another word, there is no much gender performance disparities among the SDR-woredas. Furthermore, there is no intended effect is reported against the project.

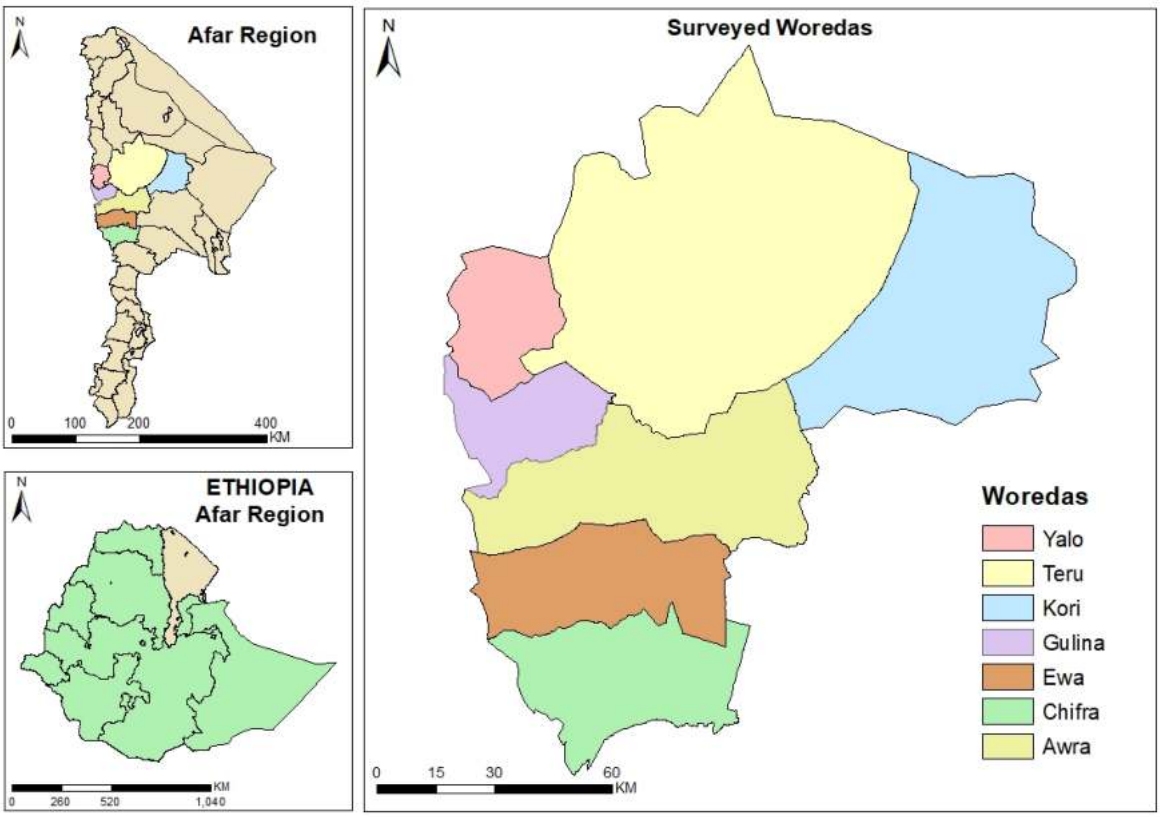
Based on the outcomes of this study, the subsequent points are extracted as major recommendations:

- To improve the participation of women in a training, provision of any kind of training should follow practical approach and may-be tailor made, so, a separate training for women may be needed.
- If a training provided with a mixed group of men and women, the minimum number of women that participate in the training should be specified and attendance should be mandatory for women, otherwise most women miss the training.
- Most of the income generated and utilizing decision in the households goes to men. To empower women in decision making, could be achieved through, encouraging the women to save their income separately in a saving and credit association and this may also help them to easily access their incomes without a direct control of their husbands.
- In addition, the women who are not a member of CBOs they should be encouraged to be a member, because those who are a member of CBOs, they used the CBO as a source of information for their farming and herd practices.
- Overall, it is advisable to design a more gender responsive and inclusive approach in the SDR-activities.

- Although, the study could be undertaken using only the FGD approach has a certain limitation that could be resolved by employing a mixed approach, which deploys an individual and FGD approaches together. Probably on a next similar assignment it would be merit-full to apply the mixed study approach.

Annexes

Annex One: Map of Surveyed Woredas



Annex two: Total Number of Participants and Age Categories by Woreda and Cascade

Woreda and Cascade	Total	Age Categories				
		15-24	25-35	36-50	51-60	61 and older
Awra	**38**	**7**	**19**	**11**	**1**	**0**
AW1W	7	2	4	1	0	0
AW2W	10	1	6	3	0	0
AW3W	8	2	3	2	1	0
AW5W	13	2	6	5	0	0
Chifra	**41**	**7**	**21**	**11**	**2**	**0**
CH1W	15	3	6	5	1	0
CH2W	13	3	7	3	0	0
CH3W	13	1	8	3	1	0
Ewa	**10**	**3**	**3**	**4**	**0**	**0**
EW1W	10	3	3	4	0	0
Gulina	**10**	**3**	**5**	**2**	**0**	**0**
GU1W	10	3	5	2	0	0
Kori	**19**	**0**	**11**	**8**	**0**	**0**
KO2W	10	0	6	4	0	0
KO3W	9	0	5	4	0	0
Teru	**13**	**4**	**6**	**2**	**1**	**0**

TE1W	13	4	6	2	1	0
Yalo	**48**	**6**	**29**	**13**	**0**	**0**
YA1W	15	1	10	4	0	0
YA2W	13	1	9	3	0	0
YA4W	10	1	5	4	0	0
YA5W	10	3	5	2	0	0
Grand Total	**179**	**30**	**94**	**51**	**4**	**0**

Annex Three: Marital Status by Woreda and Cascade

Woreda and Cascade	Marital Status			
	Single	Married	Widow	Separated/Divorced
Awra	**0**	**32**	**3**	**3**
AW1W	0	7	0	0
AW2W	0	7	1	2
AW3W	0	7	1	0
AW5W	0	11	1	1
Chifra	**2**	**36**	**2**	**1**
CH1W	1	14	0	0
CH2W	1	12	0	0
CH3W	0	10	2	1
Ewa	**0**	**7**	**2**	**1**
EW1W	0	7	2	1
Gulina	**1**	**9**	**0**	**0**
GU1W	1	9	0	0
Kori	**0**	**19**	**0**	**0**
KO2W	0	10	0	0
KO3W	0	9	0	0
Teru	**0**	**12**	**1**	**0**
TE1W	0	12	1	0
Yalo	**0**	**46**	**1**	**1**
YA1W	0	14	0	1
YA2W	0	13	0	0
YA4W	0	9	1	0
YA5W	0	10	0	0
Grand Total	**3**	**161**	**9**	**6**