



Berchi or 'be strong' Project End Line Evaluation (Final Report)

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Abbreviations

ACSI	Amhara Credit and Saving Institution
AE	Adult Equivalent
ARD	Agricultural and Rural Development
BL	Base Line
CS	Case Study
DAC	Development Assistant Committee
DF	Degree of Freedom
DFID	Department for International Development
DR	Document Reviews
EI	Expert Interviews
EL1	End Line 1
EL2	End Line 2
ER	Expected Result
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FHH	Female Headed Household
FO	Field Observation
FSF	Food Sufficiency for Farmers
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIS	Geographic Information System
HAF	Harvard Analytical Framework
HHs	Households
HR	Humanitarian Requirement
ICA	Institutional Capacity Assessment
IFPRI	International Food Policy Institute
IGAs	Income Generating Activities
KII	Key Informant Interviews
MGD	Millennium Development Goal
MGPF	Moser's Gender Planning Framework
MHH	Male Headed Household
MoARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MoFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MSC	Most Significant Change
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PSM	Propensity Score Matching (PSM),
PSNP	Productive Safety-Net Program
SAA	Social Analysis and Action
SE	Standard Error
TOR	Terms of Reference
TZBMC	Teruneh Zenna Business and Management Consultancy
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VSLA	Village Saving and Loan Association
WEF	Women's Empowerment Framework

Executive summary

Background of the study

Poverty is a socio economic phenomenon by which people are not only deprived of their material wants, but also robbed of their human dignity. Although the hunger target of the Millennium Development Goal 1c (MDG 1c), has been achieved (five years ahead (700 million taken out of extreme poverty), millions of people are estimated to be chronically undernourished and the figure is expected to increase in developing economies, including Ethiopia. Hence, the combat against this deleterious phenomenon has been the focus of international and national agencies.

Ethiopia is a land locked country of an agrarian economy characterized by high population growth, huge dependence on erratic rainfall, and low agricultural productivity. Recent data shows that the proportion of people living below the poverty line in Ethiopia has declined from 29.6 % in 2011 and estimated to further declined to 25.1 per cent in 2014 and 23.4 per cent in 2015. However, the country still remains one of the poorest countries in the world with human development index ranking 173 out of 187. In Ethiopia, food insecurity emerged as a key problem and development challenge in the early 1970, however, the pervasiveness of food insecurity, persistent occurrence of severe droughts, and large-scale starvation continued in the subsequent decades.

In response to pervasive challenges of food insecurity and poverty, the government has been exerting its efforts over the past two decades. Nevertheless, the impact of government's efforts in addressing the food security challenges, poverty, and gender imbalances have been limited and the problem remains high in all many of the country. On the other hand, among the world's women who suffer the socio economic inequality, the overwhelming majorities are rural women. Thus, ensuring women's access to and control over agricultural assets and productive resources is paramount for achieving food security and sustainable livelihoods among rural and agricultural societies. Ethiopia suffers from the asymmetrical socio economic relation between men and women, which is one of the prime factors for food insecurity and household poverty. In response to this, the country has been taking policy measures towards empowering women. However, Ethiopian women are economically, socially, culturally, and politically marginalized in the enjoyment of equal rights, in accessing opportunities, decision-making processes, and basic resources.

CARE Ethiopia is a humanitarian NGO working in Ethiopia with poor women, men, boys and girls, to have an impact on the underlying causes of poverty unleashing the power of the most vulnerable women and girls. It launched 'Berchi' project that aimed at supporting gender equality and women's empowerment in two *Weredas* of Amhara region, namely, Simada and Ebinat. The project was intended to reach 11,000 chronically food insecure women and their households.

Objective: The overall objective of the evaluation was to assess the 'Berchi or be strong' project as per OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness efficiency, impact, and sustainability. Moreover, the evaluation intended to critically analyze what changes and impacts the project has brought in line with the intended objectives based on the indicators used in the baseline study and to generate evidence of changes that the project has delivered.

Methodology

The evaluation was conducted in two phases. The current report is the result of both qualitative and quantitative studies conducted in two different phases. Based on the OECD-DAC criteria proposed by CARE, and gender frameworks chosen by the consulting firm, the evaluation was carried out in two Weredas of Ebnat and Simada. Multiple data collection tools were used. During the qualitative study, 28 key informants, 6 expert interviews, 20 focus group discussions, 4 case studies, and two Most Significant Change panels were undertaken in 6 Kebeles (three in each *Weredad*). Moreover, document review, and field observation were rigorously employed to generate qualitative information from local beneficiaries, joint facilitating institutions, experts and policy makers. Relevant policy and report documents were also used and reviewed. On the other hand, using multistage sampling techniques and population proportion to size, 596 females and 252 males' respondents were included in the study. To this end, the survey was carried out in 24 Kebeles (11 in Ebinat Wereda) and (13 in Simada Wereda). The collected data were analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively. The quantitative analyses techniques used include, descriptive statistics for variables with scale measurement, correlations, chi-square test, paired t-test, Propensity Score Matching (PSM) and other relevant ones.

Key findings of the evaluation

The evaluation of the project was carried out against the OECD-DAC criteria and the expected results stipulated in the base-line survey. Hence, the study has found out the following results.

Relevance: In order to assess the relevance of the project to the local needs and execution capacity, regional as well as national policies and strategies, the review of both Berchi project documents including the base line survey and the progress reports along with regional and national policies and strategies was carried out. From the review, qualitative response of the respondents, and quantitative survey, the Berchi intervention has been found to be relevant to the local needs, national policies, and strategies as well. Responses have also suggested that the project is consistent with the rural development policy in general and food security strategy, and gender empowerment policy in particular. It has also been credited to be relevant to the sectoral plans and mandates of specific government offices such as women and youth affairs office, agriculture and rural development office, justice office, and education and health, among others. Representatives and experts from the joint facilitating institutions underlined it as an opportunity to effectively discharge their official mandates since the Berchi project is well aligned to their plans and also provides them with capacity enhancement opportunity. Regarding targeting of the project, the lion share of the project beneficiaries are females and female headed-households, which is consistent with the premises of the project. Thus, the focus of the Berchi project towards ensuring women empowerment was a key response in filling the most sensitive gap of household food security.

Effectiveness: The study has also revealed that the project intervention has been effective in attaining its envisaged goals stated in the base line survey. The responses have shown that the project has been effective in addressing the gender imbalance, introducing change strategies in eroding socio cultural norms and practices that were unfavorable to women empowerment, and paved ways to create access to and control over productive resources. Thus, it has been instrumental in improving the food security status of the families and improved their livelihood with diversification of income.

The project has not only positively contributed towards change in the household income levels but also enabled households to diversify their sources of income. This in turn contributed to the improvements in the households' livelihood and empowerment of women both at household and community level. Hence, the responses from local beneficiaries and joint facilitating institutions as well as the quantitative findings have consistently shown that the project has achieved its targets and it was implemented effectively.

Efficiency: In terms of the criteria of efficiency, the qualitative data has shown that there was a delay in implementing the project. However, in terms of financial, human, and material resources, the responses suggested that it has been efficient. Efficiency of the project is mainly attributed to the integrated nature of the project, coordination of community and local government structure as well as human and material resources. Its efficiency is also attributed to the synergy of the project with the existing productive safety net program being run by the government. Hence, wise use and coordinated implementation of the project through the existing government structure and human resources have contributed to its efficiency at large. The respondents, however, have raised a concern on the rate and frequency of training fees paid to local communities and experts, which can pose a challenge to project sustainability in the absence of CARE in the future. In a nutshell, the project efficiency has been witnessed in terms of human and material use while obvious concerns are seen with regard to training allowances fearing that this would perpetuate dependency syndrome.

Impact: Both the qualitative and quantitative findings have asserted that there are positive trends that are precursors of the project impact both in the livelihood and socio cultural setting of the beneficiary communities. Due to the project, there is a significant change in social and economic status of the beneficiary women in the project area. Findings from the survey indicated that majority households' income level has been doubled compared to the base line figure and it is statistically significant (before mean =2018.17 birr and after mean=4237.86), where the paired t-test value is (43.08) ($p < 0.001$). The income per adult equivalent for the end line sample is (2537.82 birr) ($n=848$), 2642.30 birr ($n=548$), and 2331.49 birr ($n=300$). More specifically, FHHs have benefited across the sample groups from listed sources of income. In the base line the average total income for FHHs was 2574.45 birr and this amount has increased to 4197.59 birr ($n=848$). These results strongly suggest that the Berchi project is successful in achieving both its short-term and long-term targets of economic empowerment of women since most of its project beneficiaries are female-headed households. Propensity Score Matching (PSM) estimators suggest that, on average, the project increases the income of project beneficiaries by 655.75 birr, which is statistically significant ($p < 0.001$) and the project increases the income per adult equivalent of beneficiaries by 461.14 birr when compared to non-beneficiaries ($p < 0.001$). From the same estimator, participation in SAA on average increases annual income for its beneficiaries by 716.70 Birr ($p < 0.05$). Therefore, the Berchi project has positively contributed towards improvement in the household income through the diversification of livelihood activities and enhanced "saving culture", through micro saving schemes introduced.

Women's representation and participation in different activities and institutions has shown significant change with the promising achievement of representation in VSLA and SAA. The intervention has successfully confronted the existing detrimental socio-cultural beliefs on women's decision making and brought about significant changes in the way both male and female perceive women's role in the decision making. It has also given them opportunity to exercise their leadership talents thereby refuting the existing perception that undermines women's ability. However, representation in wider political spheres requires further work and advocacy.

Sustainability: Responses have also shown that there are strong indicators of project sustainability. Respondents have demonstrated their confidence that the motivation, inspiration, and culture of saving being practiced due to Berchi will continue in the absence of the donor agency. Discussions of SAA focusing on harmful socio-cultural practices, benefits of such discussions in abolishing gender-based violence and the structure within which the SAA operates and the bylaws developed have been cherished by the community members and will continue in the absence of the donor agency. Some of the project components such as VSLA have instantly won acceptance by local communities and government agencies. The practice of VSLA has been easier and flexible in contrast to other saving and credit institutions operating at local levels. Hence, with increased capacity building, the respondents noted that, the VSLA can be owned and maintained by the local community in absence of CARE. However, there are some fears that the prevailing dependency syndrome that is being seen in relation to training fees would threaten project sustainability as conducting similar capacity building activities could impose unaffordable cost on the local community. It is also feared that the absence of strong integration, synergy and level of commitment among some of the joint facilitating institutions could pose a threat to the project sustainability.

Evaluation of expected results of the project

1) Enabling women to have equitable access and control over productive assets

In order to achieve this result, the project has begun undertaking institutional arrangements and flexible working mechanisms. Besides availing productive resources, necessary steps were undertaken to put flexible and acceptable working rules for the micro lending platform of VSLA. This has been applauded by the locals as the practice has been an ideal way that outshines the existing micro lending practices which are characterized by red tapes and sophisticated rules that scarcely provide for flexibility and reciprocity among participants. Based on the study findings, the Berchi project has changed the previous scenario in which women had been neglected from economic resources. The survey data indicated that the proportion of FHHs reporting income from different sources were 189 (38.33%) during the base line survey, however, due to the project the proportion of FHHs has increased to 539 (63.56%). The average total income level reported by FHHs was Birr 2574.45, however, the amount has increased to 4197.59 in the end line (n=848). Similarly, the average total income level reported by land less HHs in the base line was Birr 2485.43, the amount has increased to 4225.30 (n=848). These figures indicate that Berchi project has achieved its goal of creating women's equitable access to resources and improving the livelihood of chronically food insecure households. Productive assets were also transferred including goat and sheep based on the agro-ecology of the beneficiaries, which have a short time impact in improving the level of household asset. In VSLA, women have got access to micro lending in order to satisfy their pressing social and economic wants. Over all, women's equitable access to and control over resources due to the project intervention has being realized and hence it can be concluded that the expected result 1 is achieved.

2) Meaningful participation and representation of women at all levels

One of the most important undertakings of Berchi project has been laying the basic foundation of women participation in changing institutional, social, and cognitive aspects that have been detrimental for long among members of the society and the formal as well as informal institutional structures from lower to the corresponding higher levels. Even though there was recognition of the imperative of women's participation and representation in the government policy documents, evidences indicate that there were little practical interventions before the launching of Berchi project. The Berchi project has ensured fair and equitable representation of women in all the project

sensitization and planning activities. In the by-laws of the VSLA groups, it is set that at least two out of five committee members become women. The quantitative findings indicate that the proportion of women reporting positive perception towards women's leadership has significantly changed compared with the base line figure. For instance, the percentage of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women should not organize community work has decreased from 21.6 % in the base line to 9.39 % (n=848). Across indicators used to measure perception towards women's leadership, there is a significant decreasing trend of negative perception towards women's leadership. Therefore, the established stereotypes and myths negatively contributing towards women's role in decision making have been being eroded due to the project intervention. Participation and representation of women has increased both within the project platforms and outside of the project. Nevertheless, the responses suggest that participation and representation of women in the political spheres and across different tiers of government has not been as strong as it is within the Berchi project at local level.

3) Transforming key institutional and socio- cultural norms, relations and attitudes for gender equality

The gender based role assignment was severe and unfavourable to most of the women in the project area. However, since the beginning of VSLA and SAA discussions, significant change in the attitude and practice of both men and women has been witnessed. Even if its implementation has begun recently, the results are promising from the onset. For example, a chi-square test result revealed there is significant difference between the income level of those HHs who participate in VSLA and those who do not take part ($p < 0.001$), which indicates participation in VSLA has a positive contribution to the improvement of household income. The field survey indicated that the percentage of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to limiting family size has doubled as compared to the base line figure (26.48%). By the same token, the percentage of female reporting "input on all decisions" in relation the use of birth control method, which has increased by ten folds compared to the base line figure. The increase was from 5.52 % in the base line to 55.44 % (n=848). Qualitative responses have also shown that the social-cultural norm that dictates unfair relationship between men and women, and the institutional set up which was perpetuating the unfavourable gender imbalance have begun to be influenced by the open discussions and deliberations. Some men became fast adopters and change agents whose actions should be scaled up for further change in the project sites. The social relationship and cohesion among women and men has also shown significant improvement. In general, the socio cultural norms, attitudes and institutional tendencies towards gender equality have been changing, though it still calls for strong effort to further challenge it from its roots.

4) Promote key Learning and Impact Measurement for women's empowerment

One of the unique features of this project is its innovativeness that recognizes the dynamic nature of development work and hence opens up a room for continuous learning, improvement, promotion, and expansion of best practices for improved performance and scalability. To this end, efforts are underway to cope with the socio economic dynamics in the project environment where the joint facilitating institutions, the beneficiary communities, and CARE field staff review the progress, revise the operational plans and manuals with respect to the changing circumstances as well as experiences from field practice. The project has facilitated sharing knowledge and exchanging experience among stakeholders through workshops, review meetings, field visits.

The joint facilitating institutions have conducted field visits in order to observe and grasp how the project activities are organized, facilitated, and implemented and this helped them observe and learn how women and men engage themselves to tackle gender related problems altogether. Workshops and community meetings were also conducted to promote learning among executors and hence to scale up the best practices. The study team has also observed that Berchi's gender empowerment practices, more specifically, the approaches employed in facilitating VSLA and SAA are innovative, can be easily replicated in other places, and appropriate to tackle the pervasive gender inequality in Ethiopian context. However, compared to the significance of the experience of Berchi, little has been done in recording, disseminating, sharing experiences, and opening room for scalability both within the project sites and outside of it.

Ways Forward

- It is imperative for CARE Ethiopia together with CARE Austria to promote and replicate the best practices of such intervention in others areas where the socio-cultural challenges are rampant. In doing so, it is essential to critically look into the limitations of the Berchi project, and devise alternatives while dealing similar issues.
- The multiple discussions forums of VSLA and SAA, working modalities, monitoring and evaluations, and the overall system should be formally owned by the local government authorities as one of the future project and program agenda among the studied communities and thereby intensively work on the lessons learnt and experiences shared.
- It is vital to share experiences among beneficiary women themselves within the same *Kebele* and outside as well as those non-participant women who are dependent on food aids and vulnerable to shocks. Moreover, it is important to provide technical support and follow up to those VSLAs and households in order to nurture them for further changes and build up their resilience capacities.
- CARE Ethiopia has to advocate the experiences of SAA and VSLA at wider geographic scales and design a project that will promote the best experiences and sustain the "flavor" of CARE among the beneficiary communities. In this regard, one of the concerns should be looking at the crosscutting issues targeting those vulnerable women and chronically food insecure households while maintaining strong synergies and coordination among sector offices and stakeholders at various hierarchies of the administrative echelons.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background of the evaluation

Poverty is deleterious socio-economic phenomena, which consist of the chronically poor, and those who suffer from transitory poverty due to economic, socio-political, and weather shocks, or who become trapped in long-term destitution following severe disruptions to their livelihoods (Barrett & Carter, 2013). Most recent estimates indicated that at a global level, 805 million people are estimated to be chronically undernourished in 2012–14, down more than 100 million over the last decade, and 209 million lower than in 1990–92 (FAO, 2014)

The hunger target of the Millennium Development Goal 1c (MDG 1c), has been achieved (five years ahead (700 million taken out of extreme poverty) (IFPRI, 2015). However, the developing world is not on track to achieve the World Food Summit (WFS) target of halving the number of undernourished people by 2015, as exemplified in Sub-Saharan Africa with the highest prevalence of undernourishment, around one in four people remains undernourished (FAO, 2014). Thus, the recurring crises in the Horn of Africa, the Sahel, and parts of Asia have cost international donors and national governments millions of dollars (Frankenberger et.al. 2012).

Ethiopia is a country of an agrarian economy characterized by high population growth, huge dependence on erratic rainfall, low agricultural productivity, structural bottlenecks, and land-locked-ness (MoFED, 2013). Using a recent conservative estimate, the proportion of people living below the poverty line in Ethiopia has declined from 29.6 % in 2011 and estimated to further declined to 25.1 per cent in 2014 and 23.4 per cent in 2015 (UNDP, 2015). However, Ethiopia remains one of the poorest countries in the world with human development index ranking 173 out of 187 countries (UNDP, 2014). In Ethiopia, food insecurity emerged as a key problem and development challenge in the early 1970, however, the pervasiveness of food insecurity, persistent occurrence of severe droughts, and large-scale starvation continued in the subsequent decades (MoARD, 2007).

For instance, the recent report on the ‘geography of poverty, disasters, and climate change’ ranks Ethiopia as the 11th country most at risk of disaster induced poverty. The same report indicated that poorer households have a far lower coping capacity, often reverting to the sale of their already limited productive assets. These asset-poor households have the hardest time recovering, with impacts on their livelihoods still visible years after extreme weather events like the Great Famine of the 1980s’ (Shepherd et al., 2013). For example, an estimated 2.7 million food beneficiaries were identified for emergency relief food assistance in 2014. In the same year, Ethiopia's total gross emergency food and non-food requirement accounted to USD 403 million (HR, 2014). Moreover, chronic and acute food insecurity are prevalent, especially among rural populations and smallholder farmers. About 10 % of Ethiopia’s citizens are chronically food insecure, and this figure rises to more than 15 % during frequent drought years (CARE, 2014; USAID, 2014).

In response to such pervasive challenges of food insecurity and poverty, livelihood impoverishment, the government of Ethiopia has been struggling in its efforts to address such overarching challenges as part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme (SDPRP) (2002-2005), Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) (2006-2010), and Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) (2011-2015). Nevertheless, due to its deep-rooted nature, the influences of other factors, the impact of these programs and strategies in addressing the food security

challenges, poverty reduction, and maintaining sustainable livelihoods have been limited and the problems remain high in all corners of the country. On the other hand, among the world's women who suffer the socio economic inequality, the overwhelming majorities are rural women. Thus, ensuring women's access to and control over agricultural assets and productive resources is imperative for achieving food security and sustainable livelihoods among rural and agricultural societies (FAO, 2011).

Ethiopia, being one of the poorest countries, also suffers from the asymmetrical socio economic relation between men and women, which is one of the prime factors for food insecurity and household poverty. In response to this, the country has been taking policy measures towards empowering women in sustainable development and poverty reduction endeavors. Accordingly, women's empowerment and gender equality is recognized as one of the building blocks in combating poverty and achieving sustainable improvement of livelihoods of a community. However, Ethiopian women are economically, socially, culturally, and politically marginalized in the enjoyment of equal rights, in accessing opportunities, decision-making processes, and basic resources. Moreover, though a number of policies are emerging that support and encourage women's participation in development, women's access to and control of productive resources, information, training and education, employment and in decision-making are limited in Ethiopia (Emebet, 2008).

CARE Ethiopia is a humanitarian NGO working in Ethiopia with poor women, men, boys and girls, communities and institutions to have a significant impact on the underlying causes of poverty aimed at contributing to economic and social transformation, unleashing the power of the most vulnerable women and girls, honoring their dignity with its mutual support alliances. Its 'Berchi or be strong' was a three-year project that aimed at supporting gender equality and women's empowerment in two *Weredas* of Amhara region, namely, Simada and Ebinat. The project attempted a new approach by integrating psychosocial activities as well as build upon CARE's experiences on changing gender norms with particular focus on men and boys for gender equality. The approaches were deemed to increase women's economic empowerment and food security as well as ways of measuring such impacts. The project intended to reach 11,000 chronically food insecure women and their households. As indicated in the baseline survey document, the successes of the project in meeting the objectives were assessed during the end line survey.

In the evaluation, we thoroughly looked at the relevant documents and websites of DFID, World Bank, UN Women, Oxfam GB, Austrian Development Agency (ADA), and OECD/DAC criteria of evaluation, USAID, FAO, CARE Austria, CARE Canada, and CARE Ethiopia to develop our analytical frameworks, methodologies, and tools of data generation as well as analysis for the end line evaluation comprehensively. Therefore, the purpose of this end line evaluation was to evaluate the achievements of the project intervention through systematic measurement and analysis of the targets based on the indicators used in the baseline study. To this end, our consultancy firm (Teruneh Zenna Business and Management Consultancy, hereafter TZBMC) developed appropriate methods, approaches, frameworks of analysis, and tools that helped us to capture the salient aspects and the changes that resulted from the project intervention. To maintain consistency, attention had been given to the methodology employed during the baseline survey.

1.2 Objectives of the evaluation

1.2.1 General objective

The overall objective of this evaluation was to assess the 'Berchi or be strong' project as per OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness efficiency, impact, and sustainability. Moreover, the evaluation intended to

critically analyze what changes and impacts the project has brought in line with the intended objectives based on the indicators used in the baseline study and to generate evidence of changes that the project has delivered.

1.2.2 Specific objectives

The study tried to address the following specific objectives:

1. Assess the progress on the project's indicators established in baseline;
2. Evaluate the changes (in terms of social, economic, cultural, agricultural practices, gender equality, etc) observed in lives of the target beneficiaries¹ as a result of the project intervention;
3. Evaluate the effectiveness of Social Analysis and Action(SAA) (Gender Action Learning) in the program implementation;
4. Assess how the psychosocial activities, as well as the activities towards changing gender norms (including strategic focus on engaging men-EMAP-Engaging Men through Accountable Practice) such as SAA, VSLA discussions, role models, contribute to women's access and control over resources and to women's meaningful participation;
5. Evaluate project implementation towards ultimate goal, with particular focus on increasing income, women decision making role, and to identify factors that influenced the changes both from the project and outside the project;
6. Analyze the sustainability of the project initiatives (project impact and activities) from the point of view of target beneficiaries, and local institutions;
7. Draw lessons and give respective recommendations that will have strategic significance for improvement in the coming phase of the project.

More specific issues addressed by the end-line evaluation were:

- Evaluate the extent of demonstrated increased ability and confidence of target beneficiaries to enact a variety of livelihood strategies;
- Evaluate the extent of progress of target beneficiaries in up taking of family planning services;
- Evaluate the proportion of women reporting control over decisions affecting their lives;
- Evaluate the proportion of women reporting access to basic social services and public resources;
- Evaluate the extent of change in men and women reporting changes in attitudes towards gender-based violence;
- Evaluate the extent of change in men and women reporting changes in gender roles and norms;
- Assess the degree and proportion of change in enhanced self-esteem and confidence of target beneficiaries;
- Assess changes in social connectedness of the target beneficiaries;
- Assess women and men reporting women's meaningful participation in decision making across HHs, community and local government levels;
- Assess the responsiveness of institutions towards women issues and interests;

¹ As indicated in the TOR under the objectives section, we will consistently use the word "*target beneficiaries*" across the report to indicate those beneficiary households of the project.

- Evaluate the social connectedness of the target beneficiaries, especially women’s solidarity;
- Assess the coherence and complementarities of the project with other ongoing initiatives, and evaluate progress or achievements made a changing operational context, cross-cutting issues and innovation will also be applied. Specifically, assess the extent, if any, to which the project and learning from the project have contributed to other projects within CARE’s chronically food insecure rural women program, especially the FSF project and the NAC project, and the extent, if any, to which learning from Berchi has contributed to the PSNP program.
- Assess the involvement of women at home and out of home decision making process;
- Evaluate the progress of SAA on encouraging gender equality and food security at larger community;
- Assess the value added of VSLA members discussions by comparing end line results of those participants who have engaged in such discussions, with those participants who have not yet engaged in such discussions;
- Identify how psychosocial supports reduce women vulnerability;
- Assess the extent to which learning has taken place in the project, including;
 - a. Challenges and opportunities learning related to women’s progress towards empowerment;
 - b. Extent to which government food programs have increased investment in women’s empowerment initiatives;
 - c. Extent to which there is an impact measurement system established and generating evidence;
 - d. Extent to which the theory of change for CFIRW program has been tested.
- To what extent, if any, did project and stakeholder staff members’ participation in cross- country research and learning activities contribute to project learning?

1.3 Scope of the consultancy service

In order to achieve the above objectives, the study focused on, but not limited to, the following:

- Identify the intended and unintended results /outcomes/ impacts of the project from the gender lens (including decision making, participation, access and control over productive assets and change in gender norms);
- Assess the sustainability of the positive impacts achieved;
- Determine the relevance of the intervention and impact improving women’s lives and their position in HH and community as well as improvements in the HH’s overall wellbeing (reduced gender violence, equitable distribution of workload, etc.);
- Identify factors that contributed to the success and /or failure of the project’s implementation in terms of its impact on gender; factors contributing to why some women any have benefited more than others;

Besides the review of project interventions and strategies, our consultancy firm also assessed:

- Look at the alignment of the project interventions with other relevant stakeholders;
- Look at the project’s impact on different kinds of household conditions (FHHs, Female in MHHs, and MHHs to see its impact on the education of their children with particular focus to girls' education, reduction of dropout, enhancement of retention, reduction of early marriage, etc);
- Explore the above-mentioned areas across the components of the project (women capacity to demand their rights, equitable norms and socio- economic equality) mainly though qualitative methods supported by case studies as well as some techniques such as MSC (Most Significant Change) technique.

1.4 Activities of Berchi project: Overview

The main objective of Berchi or be strong project was to empower chronically food insecure women to be able to achieve sustainable livelihood security. The project as development intervention was aimed to contribute towards social transformation that supports gender equality and women's empowerment in Amhara Region. In doing so, the project had four expected results, which had been implemented over the project period. The expected results or indicators of the project include, a) Expected Result 1: Women have equitable access and control over productive assets to ensure their livelihood security; b) Expected Result 2: Meaningful representation and participation of women at all levels; c) Expected Result 3: Transform key institutional and socio-cultural norms, relations and attitudes for gender equality; and d) Expected Result 4: promote key learning and impact measurement for women's empowerment. CARE Austria supported the project financially. Thus, CARE Ethiopia in collaboration with the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), particularly, the local level government sector offices implemented the project in two *Weredas* (Ebinat and Simada) of South Gondar, Amhara region.

In order to achieve the expected results, 17 different types of income-generating activities related to cash crop production, sales of processed farm products, and business or petty trade activities were used to survey out the participation of women in IGAs. The project has carried out list of activities to achieve the expected results set in the project document. The major activities carried out include, 1) the provision of capacity building trainings to CARE project staff, experts of sector offices, development agents, community facilitators, beneficiary households, and local level administrators among others. Some of the trainings provided comprise, a) SAA training of trainer and SAA group formation, b) SAA groups formation and facilitators training, c) psychosocial training, d) psychosocial training-psychosocial score card activities, e) gender and climate vulnerability and capacity assessment training; 2) series of planning and partnership forms were carried out to build common understanding and consensus on the overall objective and implementation arrangement of the project; 3) provision of inputs for the project beneficiaries; 4) input transfer modality validation forum; 5) agricultural productivity enhancement activities; 6) formation of VSLAs for saving, credit and financial services and SAA to address socio-cultural challenges; 7) introduction of saving scheme, revolving asset transfer, micro-insurance schemes; 8) participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning and reflection among others (See Annex C, or document review for details of activities). The aforementioned activities were some of the major activities carried out during Berchi project implementation. Therefore, the undertaking of these activities contributed to the success of expected results, in general, and attainment of both positive and significant changes on the lives of the beneficiary households, in particular.

2. Limitations of the evaluation

The end line evaluation we carried out was very comprehensive with respect to the methodology applied, frameworks used, documents reviewed, tools of data generation, sources of data included, and so forth. However, the evaluation was not free from limitations. Some of the challenged faced during the qualitative phase include long list of sector offices involved in the interviews, the wider physical distance among the studied *Kebeles*, timing of the interviews (farmers were busy with the routine agricultural activities), frequent reshuffling of schedules with sector offices, and communication and network challenges, which together heightened the challenges of data collection. On the other hand, the major challenges faced in the second phase of evaluation include number of *Kebeles* and the physical distance among them, lengthy nature of the survey questionnaire, long list of variables both in the end line and base line dataset, time pressure to accomplish the report as per the initial schedule, which would have been finalized two to three months ago. Nevertheless, strong support from CARE field staff and CARE management team as well as administrative

staff, support from some of the sector offices in all sites, rescheduling of the interview times, the commitment of the data collectors and supervision by the firm contributed for the successful accomplishment of the work as well as the objectives of evaluation.

3. Evaluation Methodology

3. 1. Description of the study area

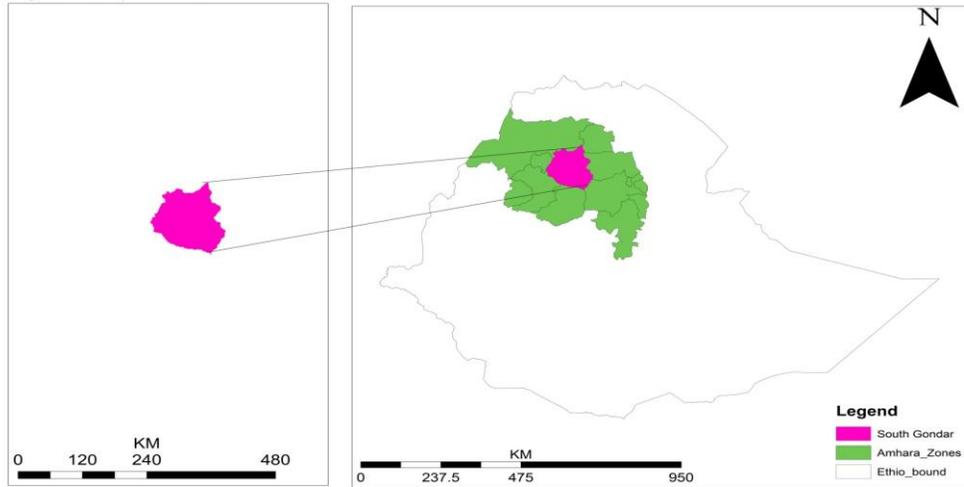
Relatively, South Gondar is bordered on the South by Misraq Gojjam, on the South West by Mirab Gojjam and Bahir Dar, on the West by Lake Tana, on the North by Semien Gondar, on the North East by Wag Hemra, on the East by Semien Wollo, and on the South East by Debub Wollo; the Abbay river separates South Gondar from the two Gojjam *Zones* (Figure 1). Based on the 2007 Census, this Zone had a total population of 2,051,738 and increase of 16% over the 1994 census, of which 1,041,061 were men and 1,010,677 women (CSA, 2007). With an area of 14,095.19 square kilometers, South Gondar has a population density of 145.56; 195,619 or 9.53% are urban inhabitants. A total of 468,238 households were counted in this *Zone*, which results in an average of 4.38 persons to a household, and 453,658 housing units (CSA, 2007).

From FSF/Berchi Baseline survey (2014)², since 2005, there have been over 60, 000 households registered under PSNP program and over 28,000 households were graduated from PSNP as of 2006. On the other hand, three NGOs currently undertake relief operations in the *Zone*. Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC) is operating in *Ebinat, Lay Gayint, Tach Gayint and Libo Kemkem Weredas*, Ethiopian Relief Organization (ERO) in *Ibnat Wereda* and Food for the Hungry International (FHI) in *Simada Wereda*. Similarly, in response to the prevalent food security challenges and households' vulnerabilities different shocks and stresses, as well as socio-cultural challenges women face, CARE has started to work at grassroots with the poor households in multitude of ways. Its 'Berchi or be strong' is a three-year project that aimed at supporting gender equality and women's empowerment in two *Weredas* of Amhara region.

² See FSF/Berchi Baseline Exercise, Summary Report, January 2014.

Location of the study area

Figure 1: Map of South Gondar



Source: TZBMC based on CSA (2007)
Figure 1 Location of the study area

3.2. Concepts: Evaluation³, gender equality⁴, women empowerment⁵ dimensions of empowerment⁶

On women empowerment, CARE (2008)⁷ noted that agency (*the capacity to define, analyze, take decisions and act upon them*); relations (*the institutions that establish agreed upon meanings, forms of domination, and agreed criteria for legitimizing the social order*); and structures (*is connecting with others, building relationships, and participating in joint efforts, coalitions and providing mutual support to enact agency and alter structure*) as major dimensions of empowerment. The same source indicated that structure, agency, and relations are not concrete things, but related ideas and ways of behaving. This is because each of the three elements are socially and culturally constructed and particular in their manifestation. Equally, each element is directly related to the way that people think, act, and organize social life. In order to achieve the sustainable empowerment of women, it is important to address all three dimensions. In general, CARE's women empowerment dimensions helped our evaluation work, particularly to explore the program intervention and its impact on the three different yet interrelated levels.

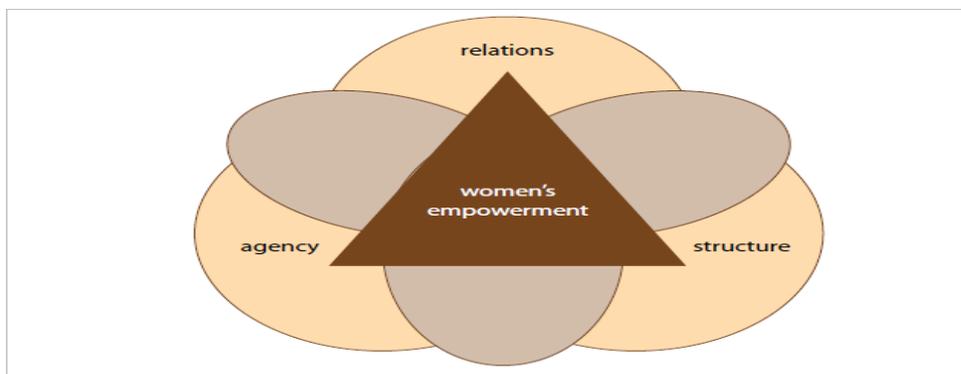
3 Evaluation is defined as the systematic and objective assessment of an on-going or completed project or program, its design, implementation and results. The aim is to determine the relevance and fulfillment of objectives, development efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability (OECD DAC Glossary)³ Thus; we adopted the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) conception of evaluation to this assignment as working definition.

4 CARE (2008) in its gender policy report, defined gender equality as the “equal enjoyment by women, girls, boys, and men of rights, opportunities, resources, and rewards. Equality does not mean that women and men are the same but that their enjoyment of rights, opportunities, and life-chances are not governed or limited by whether they were born female or male. Thus, we adopted the CARE's conception of gender equality to this assignment as working definition.

5 In spite of differences in women's empowerment definitions, CARE's definition is a holistic one among many others and thus, we adopted it as working definition to the assignment. Accordingly, CARE defines women's empowerment as “the sum total of changes needed for a woman to realize her full human rights the combined effect of changes in her own aspirations and capabilities, the environment that surrounds and conditions her choices, and the power relations through which she negotiates her path.” (CARE, 2008. p. 4).

6 “Power within” refers to awareness of life choices, possibilities of change, and confidence in one's own abilities to bring about change. This is related to the idea of “voice” and “confidence” to express one's views in public. “Power to” refers to people's abilities to act on these aspirations and choices-having the necessary capacities, resources, and knowledge to realize choices and exert increased control over and /or to change their conditions of existence. “Power with”, signifies a less individualistic form of “power within” and “power to”, stressing mutual support, alliance and joint action. “Power over” and “power within” imply that increasing the power of some people does not necessarily diminishes that of others, and therefore have attractive and positive connotation for development agencies (Rowlands, 1995). The first three power dimensions are considered as non-zero sum models of power in which one person's gain is not necessarily another's loss. Whereas, the last “power over” is what Rowlands (1997) described as “zero-sum” power as one's gain sounds like another's loss. For more details, see the discussion on Befikadu Esayas (2011) & Mayoux and Johnson (2007). Therefore, our understandings to women empowerment is the result the four interrelated power dimensions and thus we consider the four power dimensions with the three key dimensions of CARE's women empowerment for detailed evaluation.

⁷ See CARE 2008 document for more details.



Source: Adapted from CARE (2008)

Figure 2 Women empowerment and the three dimensions

The Care women empowerment framework embraces three-dimensional interventions for the wellbeing and safety of women and girls. Building women and girls agency in order to uphold her own aspirations, voice, and capabilities; building engendered structure to ensure the environment that surrounds and conditions women and girls' choices; and gender relations that focused on the power relations through which she negotiates her path at household level. However, Care women empowerment model by itself is not a tool to extract all information from women and girls; thus, we adapted gender analysis tools and frameworks by reviewing different frameworks and analytical tools that pervade across the literature in order to make choice of those frameworks that best suit to this particular study. From our review, it was evident that different frameworks have different drawbacks. The application of any single framework was inadequate for our purpose. Hence, the following frameworks were used for the evaluation complementing one another.

a) Harvard Analytical Framework (HAF) or Gender Roles Framework (GRF)

It represents one of the earliest efforts to systematize attention to both women and men and their different positions in society. It is based upon the position that allocating resources to women as well as men in development efforts makes economic sense and will make development itself more efficient a position labeled as the “efficiency approach” (USAID, 2008). Key to the HAF/GRF is adequate data collection at the individual and household level. It adapts well to agricultural and other rural production systems. Data is then collected on men and women’s activities that are identified as either “reproductive” or “productive” types. It is then considered according to how those activities reflect access to and control over income and resources, thereby “highlighting the incentives and constraints under which men and women work in order to anticipate how projects impacted their productive and reproductive activities as well as the responsibilities of other household members.

b) The Moser Gender Planning Framework (MGPF)

The approach on the other hand introduces the idea of women’s “three roles” in production, reproduction, and community management⁸ and the implication that these roles have for women’s participation in the development process. In making these links, both between women and the community, and between gender

8a) Reproductive Roles: Childbearing and rearing, domestic tasks that guarantee the maintenance and reproduction of the current and future work force (e.g., cooking, cleaning, etc.); b) Productive Roles: Work done for remuneration, in cash or kind. (e.g., wage labor, farming, crafts, etc c) Community Management Roles: Work that supports collective consumption and maintenance of community resources (e.g., local government, irrigation systems management, education, etc).

planning and development planning more broadly, Moser's framework encompasses both the technical and political aspects of gender integration into development.

The framework is composed of several components (tools). First, the triple roles of women are identified by mapping the activities of household members (including children) over the course of twenty-four hours. The second component identifies and assesses gender needs, distinguishing between practical needs (to address inadequate living conditions) and strategic needs (for power and control to achieve gender equality). The third component, or tool, disaggregates information about access to and control over resources within the household by sex: who makes decisions about the use of different assets. The fourth component identifies how women manage their various roles, and seeks to clarify how planned interventions will affect each one. Finally, the women in development (WID) or gender in development (GAD) policy matrix evaluates how different planning approaches (welfare, equity, anti-poverty, efficiency, and empowerment) have addressed the triple roles and women's practical and strategic need.

c) Women's Empowerment Framework (WEF)

This framework postulates five progressively greater levels of equality that can be achieved in sequential order, listed from highest to lowest. These sequences include, 1) control-equal control over in decision-making over factors of production; 2) participation-equal participation in decision-making processes related to policymaking, planning and administration; 3) conscientisation-attaining equal understanding of gender roles and a gender division of labor that is fair and agreeable; 4) access-equal access to the factors of production by removing discriminatory provisions in the laws; and 5) welfare-having equal access to material welfare (food, income, medical care). The framework is intended to assist planners to identify what women's equality and empowerment would mean in practice, and to determine to what extent a development intervention supports greater empowerment. In general, the tool enabled us to examine elements of a project's design or a sectoral program to determine to see if it affects the five different levels of equality negatively, neutrally, or positively.

The gender analysis frameworks/tools were chosen to provide input for Care's women empowerment framework and to compliment gaps of each approach. Moreover, gender analysis frameworks were considered as theoretical frameworks that guided the analysis across each project intervention component. This was used in order to assess the project if it has created the opportunity for women and girls to access and control over resource. It also helped us to look into income share as that of men and boys, and create an opportunity to exercise their decision making power at household and community level.

d) Psychosocial Support and SAA

The term psychosocial is a combined concept that integrates both psychological and social dimensions. These include, psycho, which refers to the psychological dimension of the individual. It has to do with the inner world of thoughts, feelings, desires, beliefs, values, cognition and ways in which people perceive themselves and others. On the other hand, social, is to indicate the relationships and environment of the individual. It includes the material world as well as the social and cultural context in which people live, ranging from the network of their relationships to cultural manifestations, to the community and the state. Therefore, the term psychosocial is meant to explain the way that these aspects of the person are not actually separable. Each aspect continuously influences the other, so that it is impossible to tease them apart (IASC, 2007). In the context of Berchi, project, psychosocial support was one of the unique features, which is used to build women and girls' confidence, solidarity and social network. Building the capacity of service providers, structures, and institutions was the other wing of the project in order to fully equipped with knowledge and skill to support women and girls. Thus, in this study, we adopted the conceptual understanding of

psychosocial component, which is used in the CARE Austria's⁹ official document and we assessed the contribution and value-added of psychosocial support into women economic empowerment program.

3.3. A brief review of baseline methodology

Even though the methodology employed for any study depends on the nature of the problem and the interest of the client as well as donor agency, it was imperative that there should be consistency between the baseline and end line studies of any given project. To this end, we made a brief review of methodology employed for baseline exercise of the Berchi project in order to make use of similar methodology for the end line assessment. With this, we believed, to avoid difficulties in terms of measurability and comparison and maintain consistency between the two sets of studies. In other words, departure from using similar methodology in the end line survey may result in erroneous conclusions making comparison difficult.

A methodological mix of both qualitative and quantitative approaches guided the baseline survey. A household survey was used to gather quantitative data on the indicators of changes at the individual level while qualitative techniques were used to elicit information on such indicators that reflect outcomes associated with capacity building or attitudinal changes outside of the targeted impact group households. These types of data were collected via key informant interview from different tiers ranging from local to higher levels of the government structure. In addition, various types of secondary data were gathered to obtain relevant baseline information on performance indicators. However, there were some limitations observed during the baseline study. As clearly indicated in the methodology section of the baseline survey document, one of the major limitations was the methodological complexity due to combined nature of the study (FSF and Berchi projects), which in turn complicated the sources of data both for qualitative and quantitative studies, sampling techniques, sample size determination, and data processing as well as reporting the findings. Hence, the end line survey methodology, as already proposed by CARE employed both qualitative and quantitative approaches with multiple techniques and tools while maintaining consistency with the major methodological aspect of the baseline survey in order to arrive at valid conclusions between the baseline study and the end line results (See Annex A3 for detailed discussions).

3.4. Research design and justification

For the end line evaluation, cross-sectional survey design was employed to generate data on the beneficiaries' socio-economic characteristics, the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the Berchi project at household level, as well as the community level impacts of the project on gender equality and empowerment. As per our agreement, the study had two phases. The phase I evaluation was purely qualitative in nature. In this phase, maximum effort was exerted to capture the changes and progresses under way in order to see the major trends that could lead to the success of the envisaged goals of the project. To this end, TZBMC has developed proper methods and tools that can address the progressive nature of the project with the standardized OECD-DAC end line evaluation criteria. Phase II, quantitative evaluation was designed to complement the qualitative findings, address the major gaps and limitations that were not captured by the qualitative evaluation in order to get the broader picture of the end line evaluation, and arrive at valid conclusions (See Annex A1, A2, and A3).

⁹ Integrating the Psychosocial Dimension in Women's Empowerment Programming: A Guide for CARE Country Offices, 2001.

4. Result and discussions

4.1 Profile of the study *Weredas*

Based on the population proportion to size (PPS) technique, Jiman Dergeha *Kebele* had relatively the largest proportion of HHs, 70 (8.3%) in Ebinat *Wereda*. Similarly, *Kebele* 5 from Simada had the largest proportion of HHs, which accounted for 41 (4.8%). The proportion of HHs selected in Ebinat accounts 415 (48.9%) and 433 (51.1%) in Simada respectively (Annex 1). Therefore, the proportion of HHs selection in each *Wereda* and the corresponding *Kebeles* was nearly similar. This was mainly to explore the project impacts compared with the newly added *Kebeles*.

4.2 Background of the respondents

As can be seen from Table 4.1, out of the total 848 respondents involved in the end line survey, close to two third of the respondents are female and 286 (33.7%) are males. About 362 (42.68%) of the respondents are female headed households. This figure shows that the Berchi project targeting was on the females and it was relevant to address the pressing needs of females groups of the society. For the purpose of clarity and discussion, we focused on comparing¹⁰ results from the two datasets (*the base line sample, 493 HHs and the end line total sample, 848 HHs*), however, sample groups within the end line and detailed figures across the three sample groups are attached in annexes (Annex 1-26).

Table 4. 1 Proportion of respondents by sex and marital status

Respondents	Marital status					Total
	Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	
Male	34	252	-	-	-	286
Female	84	234	72	141	31	562
Total	118	486	72	141	31	848

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Out of the total surveyed respondents in Ebinat *Wereda*, 287 (69.15%) are females and the remaining 128 (30.84%) are males. Similarly, the proportion of females in Simda *Wereda* accounted 63.51 % or 275 in number while 158 (36.48%) are males. Comparing the proportion of female respondents in each *Wereda*, the largest proportion of females are from Simda *Wereda*. This could be partly due to the proportion of females and female headed households in this particular *Wereda*. In both cases, the lion share of the project beneficiaries are females and female headed-households., which agrees with the very premises of the project. It also supports the qualitative findings on project relevance. In this regard, the respondents during the

¹⁰In the comparison, the baseline survey had only *eight Kebeles* (n=493), however, up on agreement with CARE Ethiopia and for a border understanding of the baseline indicators (expected result 1 to 4), we added six *Kebeles* in the end line sample, which makes the total sample *Kebeles* fourteen in number (n=550). And also, we agreed to add 10 *Kebeles* with an equal sample size (30 HHs) and five *Kebeles* from each *Wereda*, with a total of 300 HHs. This was basically needed in order to look into the psychosocial components with exclusive focus on module twenty-one of the HH survey questionnaire (See Annex B1) in the end line sample. Therefore, the comparison is between the baseline sample (n=493) and the end line total sample (n=848). For detailed discussion and looking into changes in some of the indicators, the comparison can be carried out across the sample groups in the report (I.e., n=493, baseline, n=548, end line sample, n=300, addition sample and n=848, total end line sample).

qualitative study emphasized that the focus of the Berchi project towards ensuring women empowerment was a key response in filling the most sensitive gap of household food security. They further contend that the relevance of Berchi intervention to the food security and gender empowerment needs of the local people is vivid in that those who took part in VSLA and SSA are now playing an active and meaningful role in transforming the thoughts and practices of their households while contributing to the changing environment at community level.

On the other hand, a chi-square was carried out to see statistically significant difference between HHs marital status and the current income level, the test statistics indicated that there is statistically significant difference between marital status and household's current income level (Chi-square=1358.54*** and df=114 for income) and (Chi-square=780.21*** and df=4 for marital status). This figure indicates that there is a difference in the income level of the married HHs, which may consider the contribution of husband's income to the household income.

Table 4. 2 The proportion respondents by sex and Wereda

Wereda	Sex	Freq.	Percent	Total
Ebinat	Male	128	30.84	415
	Female	287	69.15	
Simada	Male	158	36.48	433
	Female	275	63.51	

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Descriptive statistics on age at marriage indicated that the mean age is 17.52 (n=703). The age at marriage works both to the females and males who entered into the marriage. The mean age of female respondents is 15.97 years and the male counterparts is 20.36 years. Similarly, the median age at marriage for the sample group is 18.00 years while it is 20.00 years for male respondents and 15.00 years for female respondents. However, 43.95 % of the respondents indicated that they entered into marriage before the mean age and still the mean age at marriage for females is 15 years, which deviates from the legal age. Although early marriage is a common practice across the region in recent past, the mean figure for both sexes show that it is close to the legal age of marriage in Ethiopian context, including the region. Nevertheless, this does not mean that there are no early marriage practices going on now, rather, there are progressive changes on the minds of the people towards abolishing early marriage practices. In this regard, the contribution of the Berchi project is highly appreciated by enhancing the awareness level both at household and community levels. On the other hand, changes towards the early marriage practices can also be attributed to the works of government through various forms at all levels of administration in general, and the contributing of other locally deployed development partners, in particular.

Table 4. 3 Descriptive statistics of age at marriage

Number of obs(n) = 703	Age at marriage by sex of respondents	
Age at marriage by sample	Male	Female
	Mean age	
17.52	20.36	15.97
	Median age	

18.00	20.00	15.00
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Source: TZBMC computation based on the field data (November 2015)

As shown in Table 4.4, nearly 98 % of the Berchi project beneficiary respondents are Orthodox religion followers while insignificant number of Protestants (0.94%) and Muslims (1.065). This figure also shows that it not uncommon to find Orthodox religion followers across the region. It agrees with the 2007 CSA report where the largest proportion of households' religious affiliation is attached to the Orthodox.

Table 4. 4 The proportion of households by religion

Religion	Freq.	Percent
Orthodox	831	98.00
Protestant	8	0.94
Muslim	9	1.06
Total	848	100

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

As can be seen from Table 4.5, 408 (48.11%) of the respondents are between the age of 36 to 55 years and 335 (39.50 %) between the age of 19 to 35 years. From this, it is evident that majority of the respondents are in the productive age group (16-64 years), according to CSA (2007). Therefore, being in the productive age group has its own contribution to enhance the households' income base.

Table 4. 5 The proportion of households by age category

Age of the household head	Freq.	Percent
18 years or less	14	1.65
19 to 35	335	39.50
36 to 55	408	48.11
Over 55 years	91	10.73
Total	848	100.00

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

It is evident that family size is one of the most important variable to be considered while dealing with any development project intervention. In this regard, the field survey data indicated that the average family size of the studied households is 4.67 persons. It also shows that the maximum households size is 11 persons and the minimum one is 1 person.

Table 4. 6 Descriptive statistics of family size

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Family size	848	4.67	1.90	1	11

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Households level of education is crucial for every development intervention endeavors by the government and NGOs. Countries level of development is often evaluated based on the level of literacy as in the case of Human Development Index (HDI)¹¹ measurement. From the field data, although the government of Ethiopia is working intensively on the expansion of schools to provide education for all its citizens, close to two third surveyed households are “Illiterate”, 138 (16.27%) are in the grade range of 1 to 4, 92 (10.58 %) are found between 5-8 grade. On the other hand, very insignificant number of households are found in upper category of schooling. Therefore, the figure is indicative of empowering the farm households through various skill trainings, which can be delivered at farm training center in collaboration with locally developed NGOs working on similar issues.

Table 4. 7 Project beneficiaries level of education

Level of education	Freq.	Percent
Illiterate	557	65.68
Grade 1-4	138	16.27
Grade 5-8	92	10.85
Grade 9-10	55	6.49
Grade 11-12	4	0.47
Above	2	0.24
Total	848	100.00

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

As shown in Table 4.8, the mean year of resident in the current place is 30.19 years, while the minimum and maximum year is 1 and 74 respectively. Thus, this figure shows that majority of households in the study areas are native dwellers. Besides, a test statistic from chi-square shows that there is statistically significant difference between households’ current level of income and year of residence in the current place (Chi-square=1358.54*** and df=111) for income and Chi-square=1393.88*** and df=64). Implying that HHs who have stayed longer years in the current residence have greater chances of earning income compared to the new comers. This may partly contribute to households to withstand shocks in the form of shared social capitals, which is the typical features of households in rural areas of Ethiopia (Degefa, 2005).

Table 4. 8 Descriptive statistics year in the current resident

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Year in the current place	848	30.19222	14.16314	1	74

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

¹¹ See Human Development Index (HDI).

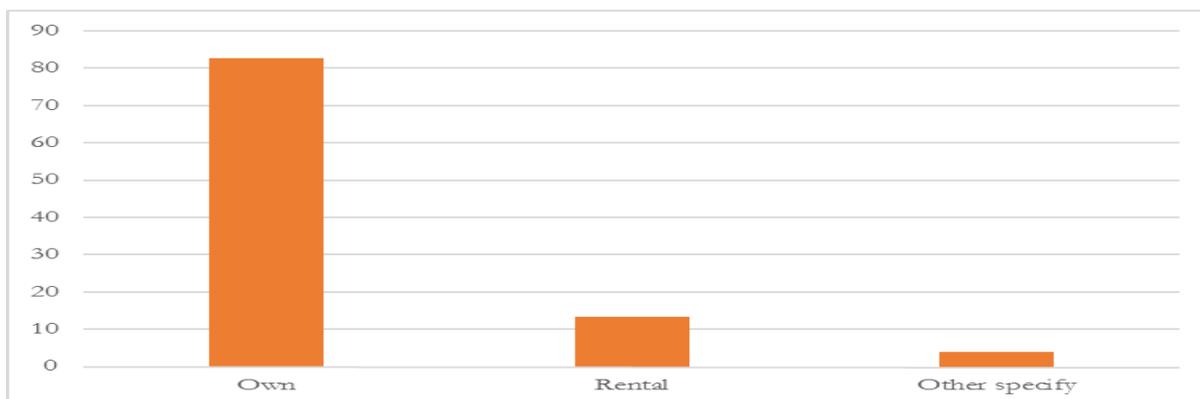
As can be seen from Table 4.9, 487 (62.60%) of households have land holding between 0.1-0.5 ha. In other words, over 60 % of households are “micro holders”, (Dessalegn, 2007) which limits extensive form of agriculture and agricultural production and productivity. On the other hand, 92.03 % of households are smallholders¹². This figure also agrees with the regional and national average of landholding (CSA, 2007).

Table 4.9 Proportion of households by land holding in hectare

Land holding category	Freq.	Percent
0.1-0.5 ha	487	62.60
0.6-1.0 ha	229	29.43
1.1-1.5 ha	30	3.86
1.6-2.0 ha	14	1.80
Above 2.1 ha	18	2.31
Total	778	100.00

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

As indicated in Figure 3, over 90 % of households are in smallholding category, and therefore, the term of ownership is the form of private, which accounted 645 (82.69%). Close to 105 (13.46 %) of households have owned land through rental and smaller number of households through other means, including communal land holdings. The focus of the project was relevant when landholding as an asset is taken into account.



Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Figure 3 Households by land ownership status

As shown in Table 4.10, 751 (88.56%) of the surveyed respondents are VSLA members and the remaining 97 (11.44%) are not VSLA members. When membership in VSLA is compared by *Wereda*, close to 90 % are from Ebinat and with slight difference, 379 (88 %) are from Simada *Wereda*. In general, we carried out the household survey with VSLA members across the sample *Kebeles*. Therefore, it would be easier to see the changes along this continuum.

¹² Households having less than 1 ha of land.

Table 4. 10 VSLA membership by study *Weredas*

VSLA membership	Ebinat		Simada		Total	
	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent	Freq.	Percent
Yes	372	89.63	379	87.53	751	88.56
No	43	10.36	54	12.47	97	11.44
Total	415	100.00	433	100.00	848	100.00

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

4.3 Evaluation of the project outcomes against the OECD/DAC criteria

4.3.1 Relevance

Relevance is one of the five OECD/DAC criteria that focuses on the extent to which the objectives of a development intervention are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, country needs, global priorities and partner' and donor's policies. It also considers other approaches that may have been better suited to address the identified needs. Hence, the relevance of the Berchi project was rigorously assessed as to what extent it has been an appropriate response to the socio-economic problems as well as short and long term development goals of the beneficiary communities, and consistent with the policies being implemented so far.

Besides the bald stipulations of the national constitution that vividly underlines the citizenry rights including the equitable participation, representation and distribution of socio-economic benefits to women, the food security strategy of FDRE also aims at achieving food security at household and community level while giving emphasis to women empowerment. It also underscores the significance of support from NGOs and aid agencies and gives emphasis to effective coordination of these partners in order to achieve the envisaged goals. The Growth and Transformation Plan of FDRE (GTP1) in turn emphasizes that sustained and equitable socio-economic development, in general and household food security, in particular can happen only if women and youth are supported and take an active part in the development process and hence strategies to realize their participation and equitable control over resources have been spelt out.

Concomitant to this, the Berchi project intervention was also devised based on the logic that household food security can be achieved if women are given opportunity to have access to and control over productive resources while transforming the deep-rooted socio cultural barriers that hamper their effective participation. Thus, from the document review findings, it is evident that the Berchi intervention is well aligned and relevant to the broader policy context with respect to food security and women empowerment. The qualitative study responses have also shown that relevance of the project is well evident in a number of facets. Besides its alignment to the broader national policies, the project was designed based on the base line survey that suitably identified the felt needs of the project beneficiary communities and hence it was a timely response to the needs of the targeted poor. Evidences from key informants and expert interviews in both two *Weredas* of the study have also shown that the pre-intervention phase of the project was participatory.

The planning process was undertaken in consultation with multiple local level stakeholders whereby their views and priorities were recognized and incorporated. It was also aligned to the development plans and activities of the *Wereda* government and in line with the local institutional set up in terms of implementing the targets. The responses from the KIIs, EIs, and FGDs have consistently indicated that the design was based on identifying the pressing needs of the food insecure population who have already been recruits of the productive safety net program.

On top of its relevance to the local community needs and broader national policy objectives, *Wereda* sector offices strongly favored its relevance in terms of their respective sectoral mandates. The *Wereda* ARD office sees it as a capacity enhancing opportunity to the achievement of its rural and agricultural development goals underscoring that the training and awareness raising activities of Berchi have been contributive in facilitating agricultural extension by mitigating gender imbalances, broadening livelihood activities, engaging men and women, and above all, raising participation (See Annex 14).

The projects' relevance is also evident with the goals of health and education sectors (See Annex 21). Its emphasis in working towards raising girls' education, enhancing family support to the education of both girls and boys is well aligned with what those two sectors have now been striving for. The justice sector respondents of both *Wereda* (Simada and Ebinat) have also revealed its relevance to what they are doing in their disposal. They stress that Berchi is seen as an opportunity to further strengthen the fight against recurrent gender and home based violence that has been rampant in the *Weredas*. The *Wereda* women and youth affairs office explains its relevance as a golden opportunity to achieve their sectoral objectives.

During the interview, *Wereda* women and children affairs head of Ebinat stressed that, *"the combat towards changing gender norms and drawing collective action for equality has been an arduous job for us. However, thanks to Berchi intervention, we have got an additional impetus towards achieving our sectoral goal of mitigating gender inequality and empowering women"*. They further reiterated that since its commencement, the role of women in socio-economic activities has shown a changing positive trend, which is showing a glimmer of hope towards social equality. Hence, in terms of gender empowerment, Berchi has been credited to be of great relevance being properly aligned to both macro level policy and local level development plans. In short, the relevance of the project to macro level policies and micro level needs as well as institutional capacity is well established from both document reviews, qualitative interview responses and quantitative survey results.

4.3.2 Effectiveness

Project effectiveness refers to the extent to which the project's objectives were achieved, taking into account their relative importance. It involves the assessment of project capacity to do the right things. In short, the study attempted to answer whether the project was heading towards achievement of the expected results and on the right track as per the initial plan.

Both the document review and qualitative information indicated that the planning phase of the project was undertaken on progressive fashion involving those who have a stake in the project. Local institutions and targeted communities took part in the planning process and subsequent capacity building activities were carried out to facilitate easier implementation of the project (See Table 4.11 and Annex 12). As shown in the Table 4.11, the perception of women reporting on service provision was 65.8 % during the baseline sample and increased to 84.56 % in the end line. Besides, perception of women reporting on service provision has increased across the sample groups. In this regard, the cooperation among stakeholders on the implementation of the Berchi project can be the reason for improvements on the service provisions.

Table 4. 11 The percentage of women reporting their perception on service provision

Response category	Additional sample (new) ¹³ (n=300)	End line sample (EL1) (n=548) ¹⁴	End line total sample (EL2) (n=848) ¹⁵	Base line sample (BL) (n=493) ¹⁶
% of female reporting "the courts are effective and fair"	84.17	86.95	84.56	65.8
% of female reporting "health extension workers available with good advice"	77.70	65.47	68.97	60.1
% of female reporting "police available and effective"	73.88	65.19	67.71	54.5
% of female reporting "representatives available with good advice"	54.77	43.47	47.73	33.7
% of female reporting "traditional leaders are effective and fair"	83.33	78.51	78.52	60.2
% of female reporting Wereda "administrators are accessible and give good support"	57.96	43.44	46.37	44.7
% of female reporting <i>Kebele</i> "administrators are accessible and give good support"	71.33	97.50	66.21	54.9

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

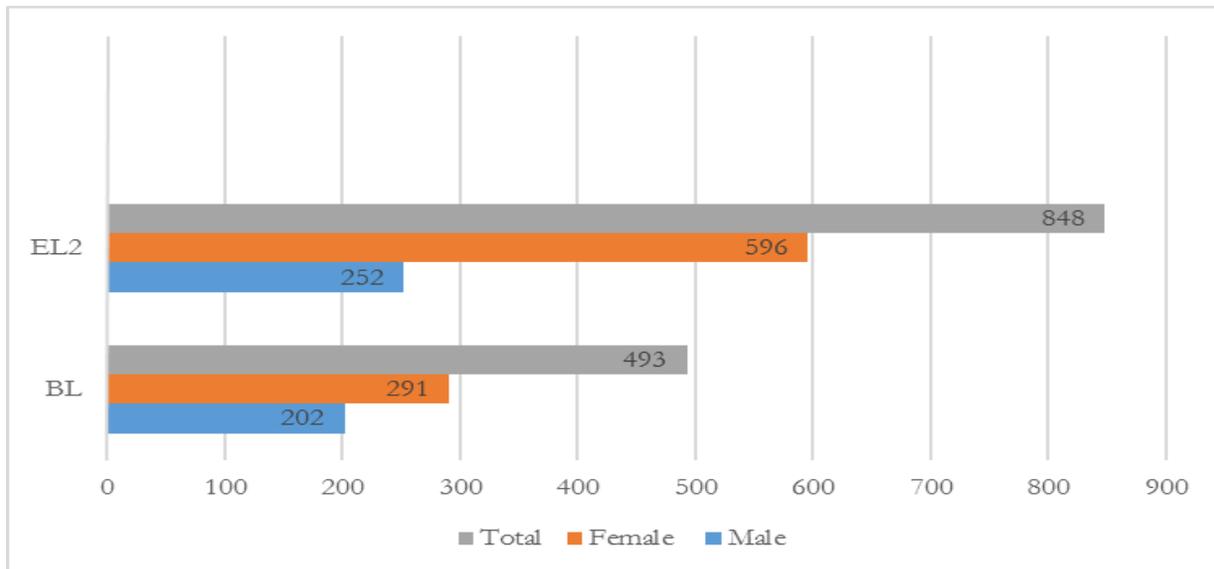
Women and men respondents in those two *Weredas* affirm that the consecutive capacity building trainings have enhanced their capacity to claim their rights, baldly confront with the men counterparts with regard to gender issues, effectively challenge the entrenched social norms as well as gender role assignments that have long been detrimental for women equality. As shown in Figure 6, the proportion of women's participation in VSLA, SAA & other social affairs have increased from 202 (40.97%) during the base line to 596 (70.28%) in the end line (n=848). It also showed an increase across the sample groups (Figure 4). This figure can be an indicator that the Berchi project has enhanced women's participation in number of social affairs. The project has also contributed to the increased participation of male counterparts.

¹³ This refers to the sample households added to capture the psychosocial components of the project, which was not included during the baseline study among the studied *Kebeles*. For the discussion purpose, we used new to indicate the additional sample households where (n=300) across the report.

¹⁴ This is to indicate the total sample determined for the end line evaluation and we agreed during the kick off meeting (n=550), in the report, we used EL1 to indicate the end line (EL1) sample. Two households were missing and we used (n=548) as a final sample throughout the report.

¹⁵ This is to indicate the total sample households involved in the end line evaluation, which is the aggregate of the new sample and end line sample 1 (300+ 548=848). In the report, we used EL2 to indicate the total end line sample (EL2).

¹⁶ This is to indicate the total sample households involved during the base line study. In the report, we used BL to indicate the total base line sample (BL) where (n=493).



Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Figure 4 The proportion of women's participation by sample groups

As indicated in the progress reports of CARE, and confirmed by the local respondents, Berchi has been instrumental to challenge gender imbalance that was one of the major cause for poverty and destitution. One of the participants in the FGD provided evidence on how the project has been effective in changing the age-old practice of gender based role assignment in the locality. She goes on saying the following:

"It was in the middle of rainy June month that my dad had a quarrel with the other person in the neighborhood in which case my father was taken by the justice bodies to the local prison. Consequently, there was no one to carry out the farming activities, as it was an intense period of sowing crops. It was a good coincidence that I had taken training on gender empowerment prepared by Berchi and they thought us that men and women are equal and women can effectively undertake tasks that are conventionally assumed to be specific to men. As my dad was taken to prison, I was scared that the family could be starved in the coming season if we fail to manage sowing the crops before the rainy season ends. Hence, I decided to deploy the oxen into the field and begun ploughing the farm, which caused an immediate violent reaction from the local people including women, let alone men. However, it did not scare me. I was rather courageous and kept on ploughing until I had fully covered the land with the seeds and fertilizers, which my dad had already collected. Consequently, what we were thought by CARE became practical and nullified the old adage that women are destined to work around a smoky stove. Finally, all women and men in our vicinity came to prove that farming is not God's exclusive assignment to men, and believed that women can take part in productive works like men. Hence, nowadays, there are other women who are working in the field with their husbands and enjoying the fruits of their efforts, thanks to Berchi." (FGD with FHHs Simada, August 2015).

According to the field survey, out of the sampled respondents (n=848), over 66 % of the respondents are women. Since poor women are the targets of the project, they are not short of enumerating the benefits that have been achieved in the short period since the intervention. Apart from awareness creation on changing roles and norms, there are numerous benefits as promises of further economic empowerment. (See Table 4.2; Figure 4 and 5).

From households' self-reported average total income, which is obtained from listed income sources, FHHs average total income was 2574.45 birr and this amount has increased to 4197.59 birr (n=848). FHHs have also shown improvements when sample groups are compared and it is 4360.88 (n=548) and 3887.69 birr (n=300). Similarly, the average total income of landless households has increased from 2485.43 birr during the base line to 4225.306 birr in the end line. The increase in the households' income is due to diversification in the livelihood activities, in this regard, Berchi's positive contribution towards livelihood diversification through different IGAs is highly appreciated.

Table 4. 12 Average total income of respondents from listed sources by sample groups

Average total income by sex	New (n=300)	EL1 (n=548)	EL2 (n=848)	BL (n=493)
Average total income from listed sources	3902.54	4422.02	4237.86	4761.08
Average total income for FHH	3887.69	4360.88	4197.59	2574.45
Average total income for MHH	3932.26	4561.29	4325.40	6002.62
Average total income for Landless	4242.03	4225.31	4225.306	2485.43

Source: TZBMC computation based on field data (November 2015)

It is evident that the number of households reporting on the increased sources of income as compared to the baseline figure is very interesting, indicating the positive contribution of the project in diversifying households' sources of income (Table 4. 13). Therefore, it can be said that the Berchi project has not only positively contributed towards change in the household income levels but also enabled households to diversify their sources of income, this in turn contributed to the improvements in the households' livelihood.

Table 4. 13 The proportion of household heads and respondents reporting on income source by sample

Response category	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of households reporting income sources	279	508	787	493
Number of FHH reporting income sources	186	353	539	189
Number of MHH reporting income sources	93	155	248	304
Number of female respondents reporting income sources	179	326	505	291
Number of male respondents reporting income sources	100	182	282	202
Number of landless households reporting income sources	62	134	196	96

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Moreover, as the qualitative extract indicates that the poor women have been provided with fruit seedlings, fertilizers, selected seeds, and access to credit. They were also provided with goats and sheep so that they can own productive assets. Their involvement in IGAs and owning productive assets complemented by the organized debates and discussions regarding the benefits of obliterating gender inequality have been instrumental in developing enthusiasm among their male counterparts as those economic gains are changing the livelihood conditions of the entire family. The earlier stubborn

resistance towards participation of women in productive activities has now been gradually calming down as men have been able to observe and share the benefits attributed to women's engagement.

The VSLA organization has been the foremost component of the project that is a key in its instrumentality towards achieving both social and economic goals (See Annex 26). The progress reports of CARE indicated that in 2013, initial year, there were 130 VSLAs organized comprising a total membership of 2366, with 73% are women. Whereas in 2014, the report shows that the number of organizations grew to 395 with a total figure of members showing an increase to 7717, out of which 4998 are women. Within these periods, the VSLA has been effective in promoting women representation at leadership positions while two of the five VSLA leaders were women in 2013. The social debates and discussions, the gender sensitivity trainings, and related capacity enhancements were also pivotal in paving ways for women empowerment.

The VSLA has been able to mobilize savings and introduced micro credits to the crucial demands of men and women thereby introducing the culture of institutionalized saving and credit in which social capital plays a greater role instead of formal deed- based collateral for loan repayment. The manageable size and easier access of the loans makes it ideal in that those social problems that cannot be easily addressed by highly formalized institutional financing system are addressed by the VSLA system. Hence, the beneficiaries find it the best fit for their micro needs at micro levels. As the respondent in Simada expresses, it is like their '*Guada*' for saving their pennies, and like their '*Mekene*' for crucial spending providing them with the freedom to get access to money when they face pressing problems.

4.3.3. Project Efficiency

As a focus of the project, the target beneficiary groups of the *Berchi* project were the PSNP households; over its life and it planned to work with 11,000 households of which 2,000 households were expected to be graduated from the PSNP with the project intervention. From the time perspective, the *Berchi*-project formally came on-line in July 2013 and it was planned to be implemented in 26 *Kebeles*, including for the FSF project with the same project management team under CARE.

Given the background information about the *Berchi* project, in many of the development intervention projects carried out by donors', project efficiency is mostly about to what extent the results have been delivered in the least costly manner. It also ties to evaluate the magnitude of the resources spent on the project and the scale and magnitude of the benefits achieved from the intervention. Accordingly, qualitative information was gathered from individuals involved in the end line evaluation. However, project efficiency by its nature is about the funds, people, material, and time, thus, many of the information we obtained were from those individuals who had access to such information and a stake in the resource utilization, including the CARE project staff.

According to the field information, although the *Berchi* project implementation came lately from the time stated in the project document, given project impacts on the beneficiaries, results achieved, and factors for the proper utilization of resources, it can be said that the project is efficient. In this regard, as reported by the participants, it is evident to say the project is efficient as it undertakes its various activities with limited human and material resources while giving due emphasis to the empowerment of the most vulnerable women, chronically food insecure, and households with livelihood impoverishments. The discussants and key informants indicated that *Berchi*'s project efficiency is mainly resulted from factors that positively contributed to the proper and effective use of all its resources allocated. The factors include, first, the project has been

implemented using the existing government administrative structure ranging from region to local level. It is highly aligned with the prevailing needs and interests of the government at different tiers of administration as well as the deep-rooted multifaceted problems of the beneficiary communities. For instance, many of the capacity building trainings had been given in consultation with and using the experts of the joint facilitating sector offices such as *Wereda* Children, Youth and Women Affairs Office, *Wereda* ARD Office, Cooperative Promotion Office, *Wereda* ACSI, *Wereda* Justice Office, and many others (See Annex C).

Moreover, as reported, the involvement of government and target beneficiary households contributed much to project efficiency. For instance, during the purchase of oxen and goats provided to the beneficiary women with the ideas of 'revolving fund' and subsequent asset transfer, the project office played more of a facilitation role while a committee comprising representatives from government office and communities purchased the assets. Therefore, the use of the existing governance structure and working modalities has facilitated and contributed to the efficient utilization of human, material, and financial resources allocated for the Berchi, which otherwise could have required additional resources and platform of implementation, if it followed a different structure and modalities of implementation. Second, the strong commitment and diligence of CARE staff deployed to undertake the project activities at all levels ranging from the head office to the local level, including the community facilitators.

It was observed that CARE field staff were highly committed and working using the most potential for the best interest of the beneficiaries. In this regard, some of the participants reported that given the limited resources allocated to the project, the field realities revealed that the possibilities of achieving diversified and fruitful results in spite of the resource challenges, but the importance of committed field staff has taken seriously. Thus, this can be considered as a key lesson, which will serve as input while designing a new project. Third, the establishments of CARE's own groups such as VSLA, SAA and others have strongly contributed for easy dissemination and sharing of project benefits, new ideas and information among the beneficiary communities, which would have needed more time, financial resources and human resource to train and reach at respective geographical setting. These groups were important platforms upon which project ideas, benefits, and challenges were discussed and shared easily among the beneficiaries in all *Kebeles* of the two *Weredas*. Regarding the various groups established by CARE and their importance, most of the interviewed respondents indicated that discussions at VSLA, SAA and frequent contacts as well as capacity building trainings served as catalyst and enabled the project owner to properly utilize resources allocated for the intended purposes (See Annex 26). Fourth, since CARE has been following and implementing its various projects such as FSF, Berchi, and others through the existing governance structure and modalities as well as on the PSNP beneficiary communities and thus, there have been positive responses to the project, supports and good coordination among the joint facilitating sector offices, which enhanced the efficiency of the project. Although the support and coordination among the joint facilitating offices at different tiers of administration vary depending on the roles each office and/or sector office plays, the positive responses to the project and ownership at the grassroots level partly contributed the project implementation to be least costly.

Fifth, before the launching of the project, baseline assessment was carried out in the project implementation *Kebeles* and *Weredas*. Apart from this, there have been various workshops, capacity building trainings, and experiences sharing platforms at different times within the project lifespan. Therefore, the discussions and sharing of experiences enabled CARE to wisely use the various resources allocated for the Berchi project. Sixth, as reported by the CFs, DAs, and CARE field staff, the project implementation followed a strict monitoring and evaluation approaches along with the accountability, transparency and commitment of the

staff, thus, altogether heightened the efficiency of the project and targeted towards the goals and expected results stipulated in the project document. In general, although the project implementation came lately, it is possible to draw some lessons in terms of project efficiency as evidenced with the project impacts and achievements of the expected results discussed in various sections of the report.

4.3.4. Project Sustainability

Sustainability is the other OECD-DAC evaluation criterion that is concerned with measuring whether the benefits of an activity are likely to continue after donor funding has been withdrawn. According to the qualitative information and the views of the respondents, the benefits and outcomes of the Berchi project continuity in the absence of the donor agency are summarized as follows.

First, the motivation, inspiration, and the "culture of saving" being practiced will continue in the absence of the donor agency. In this regard, one of the participant in the FGD expressed his views as *"people become bold to face challenges and struggle to make their future better than today."* (FGD at Kebele Taskforce, Ebinat, August 2015). Moreover, in all project sites visited, participation of beneficiary households and the enthusiasm was observed to be very high. Therefore, such ideas and the inspiration created will sustain regardless of who coordinates it.

Second, the multiple discussions of SAA (Annex 26) focusing on harmful socio-cultural practices, benefits of such discussions in abolishing gender-based violence (Annex 14) and the structure within which the SAA operates and the bylaws developed will continue. In this regard, it was reported that the agenda of discussions in the SAA were those issues that different sectors offices tried to address the socio-cultural challenges of the poor households mainly women in various forums. However, for different reasons the earlier efforts by activists and advocators of such an agenda could not be bring the expected results. On the other hand, as indicated by the beneficiary households, the ways in which the SAA discussion forum is organized, themes of discussions and modalities were participatory. It also gave room to diverse groups of the society, including, the youth, women, men, girls, religious leaders, and elders of the community. Thus, such an inclusive approach has contributed for the positive results achieved and put the foundation of its sustainability.

Third, the previous destitute and dependent women's involvement in IGAs in many of the study *Kebeles* will continue as exemplary women's are here and there (Annex 2, 4, and 5). This is mainly because the explicit goal of the poor household is to come out of poverty. Concerning this, the bylaws women developed in the VSLAs for saving and giving credit need to be nurtured since what the VSLAs do are based on trust and reciprocity. Therefore, it is important to promote the VSLA to have a legal base for it to be more effective. Complementing this view, one of the key informants commented the sustainability as noted below:

"The community is well aware of the benefit of the project activities. Therefore, I have no doubt about its sustainability. However, there should be a strong follow up and monitoring by the concerned government body. In fact, the change is not 100% and thus, there should be a continuous awareness creation program" (Interview with Kebele Administrator, Ziha Kebele, Ebinat, August 2015).

Forth, although the participation of sector offices and the capacity to jointly implement the Berchi project was at its infant stage, the local capacity of sector offices particularly the office of the ARD, Women, Youth and Children Affair Office and the commitment of *Wereda* and *Kebele* Administrations towards the benefits will continue (Annex 12 and Table 4.13). Supporting this idea, one of the key informants noted his views on the project suitability as indicated below.

“The community is well aware of the benefit of the project activities. Therefore, I have no doubt about its sustainability. However, there should also be a strong follow up and monitoring by the concerned government body. In fact, the change is not 100%; so there should be a continuous awareness creation program.” (Interview with Kebele Administrator, Tara Semba Keble, Ebinat, August 2015).

However, the partnership and coordination among the long listed sector offices at different tiers will be challenging since it is at its earliest stage of togetherness. In this regard, one of the key informants highlighted his fear on the project sustainability as follows:

“We use the project activities as strategy to easily implement the government activities. However, my fear is that, as the project activity is limited to 22 Kebeles, unless and otherwise it covers the whole Kebeles of the Wereda, the project may not bring a comprehensive change and so put the project sustainability at risk.” (Interview with DA, Simda, August 2015).

Moreover, the unintended impacts of the project intervention ("dependency syndrome") mainly among the experts and beneficiary households will create certain level of threats to the project sustainability. In this case, the sustainability of frequent meetings, workshops, and experiences sharing forums will be challenging given the attachments with personal benefits due to the “dependency syndrome.” In view of this, one of the experts noted his fear as follows:

“Though we know well about the value of saving and the benefit out of the SAA discussion, to sustain the project activity, it is good for the government to build our existing capacity in terms of material or training. This is because; the capacity that we have now may not be a guarantee for sustaining those activities of the project” (Expert interview in Ebinat, August 2015).

Generally, the benefits and outcomes of the project intervention discussed above include both the positive impacts and the unintended one that will not continue in the absence of the donor agency.

4.4. Expected results (ERs)

The Berchi project as stipulated in the project document had the general objective to empower chronically food insecure women to be able to achieve sustainable livelihood security. As project intervention, it was aimed to contribute towards social transformation that supports gender equality and women’s empowerment in Amhara Region. The project had four expected results areas. These include, women have equitable access and control over productive assets to ensure their livelihood security (ER1); meaningful representation and participation of women at all levels (ER2); transform key institutional and socio-cultural norms, relations, and attitudes for gender equality (ER3); and promote key learning and impact measurement for women’s empowerment (ER4). Therefore, this section of the report discusses the major findings in relation to the expected results and extracted figures for project impacts. It attempts to measure how much difference the project made. Even if it is difficult to measure the impact of Berchi project given the short time span of its implementation, based on the qualitative information and quantitative data gathered from the field, we tried to see those aspects of lasting and meaningful changes in terms of social, economic, culture and practice, norms and relationships among many others that have been seen and directly attributed to the project intervention. Hence, impact in this context was assessed in relative terms. In the discussion, the findings of qualitative studies are integrated with the quantitative survey in order to have the broader picture of Berchi end line evaluation.

4.4.1. Expected Result 1: Enabling women to have equitable access and control over productive assets

a) Putting institutional arrangements and flexible working mechanisms for women's access to and control over resources

The project facilitates the graduation of chronically food insecure women and men from PSNP food/cash transfers and seeks to empower women. In so doing, there have been important steps undertaken towards attainment of the result. The asset transfer modality and local procurement procedures have been prepared and approved by organizing a zonal level consultative workshop that is a different arrangement of revolving scheme where the first target beneficiaries receiving support will repay back to the second beneficiaries through the facilitation of their VSLA group and the *Kebele* level food security taskforce. This is viewed as a flexible mechanism to allow the fund to revolve within the VSLA group for similar purposes with a social repayment enforcement mechanism as opposed to both rigid bureaucratic bottleneck that could hamper easy facilitation and that of free handout, which could lead to defaulters. In a similar manner, for flexibility purposes, the project has got an approval for the local procurement procedure of the inputs for the beneficiaries. These preliminary steps have paramount importance in attaining the result.

It guarantees transfer of resources within the community and promotes flexible and socially suited law enforcement in facilitating saving and credit. Hence, this has been a corner stone for the effectiveness of the VSLA institution both in terms of achieving social cohesion that in turn contributes to women's access and control over resources as well as to guarantee resource security in terms of mitigating unnecessary defaulting. The responses from the key informants and community FGDs have indicated that formation of the VSLA and putting in place flexible and effective working procedures have been helpful to women to ensure equitable access and control over locally available resources.

b) Women's equitable access to resources

Regarding any development project intervention, income is one of the outcome variables commonly used in order to track the impact of the project on the beneficiary households. Households self-reported income and expenditure from all sample HHs show that the estimated average annual income of households three years ago was (2018.17 *Birr*, n=787). In the same year, households minimum average estimated annual income was 350 *Birr* and the maximum was 11, 000 *Birr*. On the other hand, the current estimated average annual income of households is (4237.86 *Birr*, n=787).

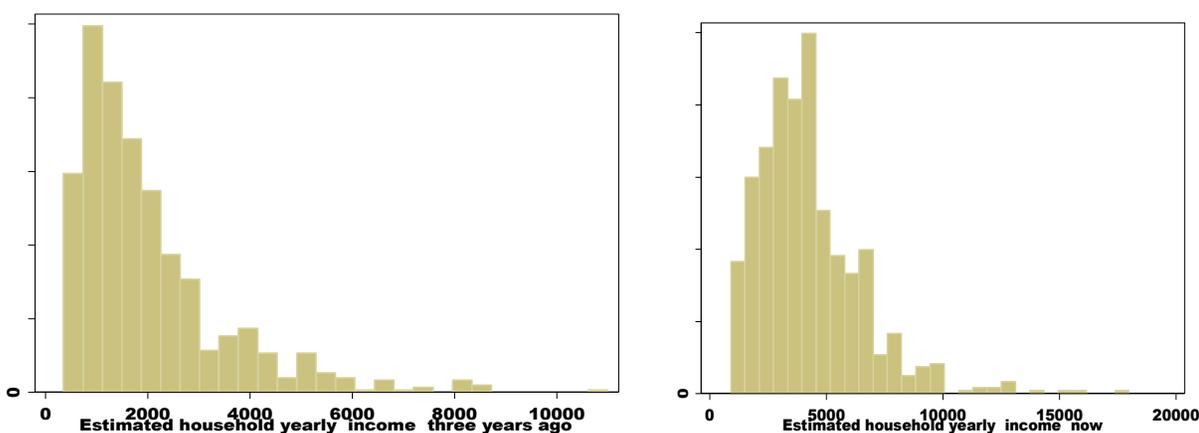
In this year, households' minimum estimated annual average income is 900, which is more than twice of the minimum household estimated annual average income three years ago. Currently, the maximum estimated annual average income is 18, 000 *Birr*. In this regard, Figure 5 shows that majority of households three years ago were earning between 2000 to 4000 *Birr* a year. Furthermore, a paired t-test was used to see significant differences in the income level of HHs before and after the project intervention, the paired t-test result shows that there is a statistically significant difference, that has been observed in the income level of households in two scenarios (before Mean =2018.17 *birr* and after mean=4237.86), where the t value is (43.08***). However, the figure has almost been doubled after the project intervention, although it is not exclusively attributed to the Berchi project intervention. In other words, there is no dispute that Berchi project has positively contributed to improvement in the household income through the diversification of livelihood activities (See Section 4.3.4).

Table 4. 14 Descriptive statistics of project beneficiaries' income and expenditure before and after the project

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Income before	787	2018.17	1491.896	350	11000
Income after	787	4237.86	2227.523	900	18000
Expenditure before	787	1606.80	1159.043	300	7500
Expenditure after	787	2791.55	1652.785	500	12600

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

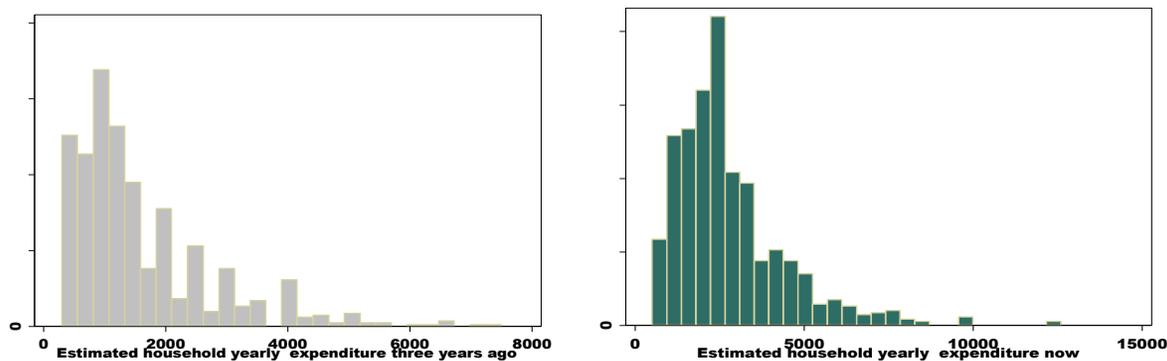
* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$



Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Figure 5 Households' income before and after the project intervention

Regarding the households' expenditure before and after the project intervention, the field data shows different pattern of expenditure. For example, although households had sources of income before the project, most of them were spending and had limited saving. However, after the project intervention, beneficiary households' have diversified by engaging in different income generating activities, which as a result contributed to improve households' income level. Moreover, due to various trainings on business management, savings, and others, households are able to save out of their earnings as opposed to what they used to do before the project intervention. Therefore, the correlation coefficient indicates that there was strong positive correlation between ($r=0.90^{***}$) income of the households and expenditure. Meaning, much of the households' income were used for consumption purpose and/or non-productive investment. Although there is a strong positive correlation between households' income level and expenditure after the project intervention, the correlation coefficient compared with before the project intervention shows that there is a decrease in expenditure mainly due to change in saving ($r=0.89^{***}$). In this regard, the local respondents acknowledge Berchi project relevance with the government's objective of mobilizing rural saving for sustained rural development, as the VSLA is not only an effective finance mobilization scheme, but also found to be a hub of promising social transformation agenda. In the case, it is possible to infer that the Berchi project has positively contributed in terms of improving households' income level through livelihood diversification and enhanced "saving culture", through micro saving schemes introduced.



Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Figure 6 Households' expenditure before and after the project intervention

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Table 4. 15 Descriptive statistics of expenditure, and correlation between income and expenditure before and after the project

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Expenditure before	787	1606.80	1159.043	300	7500
Expenditure after	787	2791.55	1652.785	500	12600
Income before	787	($r=0.90$) ***	Income after	787	($r=0.89$) ***
Expenditure before	787		Expenditure after	787	

Source: TZBMC computation based on the field data (November 2015)

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Although the qualitative report based on responses from both women and male respondents at local level challenged the conclusion of women's equitable access to resources, what has been done by Berchi has changed the previous scenario in which women had been neglected from economic resources. In this regard, the practical changes in terms of women's access to resources as reported by beneficiary households, it can be argued that Berchi project has positively contributed towards the expected result 1. As shown in Annex 2, the number of female headed households reporting on income level from different sources has significantly increased due to the project intervention. The proportion of FHHs reporting income from different sources were 189 (38.33%) during the base line survey, however, due to the project the proportion of FHHs has increased to 539 (63.56%). On the other hand, the proportion of MHHs reporting income level from different sources has decreased compared to the baseline figure. This is because the proportion of MHHs during the base line was greater than it is in the end line. The proportion of MHHs reporting income from different sources were 304 (61.66%) during the base line survey, however, due to the female focused targeting of the project, the proportion of MHHs decreased to 248 (29.24%). This figure indicates that the focus of Berchi project was on females and female headed households, which is consistent with the premises of the project and mostly benefited poor females and female headed households. The average reported annual income per adult equivalent household member was zero at the baseline, however, the figure has significantly changed during the end line evaluation. In this regard, annual income per adult equivalent for the end line sample is (2537.82 birr) (n=848). Moreover, the percentage HHs reporting more than 400 birr per year per adult equivalent has significantly changed and the percentage for the sample categories are summarized as in

Table 4.16. When exploring the national level economic progress, the economy has been growing at an average rate of 10.9 since 2003/04. GDP per capita income has also increased from 110 USD in 2002 to 632 USD in 2013/14 (MoFED, 2014). Using a recent conservative estimate, the incidence of poverty declined from 29.6 % in 2011 and estimated to further declined to 25.1 per cent in 2014 and 23.4 per cent in 2015 (UNDP, 2015). Such remarkable changes have occurred in all regional states and both rural and urban areas, though the level of decline is not uniform across these settings. Moreover, Ethiopia is one of the countries that responded positively to the Millennium Declaration of the 2000 and on track to achieve six of the eight MDGs-the two exceptions being MDGs 3 and 5 (UNDP, 2015). These encouraging results are registered partly because of aggressive government interventions in multiple fronts. The focus of the government on broad-based growth and poverty reduction is also underscored in the series of poverty reduction programs introduced since early 2000s as part of the of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These programmes include Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme (SDPRP) (2002/03-2004/05), Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) (2005/06-2009/10) and the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) (2010/11-2014/15) (MoFED, 2013). Therefore, it is possible to infer that the project intervention has strong impact on households' income base and improvements on households wellbeing, which can also be attributed to the trickle-down effects from the broader national level development endeavors.

Table 4. 16 Graduation threshold by sample groups

Graduation threshold	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Average reported annual income per adult equivalent household member	2331.49	2642.30	2537.82	0
Percentage of these reporting more than 400 birr per year per adult equivalent HH member	79.33%(238)	84.72%(466)	99.43%(704)	%(N)

Source: TZBMC computation based on field data (November 2015)

The improvements on the beneficiaries' livelihoods, food security status, women access to resources, women's participation in various social affairs such as the VSAL, SAA, *Iddir*, *Equib*, and community on matters that have been obstacles to their existence are not a mere saying (See Annex 26). Rather, they are observable and changes that gave rooms of hopes for better improvements and promising changes to be further realized in years ahead of us and even in the absence of the donor agency. The Berchi project has contributed in many regards to those women's who were highly dependent on the PSNP support and considered as chronically poor and vulnerable to various shocks or stresses in the locality. In this regard, extract from qualitative information generated through various tools reported the changes that have seen on the lives on the beneficiary women and households. Concerning the practical changes that Berchi project brought into her life, one of the participants in the FGD indicated the changes as follows:

Box 1 The experience of a destitute woman yet changed

I divorced from my husband five years ago. I was living in a very destitute condition. More specifically, I was highly dependent on Safety net program, which did not bring any change in my life. I was responsible to take care of two of my children. Therefore, following my participation in the CARE introduced Berchi project, I have been engaged in different IGAs, to mention few, I prepare and sell 'Tella' (local beer), grow cereals, and fruits, which I sell in the local market. Thus, due to this, I am able to have my own income, which I use it for my pressing needs at household and community level, particularly to participate in social affairs such as *Iddir*, *Equib*, and *Mabber*. Now, I save in the VSLA and receive when I am in need of money from my saving, use that money for the IGAs that changed my life" (FGD at Ziha Kebele, Ebinat).



E.g., Care introduced 'culture of saving'



Source: Filed Observation: Photo by TZBMC (August 2015)

Photo 1 After the FGD with "Addis Alem" (New World) VSLA in Ziha Kebele, Ebinat and Care introduced "Culture of saving"

Therefore, due such an engagement into the IGAs, the discussants of FGDs and beneficiaries through other techniques reported that, the project contributed not only in terms of women's involvement into IGAs but also in terms "introducing the culture of saving." In this case, an extract from the FGD revealed, *"the project helped us to develop saving culture among the community. In our VSLA named 'Gize werk' (time is gold), we save money twice a month in the day of 'Abo'¹⁷ and 'Bale-egziababeber'¹⁸. When we are in need of money for different IGAs, we take credit and pay it back within the defined time frame of the VSLA. Currently, we have 11,408 birr in our VSLA account. We are 23 in number. Our VSLA is a strong association, which can be taken as a role model to other associations of our Kebele or other Kebeles"* (FGD at Jemanderegaha Kebele, Ebinat, August 2015).

This quote highlights that if we work on the mind of the people, it is possible to promote the "culture of saving" even among the poor households.

¹⁷ The 5th day of a month commemorating saint 'Abo' in Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

¹⁸ The 29th day of a month commemorating as 'God's day' in Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

One of the indicators used to measure women’s access to resources and control over was the proportion of women reporting access to services and public resources. Concerning the field data, the percentage of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible for agricultural extension services has increased from 59.17 % in the base line to 79.02 % in the end line (n=848). When the percentage of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible" for health extension services is compared with the base line figure, it has slightly increased from 64.80 % in the base line to 73.32 % in the end line (n=848). By the same token, percentage of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible" for micro-finance services has significantly increased from 23.18 % during the base line to 69.63 % in the end line (n=848). On the account of this, it can be concluded that the beneficiary households have had not only access to and control over productive resources but also have improved access to services and public resources (See also Annex 12).

Table 4. 17 Access to services and public resources

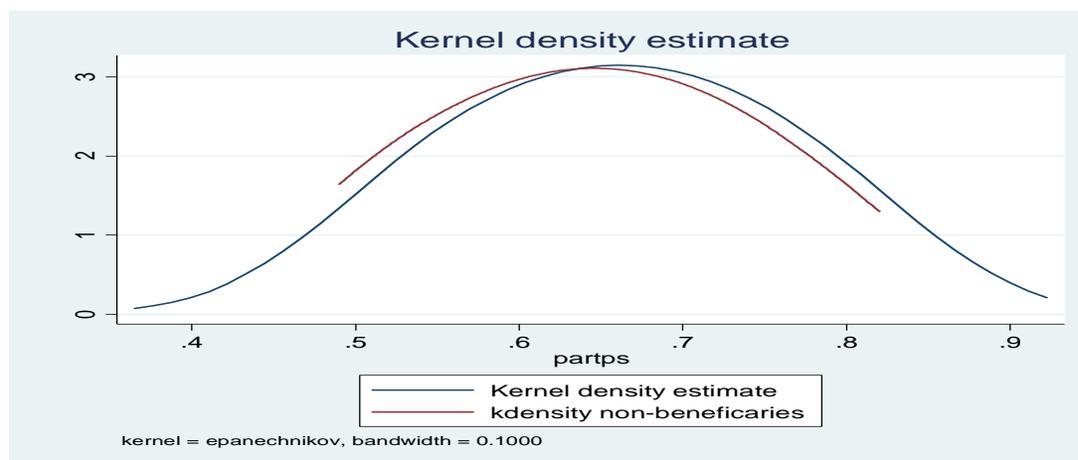
Response category	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible for agricultural extension services	82.43	77.23	79.02	59.17
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible" for health extension services	78.04	70.84	73.32	64.80
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible" for micro-finance services	76.09	66.24	69.63	23.18
Percent of female respondents reporting "resource available and accessible" for common property land	46.82	16.45	26.93	19.35

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

In order to track project impacts on the beneficiary household’s wellbeing, the propensity score matching (PMS) was applied to see the differences in the wellbeing between the newly added sample group and the end line sample. The PSM estimators suggest that, on average, the project is likely to increase the income of beneficiaries. The two matching methods differ in statistical significance but give coefficients that are the same in direction, which generally indicates that the project has a positive effect on the outcome variables. The Kernel estimate (our choice matching algorithm) yielded significant and positive coefficients of the project’s impact on the two selected outcome variables—income and consumption. Thus, on average, the project increases the income of project beneficiaries by 655.75 *Birr*, statistically significant at less than 1 % level (Table 4.18). Likewise, the project increases the income per adult equivalent of beneficiaries by 461.14 *birr* when compared to non-beneficiaries¹⁹.

¹⁹ In this case, it is assumed that the newly added sample *Kebeles* and households of the *Kebeles* may stand for non-beneficiary households for the purpose of applying the PSM, which is to explore the differences in the wellbeing between the newly added sample group and the end line sample HHs. However, given that the project intervention has been carried out in all the *Kebeles* of the two *Weredas*, in practical terms obtaining HHs as an exact control group is problematic. This, therefore, should not lead to erroneous understanding on the control group (non-beneficiaries) used for the purpose of fitting the PSM.

The results for consumption (used here as a proxy for welfare), also indicates similar coefficients with that of income. Thus, being a project beneficiary, on average increases annual consumption level by 397 birr as compared to being a non-beneficiary. These results strongly suggest that the Berchi project is successful in achieving both its short-term and long-term targets of economic empowerment of women since most of its project beneficiaries are female-headed households. This in turn, will have a positive spillover effect on the overall development of the targeted communities as higher income and economic empowerment of women lead to improvements in social empowerment, betterment of sanitation and health status of families and children as well as more access to education.



Source: TZBMC computation based on field data (November 2015)

Figure 7 Propensity score distribution among treatment and comparison observations²⁰

Table 4. 18 Summary of average impact of the project on income and consumption: nearest neighbor matching

	(1) Annual total income	(2) Annual total income/AE	(3) Annual Consumption	(4) Monthly Household consumption
ATT	435.911**	375.365*	237.647	19.804
SE	233.499	182.401	183.710	12.094
t-statistics	1.867	2.058	1.294	1.294
No. treated	433	433	433	433
No. control	158	132	158	158

Source: TZBMC computation based on field data (November 2015)

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

²⁰ Kernel distance estimate shows that there is a common support and/or matching between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.

Table 4. 19 Summary of average impact of the project on income and consumption: Kernel Matching

	(1) Annual total income	(2) Annual total income/AE	(3) Annual Consumption	(4) Monthly Household consumption
ATT	665.750***	461.143***	396.699**	33.058**
SE	166.877	138.543	149.973	12.094
t-statistics	3.989	3.329	2.645	2.733
No. treated	433	433	433	433
No.control	227	227	227	227

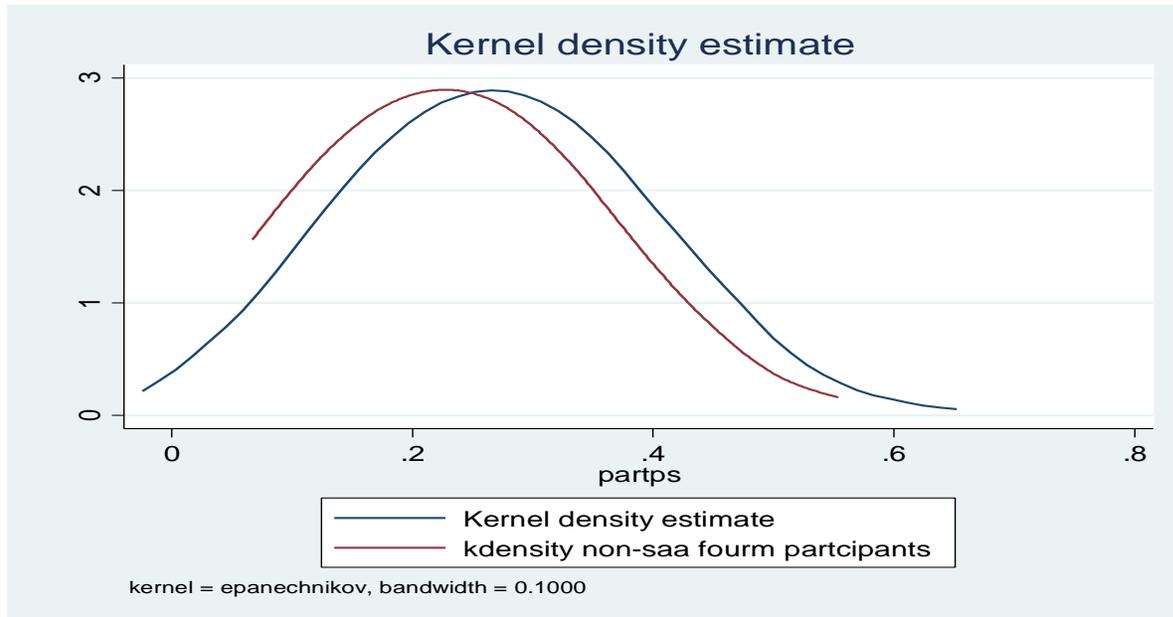
* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Source: TZBMC computation based on field data (November 2015)

A chi-square test was used to check statistically significant difference between participation in the VSLA and current income level, the result revealed that there is significant difference between the income level of those HHs who participate in VSLA and those who do not take part (Chi-square=1358.54*** and df=111 for current income) and (Chi-square=504.38*** and df=1 for VSLA membership). This figure shows that households who participate in VSLA has more access to information and business related ideas, which positively contributed to the enhancement of household income sources and/or diversification of livelihood as compared to their counterparts. Moreover, PSM was used to explore the difference in the income level of those HHs, by taking additional 300 households as a population of interest (sub-sample) for the PSM estimation. According to the PSM²¹, it is evident that for project 1, on average, participation in SAA increases annual income for its beneficiaries by 716.70 Birr ($p < 0.05$). On the other hand, results from the PSM indicated that it is significant and negative, which means that those households that belong to the newly surveyed *Kebeles* and participate in SAA²², on average earn 1018 Birr less than their counterparts ($p < 0.05$). The Kernel density estimate also indicates that fitting the model was appropriate since there is a common and/or support ground between those HHs who take part in SAA and those who do not as part of the project intervention.

²¹ **// the above results are checked by psmatch2 command (Leuven & Sianesi) as well as teffects command (for Stata 13 & 14). The results proved to be consistent across these estimations.

²² In this case, participation in SAA discussion, which is basically the socio-cultural and psychological discussion forum is taken as dummy variable (1, for participation and 0, otherwise) and compared with HHs income, which is a continuous variable. Similarly, it was assumed to explore differences in income level, which is an aggregate of different things, including sharing ideas that contributes to diversify HHs sources of income and the model fitting worked out with the assumption we based on. Thus, it should not induce misunderstanding as why participation in SAA is compared with income and between the participants and its counterparts.



Source: TZBMC computation based on field data (November 2015)²³

Figure 8 Propensity score distribution between treatment and comparison observations

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

On the other hand, supporting the findings from the PSMs, the qualitative results have also vividly indicated the project has had a positive impact on the wellbeing of the beneficiary households. This line of argument is because many of the Berchi beneficiary households were PSNP users. Currently, not a small number of the interviewed respondents reported improvements in their wellbeing, for example, *"we are better off in terms of household food security, access to credit services, and participation in social affairs following the Berchi intervention."* Households also reported that they have diversified their means of living through the IGAs created (Annex 5 and 6). In this regard, it is evident that the various capacity building, skills development, and business management trainings considered as the building block of the sustained benefits of IGAs (Annex 9 and 26).

Apart from the aforementioned evidences, a review from CARE's performance report indicated that a total of 529 (194 female) farmers received agricultural inputs during the reporting period of 2013. The improved seeds were purchased from the local markets, community-based organizations. The practice was found to be encouraging as it contributes to the local economic development and mutual benefit through reciprocity arrangement of serving one-another. The cooperatives are also potential buyers of the products of the beneficiaries thereby contributing to the enhancement of women's access to resources. In each year, CARE field staff take a periodic assessment of how many women are benefiting from the project and those assessments have indicated that the number of women who are benefiting out of it has been showing a positive upward trend. Though the project targets women, it benefited both women and men (the family and the community at large). For example, when they decide on family planning, it is based on the consensus of the wife and the husband (See Annex 17). The resources that women acquire directly go to the wellbeing of

²³ Project1 refers to the Berchi project intervention during the baseline. This excludes the additional 300 households that are added to the end line survey, which can be considered as control observations for analytical purposes. Although SAA is a discussion forum, it was assumed that the treatment variable: SAA participation/ membership (part of the Berchi project) while the outcome variable: total annual income at household level for the purpose of fitting the PSM model.

the entire family. Some women are more caring for their families than others are, and hence brought about significant change in the well-being of their family. Therefore, others are now emulating the exemplary roles of these hardworking women. Even though the fruits of the project, because of its short life span, are not widespread across the entire family and members of the community, it is now evident that most of the beneficiary women have experienced changes in their lives irrespective of difference in magnitude (See Table 4. 15 and Table 4. 16).

c) Women’s control over resources to ensure livelihood security

Unarguably, creating access to resources and productive capital in its own right does not guarantee women’s control over resources, CARE Ethiopia in its Berchi project has undertaken various activities in order to create conducive environment where women can have control over those resources that have already been made accessible to them. Accordingly, the field data indicates that percentage of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from crop sales has increased from 40. 6% in the base line to 54.83 % in the end line (n=848). Thus, the figure indicates that there is a change in women’s inputs into most or all decisions related to income earned from crop sales. From the same Table 4.20, the percentage of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from sales of livestock or poultry has increased from 35.1 % in the base line to 54.19 % in the end line (n=848). Moreover, the percentage of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from sales of nursery products was zero during the base line, however, the percentage has alarmingly changed during in the end line 37.03% (n=848). By the same token, the percentage of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from seed selling has doubled during the base line. Therefore, the figures can indicate the diversification of IGAs undertaken by the project and it has strongly contributed to the increase in household income and income sources, which in turn, increased women’s bargaining power due to their contribution to household income (Annex 3 for more details).

Table 4. 20 Input into income decision-making by sample groups

Response category	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from crop sales	66.66	44.77	54.83	40.6
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from sales of livestock or poultry	55.38	53.33	54.19	35.1
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from sales of nursery products	28.57	40.00	37.03	0
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from seed selling	33.33	66.66	50	25

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Supporting the quantitative findings on the comprehensive impacts of the project on the beneficiary women's, one of the beneficiary in the case study reported the multiple benefits on her life as follows.

Box 2 Previously a destitute woman, currently the happiest VSLA (‘Addis Alem’/new world) leader & with some of the assets transferred by CARE in Ziha Kebele, Ebinat Wered

I am 27 years old and a mother of two children (a boy and a girl). Previously, I am one of the most destitute women of Ziha Kebele, being dependent on the PSNP. I was in extreme confusion of what to do for a living with two children, whose father has divorced. In such a critical condition, CARE came into being with its Berchi project. I had the training of IGAs and the importance of saving in the VSLA. Following the training, I became the leader of the VSLA named 'Addis Alem', (a new world). The project gave me six sheep (*one male and five females*) with the idea of revolving and asset transfer approach. Two of the sheep gave birth and then I gave the newly born sheep's to other group members. I begun to save money due to the diversified source of income I have. Additionally, I bought three sheep for birr 800, 750, and 820 at three different times. I built a shelter, for the sheep, which required me about 2000 birr. I also built additional room next to the house that we are living now. I bought container for 200 birr for 'Tella' (local beer) preparation. I am the chairperson of our VLSA group. At the beginning, I did not get acceptance from the group members. They thought that I was ordering them what they should do. However, as time went on, they realized that I am doing for the common benefits. We started to discuss on how to bring changes in our life, how to work together, what activities we should engage for IGAs. Therefore, now we love each other, we work together and benefit out of it. The Berchi project enabled me to have my own income. I am confident that I can be a role model for others. I can share my experience for non-participants. I also advise women to engage in different IGAs. Given my commitment and benefits I got, I have a plan to improve my living. One of my plans is to build my own grinding mill. I also plan to engage in animal fattening. Thus, I believe that if I work hard as I do it now, I will be successful (Case Study in Ziha Kebele, Ebiant August 11, 2015).



Source: Field Observation: Photo by TZBMC (August 2015)

Similarly, one of the beneficiary women and VSLA leader in Jemanderegaha *Kebele* boldly expressed her views, how the Berchi project brought her into the frontline in multitude of ways, and the case is summarized as follows.

Box 3 Success case of VSLA Leader at Jemanderegaha Kebele, Ebinat Wereda

I am 35 years old woman. I have three children. In recent past, my life was very harsh. I was living with my husband and three children. I was a housewife. My family was dependent on the meager income my husband. He did not care for his family. He spent much of it for his personal use outside home (drinking alcohol). My husband was very cruel. He used to beat me for reasons not known. Lastly, we divorced each other. We were living in a poor quality house, where the roof and the wall were not good to keep us from wind and water. Therefore, we highly suffered, particularly in the summer. Thanks to the Berchi project, this brought a significant change in my life. Since the implementation of the project, I had trainings and awareness raising programs on how to change my life. Now, I manage my life independently. Before the Berchi project, I was dependent solely on safety net program, which did not bring any change in my life.

However, now I support my family out of the income I generated from different activities (Petty trade, selling of tea and bread, fruit gardening, and fattening of sheep). I built a house with corrugated iron sheet. Now, I am the chairperson of our VSLA ('Gize werek'). I follow up and advice women in my VSLA group to have strict sanitation in food preparation, housing and personal hygiene. Given my commitment and changes I brought into my life and family, I am selected as a model female farmer. The *Kebele* chief administrator even admires the changes in my life. 'Berchi' enhanced my confidence. I can fulfill my needs and my children as well. I am confident people can get lesson from my life and you will see me somewhere in a big business in the near future.

Source: Adapted from a case study at Jemanderegaha Kebele, Ebinat Wereda (August 2015)

On women's access to and control over resources, a male respondent during KII in Simada *Wereda* indicated, *"Though the project benefits both men and women, women are benefited more. This is because, in the previous time women were highly suppressed by their husbands, they have no power in deciding on household matters or assets. Now they have equal decision-making power with their husband. They are also economically empowered. Previously, they were dependent on the income of their husband. But now they generate their own income from different activities."* (KII in Simada, August 2015).

Similarly, a woman beneficiary in Ebinat *Wereda* told to the interview team, *"We are able to generate income by using money borrowed from VSLAs. Before the project, we were obliged to borrow money from local usurers whose interest rate was so terrible. However, nowadays, we have relief and borrow money from VSLA for our demands with confidence. Some of us have built houses and able to properly feed ourselves. We have begun fattening cattle. We have become aware of bad cultural practices including early marriage, rape, abduction, and FGM. In addition, we became aware of the importance of family planning; nourishing our children; caring for our sanitation and hygiene. The division of jobs along gender lines has significantly reduced since the intervention of Berchi in the area. In general, Berchi helped us to get out of destitution and own resources."*

The woman's response is indicative of the fact that their lives are being changed with the resources they have been acquiring and the level of control and decision-making they are exercising. In fact, the same respondent did not hesitate to underline that it would be difficult to conclude that these changes have been evenly distributed and pervade across all families and villages. There are still households and community members who do not accept the equality of women and men.

Another woman respondent among FGDs in Simada has also witnessed the following. *"We were organized with 23 individuals. We were a bit late to start our saving and hence begun with an accelerated monthly saving amount of Birr 50. I have received sheep and they are now seven in number. Before the project, I had no idea as to how I can get out of destitution. Now, I know how to save and what the saved money can ensue. I have saved birr 12,500 and got organized in an association to get urban land for house construction. I also began to rent some part of my farmland that contributed to my saving. Berchi took me out of nothing to something special in my life."*

It can be argued that the degree to which women can have adequate control over resources is dependent on the level of an on-going social change and continuity of capacity building support to women. As mentioned earlier, women's access to resources has been in place as there were financial and farming resources made accessible in their disposal. Since accessibility alone cannot guarantee sustained control over these resources, Berchi project has put in place capacity building supports being accompanied by warm discussions between men and women that is aimed at changing the traditional sentiment of despising women's role in controlling resources. Hence, most of the women respondents gave their testimony that besides availing the resources at their disposal, they were being provided with different capacity building training. The trained local DAs have been supporting them how to carry out row planting application and proper composition of inputs, etc. Those who have no land for farming were given trainings and resources to carry out different IGAs. Those

who have been engaged in poultry production, bee keeping, etc. have now been exercising a sense of control over resources. Hence, the resource access accompanied by different support mechanisms and enhancement of their decision making power at household and community level has been creating women's control over resources.

On the other hand, information from the most significant change (MSC) tool has shown the project intervention brought significant changes into the lives of the beneficiaries. The tool was used to triangulate the qualitative information generated through others tools of data collections from the beneficiaries' households, experts and key informants of sector offices found at different tiers of administration. Accordingly, the most commonly identified and agreed up on significant changes and/or impacts of the project intervention were as stated below.

1) Introduced and promoted the "culture of saving" among the poor households. This change was considered as the most significant because, all the beneficiaries were the PSNP users; dependent on food aids, and used to borrow money from usurers. Therefore, with the Berchi intervention, now most of the beneficiaries are in the VSLA group and developed the "culture of saving" in one way or another (Annex 26). It is thus imperative to recognize the significant roles of the various capacity building and skills trainings provided by CARE Ethiopia in the name of the project. Beneficiaries reported that the trainings and frequent meetings in the VSLA have enhanced their level of understanding on the benefits of saving and how to get involved in the IGAs as means of diversifying household income sources and livelihoods. Thus, the idea of "saving culture" has also been frequently mentioned in different parts of the report. This view is also commonly recognized among the respondents as one of the project impacts on the beneficiary households.

2) Women's access to productive resources (fertilizer, improved seeds, sheep, and goat). This impact was taken as the most significant change because the project provided various inputs such as fertilizer, improved seeds, sheep, and goat considering the agro-ecological setting of the beneficiary households. The distributions of such inputs have contributed to the improvements in agricultural productivity, which in turn, helped the poor households to augment their food security status. From the document reviews and Berchi's performance reports, it is evident that the distributions of these productive resources induced positive changes on the beneficiaries. The Berchi project has brought the idea of "revolving fund and asset transfer" as one of the positive impacts of the project. In this regard, CARE worked as a facilitator while the beneficiaries had the opportunity to take part in the matters that concern them. With the "revolving fund and asset transfer approach," number of chronically food insecure and destitute women had access to and control resources as evidenced by the cases discussed (See Annex C).

3) Women's increased participation in social affairs (*Iddir, Equib, and Mahber*) (Annex 9 and 26). As indicated in the project document, all of the beneficiary households were chronically food insecure and women's in extremely vulnerable situations. The objective was thus to address the challenges these groups of women face in the project implementation sites. As a result, the trainings, workshops, discussion forums both in the VSLA and in SAA along with women's involvement in different IGAs resulted in those women who were highly dependent on food aid and the meager income of the households to come into the frontline (Annex 2 and 5). Therefore, beneficiary women reported and agreed up on women's increased participation in social affairs being the most significant changes of Berchi (Annex 9 and 26).

4) Change in the societal attitude towards women's role in the household and community level (Annex 14, 18, 19 and 22). The project was implemented in a context where male domination and gender-

based discrimination had been rampant at different levels of the society. In addition, the logic behind Berchi project is to enhance the communities' and households level of consciousness and understanding on *"household food security can be achieved provided that women are given opportunity to have access to and control over productive resources while transforming the deep rooted socio cultural barriers that hamper their effective participation."* Thus, with the unreserved efforts of CARE Ethiopia together with the sector offices of the government at different levels of administration as well as other stakeholders promoted the agenda of "gender equality and women empowerment." To this end, such a struggle contributed to enhance the communities and household's views on the "gender equality and women empowerment." The beneficiaries commonly accepted this, being most significant changes of the intervention comparing the situation before.

5) Developing the "culture of open discussions" in the VSLA and SAA and abolish the harmful practices (Annex 26). Similar to the views on change in the social attitude, the introduction of the "culture of open discussions" has been the most recognized impacts of the Berchi intervention. This is mainly because many of the beneficiaries were excluded from socio-economic benefits and had limited opportunities to equally participate in matters that concern them for years. However, the Berchi project, predominantly the two discussion forums (VSLA and SAA) positively contributed to the beneficiary women and households to openly discuss the various socio-cultural practices that affect their lives and detrimental to livelihoods. In the VSLA and SAA, women had the chance to overtly discuss many of the socio-cultural challenges, which had been detrimental to their livelihoods. In these forums, the possible solutions to tackle the problems and challenges women face were pointed out by participants. In the SAA, the teams were composed of diverse groups, which made the agenda to be owned by every participant, and resulted in reported changes.

6) Improved households' food security status (Annex 2, 4 and 5). The major objective of the Berchi intervention was to support gender equality and women's empowerment. It was also deemed to increase women's economic empowerment and food security in the project implementation sites. More specifically, all the beneficiary households were dependent on food aids and extremely vulnerable to various shocks. Thus, the MSC discussants comparing the food security situations they were before with the current situation, agreed up on improved households' food security status as one of the most significant changes of the Berchi intervention. Moreover, it can be argued that the previously dependent households are engaged in diverse IGAs and some even more than two IGAs. Hence, the diversified source of income had its own share to the improvement of households' food security status. However, this does not mean that all beneficiary households are food secured. It is rather an indicator for improvements among the beneficiary households' food security status. In general, in spite of the shorter life span of the Berchi project, it is very vital to appreciate the various changes and positive impacts of the project on the beneficiary households as evidenced in the discussions. However, if those factors discussed in the project efficiency section and others were taken on board, the positive impacts, and changes observed could have been much diversified.

4. 4.2 Expected Result 2: Meaningful participation and representation of women at all levels

Achieving meaningful participation and representation of women at all levels of the community decision-making is one of the key goals of the project. As mentioned earlier, in a social context where women have no role in making decisions either at household or community level, access to resources does not guarantee control over resources. With the growing access to resources, there should be an enabling environment, which encourages her meaningful participation and representation in institutions, both with formal and informal authority. However, realization of women participation and representation is not an easy task in a social context where women are seen inferior to men both from religious, cultural, and social grounds.

Nevertheless, the quantitative findings indicate that the proportion of women reporting positive perception towards women's leadership has significantly changed compared with the base line figure. For instance, the percentage of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women should not organize community work has decreased from 21.6 % in the base line to 9.39 % (n=848). Similarly, the percentage of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women have difficulty in making hard decisions has decreased by more than two folds when compared with the base line figure. As indicated in the same table, the percentage of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not know enough about community issues to make good decisions has decreased from 34.1 % in the base line to 11.74 % (n=848).

With regard to the percentage of female respondents' agreement on 'women have too much other work to participate regularly in community decision-making', the figure has shown a threefold decrease from 51.6 % in the base line to 13.08 % in the end line (n=848). However, percentage of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not have good skills at managing decision-making meetings shows a deviating results compared to the base line figure. In this case, many of the results indicate decreasing trends on the negative perception towards women's leadership, the errors might have happened partly due to errors in the data collection process. In other words, interviewers might have reversed the question and/or asked negative question positively. Thus, it should not mislead the rest of results discussed. In general, there is a significant decreasing trend of negative perception towards women's leadership. Therefore, it is possible to concluded that the project has positively contributed towards improved communities' perception to women leadership. In other words, the established stereotypes and myths negatively contributing towards women's role in decision making have now been eroded due to the project intervention.

Table 4. 21 Perceptions on women's leadership

Response category	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women should not organize community work	6.40	11.40	9.39	21.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women have difficulty making hard decisions	7.92	15.68	12.91	40.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not know enough about community issues to make good decisions	8.29	13.55	11.74	34.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women have too much other work to participate regularly in community decision-making	9.26	15.08	13.08	51.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women are reluctant to express their ideas in community decision-making meetings	15.60	26.92	22.98	44.7

Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not have good skills at managing decision-making meetings	51.21	55.242	55.24	28.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women who cannot read or write cannot be effective leaders	28.29	21.48	23.82	56.7

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

As indicated in Table 4.22, out of the total 848 HHs surveyed, 596 (70.28%) are female respondents who have reported their participation in social affairs, VSLA, SAA. Over 85 % of female respondents participate in social affairs such as *Iddir, Equib, Mahaber*, which is due to women’s increased income level following her involvement in IGAs. When asked about the level of participation social affairs such as *Iddir, Equib, and Mahaber*, close to 50 % of female respondents reported that they actively and highly take part in such affairs. Therefore, one of the positive outcomes of the Berchi project is increased level of women participation in social affairs and enhanced their level of understanding on social issues.

Table 4. 22 participation of female respondents in social affairs, VSLA, SAA

Response category	New	EL1	EL2
No. of female respondents reporting on participation in social affairs, VSLA, SAA	205 (68.33%)	391 (71.35%)	596 (70.28%)
Percent of female reporting on social affairs such as <i>Iddir, Equib, and Mahaber</i>	86.82	85.16	85.73
Percent of female reporting “high” level of participation in social affairs such as (<i>Iddir, Equib, and Mahaber</i>)	51.64	45.89	47.85

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

Gender based violence and harmful traditional practices, which primarily affect women, were originated in the cultural, economic, legal and political settings in which the wider society operates. Cognizant of this, CARE has begun confronting with this social reality in those two project *Weredas*. As the evidences from review of the report documents and field data indicate, CARE has begun confronting this situation through awareness raising, sensitization workshops, training and staging continued discussions at community forums emphasizing women as impact group. The most important undertaking has been CARE’s commitment towards laying the basic foundation of women participation in changing institutional, social, and cognitive aspects that have been detrimental for long among members of the society and the formal as well as informal institutional structures from lower to the corresponding higher levels.

Even though there was a bald recognition of the imperative of women’s participation and representation in the policy documents, evidences indicate that there were little practical interventions in the project *Weredas* before the launching of Berchi project. Thus, Berchi has begun facilitating discussions, awareness creation, sensitization, and advocacy in order to erode the entrenched belief and practice that has been negligent of women’s role and significance in decision-making. CARE’s advocacy and sensitization begun from planning phase where each component of the project emphasized the need to realize women’s meaningful participation and representation. This had begun from planning sessions in which women’s views were duly recognized and taken in to account. Therefore, paving ways for women’s enhanced role has primarily been evident in the

internal working documents and institutional arrangements of the Berchi project. The project has ensured fair and equitable representation of women in all the project sensitization and planning activities. In the by-laws of the VSLA groups, it is set that at least two out of five committee members become women. Hence, in each group at least two of the five members of the committee are women and elected democratically. The project further strengthens its specific women empowerment support across all its intervention areas. Consequently, the representation of women has shown an increase over the two years of intervention.

Table 4. 23 Women's representation level in the various leadership positions in 2013

VSLA leadership positions	Positions hold by female	Positions hold by male	Percent
Chairperson	52	78	40
Secretary	42	88	32
Key holders	192	68	73
Box keeper	57	73	43.8

Source: Adapted from CARE Ethiopia, performance report, 2013.

Data from the 2014 performance report also indicated that women's role and participation has been growing significantly. The overall average representation of women in the VSLA management was around 47.2 %. This figure has shown an increase over a year and 63% of the targeted beneficiaries were women while their representation in the VSLA management committee has grown up to 60% in 2014. In 2014, over 50% of the VSLA group discussion facilitators and 50% of the SAA group facilitators were women. Thus, the data shows that women's participation and representation has been showing a growing positive trend in Berchi project. The responses from the local respondents have also indicated that women's participation and representation has grown significantly both in terms of number, role, as well as diversity of positions assumed (See Annex 26 for detail figures). The positive outcome of representation of women in leadership positions has also been evident in the performance of the VSLA saving which connotes 'meaningful representation'.

The data in the Table 4.24 is an illustration of women's performance taken from one of the study sites in Ebinat *Wereda*. As the figures indicate, women chaired the first two VSLAs. The saving performance of these two has shown significant difference from the one that has been chaired by their male counterpart. Hence, this is an indicative of the social and economic significance of the need for improved and meaningful representation of women at different levels. The respondents also noted that, the reason for better performance of women-led VSLAs was that they were determined, industrious, diligent, and caring for members. Besides this, women members were actively working and highly motivated towards enhancing their saving which was mainly supported by the opportunities they were given to have access to other income generating activities such as fattening, renting irrigated farmland; and selling bread.

Table 4. 24 Women's leadership position vs. performance of saving

List of VSLAs	Leadership	Performance of saving (amount in birr)
VSLA 1	Led by women	15,702 Birr
VSLA2	Led by women	8756 Birr
VSLA 3	Led by men	8042 Birr

Source: Extract from field data, Ebinat *Wereda* (August 2015).

Qualitative data responses have also shown that due to the Berchi intervention, mainly two things have changed. The first one is the attitude of men. They have never believed that women could take part actively in social and economic activities and contribute meaningfully. Consequently, they were not volunteer to allow their women to assume roles and responsibilities in different positions. The second one is that women themselves were not assuming that they could hold social responsibility among communities and discharge their role effectively. They used to see themselves as inferior to men and hence thought that leadership positions were naturally endowed to men. With the Berchi intervention, both the attitude of men and women has begun to change. Women and men are now working together in VSLA and SAA where gender is no more a criterion to take charge of social responsibilities. Hence, as the respondents further noted, Berchi has transfigured this thought and now they are enjoying equality in playing their part. The level of participation and representation is not only limited to the Berchi project components. Local respondents have also noted that those who are actively participating in the project have shown interest to take an active part in other social, government institutions, and the woman's quest for representation and participation is increasing.

Consequently, there is a growing representation of women in social institutions such as *Iddir*, *Equib*, and in formal government institutions, too (See Table 4.24 and Annex 26). They are being represented in *Kebele Shengo*, which is a local court. They are represented in *Kebele* administration and their role in effectively mobilizing house hold labor for rural development activities has got due recognition by the government and hence they are organized in 'Limat Budin', whose English equivalent is development group, in which they discuss social, economic, and gender related issues and take actions together. Their role is also recognized in what the government calls 'development army'. The respondents also acknowledged that the reason for increasing women's representation and participation is attributed to CARE's capacity building training and awareness raising. Due to consecutive trainings and workshops held at local levels, some women became capable to assume positions both within the project and outside the project. Therefore, they reiterated that any further attempt to improve women's participation and representation seems to be dependent on the continued effort to capacitate women.

One of the indicators to measure the success of the project on ER2 was an increase in number and percentage of women and men reporting women's meaningful participation in decision making across HH, and community decision making. The survey data revealed that there have been significant changes made in terms of perception towards women's meaningful participation in decision making. Across the indicators used, there is a changing trend (declining joint decisions), implying that increased women decision on resources and household matters due to the increased women income level, increased understanding of social issues following trainings and various discussions forums among others. As a flipside of this, decisions made

by either has significantly increased across the indicators used. Even in some cases, it was at zero level, which shows communities' conservative position on women's role in decision making and it has changed positively. In general, based on the above discussion, it is evident that the project intervention has successfully confronted the existing detrimental socio-cultural beliefs on women's decision making and brought about significant changes in the way both male and female perceive women's role in the decision making. However, although the figure indicate the positive changes as compared to the baseline, there is still long way to go to enhance women's bargaining power vis-à-vis decision making both at household and community level.

Table 4. 25 Joint decision-making by sample groups

Response category	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to consume stored crops	58.94	74.19	67.85	85.3
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to consume stored crops	27.31	19.18	21.97	59.9
Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to take a sick child for medical treatment	84.21	78.34	80.55	94
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to take a sick child for medical treatment	29.75	23.52	25.67	67.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on which children to send to school	75.78	73.24	74.20	94.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on which children to send to school	28.29	20.20	22.98	68.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on whether to use family planning	70.21	78.34	75.29	96.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on whether to use family planning	27.45	22.50	24.20	77.1

Source: Field data (November 20150)

Equally important, both the beneficiaries and interviewed individuals of the sector offices vividly indicated the significant roles of the discussions forums such as the VSLA and SAA in bringing women into the forefront, challenge the long existed socio-cultural practices, which were very suppressive in many regards (Annex 12). This position of the respondents and our field observation do not necessarily reflect the complete removal of socio-cultural practices that affect the lives of the women in the study context. However, the strong efforts made by CARE, the joint facilitating sector offices, enhanced capacity of women and men on gender issues as "burning issues" along with the various promotions that focus on "gender

equality and women empowerment to sustainable development" as contributing factors for the changes seen at grassroots level (See Annex 13, 14 and 15).

In view of the discussion, one of the key informants expressed his views on the changing trends on the gender issues and ownership of such an agenda at sectoral level as follows:

"As an office dedicated to empower women, cooperative has mainstreamed the gender issue in its effort to reach the rural community. It has tried to encourage women to participate in its chains of leadership actively. We used to encourage the participation of women in 15 Unions and Saving Associations. We have Rural Saving Cooperatives (RuSCo) in all 40 *Kebeles* of the *Wereda*. We have strived to include as many women as possible and designate them in leadership role. CARE through its Berchi project supported our effort. In each cooperative, at least one is a woman, where seven assume the position. However, we still face challenges to bring more women into the leadership positions due to the deep-rooted cultural practices that become bottlenecks to women participation in public sphere independently. Despite the challenge, CRAE Ethiopia has carried out promising works in bringing women into the frontline, which we hope should be nurtured" (Interview with Head of Cooperatives, Simada, August 2015).

Similarly, one of the participants in the FGD stated his views, particularly what he considered as significant change in terms gender relations at household level as described below:

"Although I know that my wife has an equal right with myself on number of issues, I did not allow her to go to market place and meetings without my prior knowledge. However, within these two years, I got lessons from the all-rounded works of CARE in collaboration with the government offices about the socio-cultural challenges women face in our community. To mention few, workload, harassment, abdication, early marriage, and abandoned from socio-economic benefits. Thanks to the trainings and experience, sharing by CARE introduced project, we learned many things and abolished the challenges in multitude ways. For example, my family members and I do everything through discussions at household level and assets we have in common, which were exclusively my decisions. Moreover, my wife used to work on the grinding stone every night. Currently, there is no grinding stone in my home. Now, I myself roast maize. One-day a health extension worker came to my home when my wife was out and there was nothing to eat. I cooked '*shiro wot*' and served my guest. While we were eating, my wife arrived and she was surprised by my contributions. I used to drink alcohol up to midnight in the town and used to quarrel with her. Now, this is history. Instead, I save in VSLA and support my family. Thus, to drink is to live in poverty, which became my motto." (FGD at Sergaile Lideta Kebele, Simada, August 2015).

More specifically, appreciating the contribution of SAA in shaping the detrimental socio-cultural practices where how the previous wrong beliefs have been shaped and the view is stated as follows:

"For the men to bake enjera and cook other foodstuffs were assumed to do things against the long existed culture. In this case, we had the discussions in the SAA mainly listing down the social and cultural practices that affect the lives of women, in particular and our community, in general. We proposed solutions as to how to address the problems both at household and community level in integrated ways. One day, my wife gave birth and I was the only person at home to look after her. I wanted my neighbors to bake enjera and cook her stew. However, my neighbors refused at time of the need and promised me to do once they finish their business in the market. I was offended by their responses and decided to do it myself. I did it successfully. My wife was surprised and the appreciation came from others

as well. Accordingly, I started to take care of everything to my wife until her forty days. Since then, I bake enjera and cook other foodstuffs that were normally tasks assigned to women. Thanks to the discussions in the SAA, my mind has been changed and I share my experiences to fellow participants in the forum." (Extract from FGD in Simada, August 2015).

The above quote reveals how trainings and experience sharing practices in a coordinated manner contributed to change in gender relationship both at household and community level as indicated in the quotes and examples in other section. Concisely, it can be concluded that ER2 of the project has been achieved. Nevertheless, there are still gaps that require further work. The level of participation and representation out of the project is not as broad as it is within the project. There are still social barriers to a considerable level that hinder women's participation and representation. Even within the VSLA and SAA, the number of women participants and leaders could have gone beyond the current number. In most cases, the usual excuse for failing to provide women adequate leadership positions is related to their capacity limitation, which is a common structural problem. Hence, focusing on building their capacity for local leadership positions can be a working solution in order to deepen the result further.

4.4.3. Expected Result 3: Transforming key institutional and socio-cultural norms, relations and attitudes for gender equality

In order to achieve this result of the project, CARE has undertaken major preparatory activities which took place since the project launching, familiarization and planning workshop emphasizing that the project primarily focuses on women empowerment and addressing gender inequality. To this effect, gender-oriented baseline survey, gender analysis and gender-based value-chain studies were conducted to further understand the gender dynamics and refine the interventions. Based on the learning and outcomes of the study, a comprehensive gender empowerment plan was developed and being implemented. Necessary preparations were made to institutionalize the SAA in those project *Weredas*. Development of training manual and recruitment of members as well as facilitators was successfully done. Based on this, both *Wereda* as well as community level trainings were provided on the manual as well as the concepts of SAA and hence the SAA has been made to be part of the VSLA meeting, too.

Responses from every group consensually indicated that the project has proved its significant contribution in terms of responding to the severe gender based violence, gender imbalances in social and economic spheres. As can be seen from Table 4.26, respondents have positively perceived and reported that gender based violence has decreased following the project intervention (See Annex 14). In this regard, the changes are not fully attributed to the Berchi project rather it is the cumulative results of all the stakeholders such as the government at all levels of the administration, locally developed NGOs and the Berchi itself. More specifically, the Berchi contribution towards GBV is strong enough since it works in integrated ways with the stakeholders on the GBV. Although the figures show a declining trend on GBV, strong efforts are needed to abolish the practice of GBV in the studied *Weredas*.

Table 4. 26 The percentage of male and female respondents reporting perception of level of GBV by sample

Response category	New	EL1	EL2
% of female reporting "decreased" on community's level of condemning GBV over the last three years	68.78	67.51	67.95
% of male reporting "decreased" on level of forced marriage over the last three years	85.26	93.63	90.47
% of female reporting "decreased" on level of forced marriage over the last three years	87.31	89.76	88.92
% of male reporting "decreased" on level of FGM over the last three years	90.52	93.63	92.46
% of female reporting "decreased" on level of FGM over the last three years	96.58	88.71	91.42

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

The data in Table 4.27 show men's level of perception towards GBV in the study *Kebeles*, which was primarily designed to explore men's attitudinal change towards GBV. For instance, the percentage of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to complete household chores was 69.7 % during the base line (n=493) and increased to 86.50 % in the end line (n=848). Similarly, the percentage of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to respect in-laws was 73.6 % in the base line (n=493) and increased to 85.71% in the end line (n=848). Thus, these figures indicate that following the project intervention, men's perception towards GBV has changed positively, implying that the wrong perceptions have been changed.

Table 4. 27 percentage of male respondents reporting perception of level of GBV by sample

Response category	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to complete household chores	86.31	86.62	86.50	69.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to respect in-laws	85.26	85.98	85.71	73.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to grant sexual access	71.57	80.25	76.98	83.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for going somewhere without approval	83.15	79.61	80.95	67.1

Concerning ER3, one of the indicators set to measure the achievements of the project goals was the proportion of women reporting control over decisions affecting sexual and reproductive health and rights. As show in Table 4, 24, the percentage of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to limiting family size has doubled across the sample groups as compared to the base line figure (26.48%). By the same token, the percentage of female reporting "input on all decisions" in relation the use of birth control method, it increased by ten folds compared to the base line figure. The increase was from 5.52 % in the base line to 55.44 % (n=848). The response on the percentage of female reporting "input on all decisions" on sexual practice has also doubled compared with the base line figure across the sample groups. Similar trends have been observed across the sample groups in relation to female's "input on all decisions" in accessing reproductive health services and early marriage. From the discussion, it is possible to conclude that the project has positively contributed towards the achievement of indicators set in the base line survey (See ER2 and section 1.4).

Table 4. 28 Control over decisions affecting sexual and reproductive health rights by sample

Response category	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to limiting family size	53.17	50.89	51.67	26.48
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" around use of birth control method	56.58	54.98	55.44	5.52
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" on sexual practice	41.46	42.19	41.94	19.92
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to accessing reproductive health services	58.04	56.26	56.87	23.62
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to early marriage	57.07	48.33	51.34	26.17

Source: Field Survey (November 2015)

In short, preparatory ground works have been effectively done in order to transform institutional and socio-cultural norms. To this end, the responses from the FGDs at both *Wereda* and *Kebele* level confirmed that these preparatory works have significantly contributed to the change that they assert is now being seen in terms of gender equality. Following the preparatory works, regular meetings of the SAA and VSLA have been conducted and were so powerful to bring forth the agenda of gender. The gender based role assignment was severe and unfavourable to most of the women. Nevertheless, since the beginning of those discussions, as every respondent pointed out, has brought significant change in the attitude and practice of both men and women. Even if its implementation has begun recently, the results are promising from the onset. As the local respondents reported, there are men who are actually undertaking those tasks, which were exclusively left to women before. Men have begun roasting and serving coffee at household level and even at the VSLA meetings (See Annex 13). As women begun ploughing the farm, men, too, began taking care of babies when their mothers are occupied (See Annex 16 and 25). The respondents reiterated that the power of VSLA and SAA discussions should never be undermined. The social-cultural norm that dictates unfair relationship between men and women, and the institutional set up which was perpetuating the unfavourable gender

imbalance have begun to be influenced by the open discussions and deliberations. Some men became fast adopters and change agents whose actions should be scaled up for further change in the project sites.

The respondents noted that the social relationship and cohesion among women and men has shown significant improvement (See Annex 20 and 24). In recognition of this fact, one of the female FGD respondents in Ebinat has explained her testimony as follows.

“For the last two years through Berchi project, we have developed the culture of cooperation among ourselves. We supported individuals whose homes were set in fire; we plough the land of poor and elderly women; some of us have cancelled contracts of the land we rented for men in the past. We have now a command over our productive assets, including the land. Some of us are now having goats and sheep through CARE/Berchi project. We have been given five females and one male sheep. We borrow money from our VSLA to purchase agriculture inputs including seeds and fertilizer; others also use the money to do business such as petty trade. Earlier, we used to borrow from the rich. We were obliged to pay 5% interest rate every month. We were also expected to serve the rich in labor to have access for loan. We did not have other option. We knew that for a single day, the wage for labor in the area was around 30 birr and the poor sometimes serve the rich, in addition to the interest payment, at least for two to three days to be eligible for borrowing from the so-called local usurers.”

Hence, the project has induced a culture of intimacy, harmony, social cohesion and promoted a self-help motto, which is pivotal for self-reliance. The Berchi has also been helpful to erode the malpractice of usurers that is undesirable informal economic institution considered as evil both from religious as well as from development perspective. Thus, the practice of usurers has now been marginalized in the intervention sites. This could be an evidence of changing social norms and institutionalized malpractices, which were detrimental for women’s economic empowerment.

Furthermore, women FGD respondents in Simada and Ebinat have expressed similar views that their participation in local meetings, discussion, saving, and economic activities has been growing with the changing attitude of their husbands and male counterparts (Annex 20). Even though they did not hesitate to express their concern about the level of resistance that still persists among some husbands, they have strongly expressed that there is a promising change among male counterparts in encouraging their active participation in social, economic and political activities being undertaken in their surroundings. They noted that with the growing awareness, the level of male support for their participation has significantly grown and hence helped them take an active part in the community tasks. It was also reported that some husbands stay at home and undertake house chores when the woman has a scheduled meeting at *Kebele* and community level.

In terms of actual results, the respondents noted that there is a lot of effort to increase the awareness of the people and progresses are achieved. Imbalance in gender relations is addressed and equality of both sexes is observed in many areas of the intervention. One of the female discussants also highlighted that CARE has not only improved their economic wellbeing but also their social cohesion. The project has promoted mutual understanding, solidarity, and empathy. Male respondents also contend that the project has brought about social respect among men and women, closeness and mutual understanding in which men have got the opportunity to acknowledge and share the burden of women that has been imposed socially. Hence, through VSLA and SAA, mutual consultation and cooperation have been developed after Berchi intervention, which in turn have witnessed changes in the attitude and practice of local institutions ranging from family to local administration, and other social institutions.

Even though there are still challenges to gender equity, the asymmetrical relationship between men and women is now changing significantly, which is being witnessed by changing role of men and women. Moreover, the social respect that women's ability and talents are recognized, women's roles in leadership positions have been practically seen and appreciated in some instances, and women have been seen owning and managing productive resources in which case they are labeled as effective and efficient. From the document review, it is evident that in some government sectors, different efforts are underway to transform gender relations through empowerment of women and these have been incorporated as cross cutting issue in their respective plans. As the responses from key informants and *Wereda* taskforce FGD have shown, the Berchi intervention has been effective in influencing the attitude, planning practice and behavior of the *Wereda* and *Zonal* respective institutions towards responding to gender empowerment. Hence, from the field data, it can be concluded that transforming institutional and socio-cultural norms has been on the right truck, which still calls for increased integrated effort.

4.4.4. Expected Result 4: Promote key learning and impact measurement for women's empowerment

One of the unique features of this project is its innovativeness that recognizes the dynamic nature of development work and hence opens up a room for continuous learning, improvement, promotion, and expansion of best practices for improved performance and scalability. To this end, the fourth objective of the Berchi project has been instrumental to cope with the socio economic dynamics in the project environment where the joint facilitating institutions, the beneficiary communities, and CARE field staff review the progress, revise the operational plans and manuals with respect to the changing circumstances as well as experiences from field practice. It also serves as a tool to share knowledge and experience of the project through workshops, review meetings, field visit and promote the gender empowerment practice to be scalable in wider magnitude.

The baseline report has been taken as a springboard to further develop research agenda, revisit M&E system to capture both intended and unintended results, writing case studies, most significant change stories and success stories to disseminate both internally and externally. Key learning has also been taken into account for future projects as well as for replication of similar projects both in the region and across the country largely. Thus, qualitative responses indicated that efforts to promote key learning and impact measurement have been underway. There were numerous community meetings in which best practices were spotted and experiences were shared among beneficiaries and facilitators.

The joint facilitating institutions have conducted field visits in order to observe and grasp how the project activities are organized, facilitated, and implemented. *Zonal* and *Wereda* steering committee members have had field visits which helped them observe and learn how women and men engage themselves to tackle gender related problems altogether. Workshops and community meetings were also conducted to promote learning among executors and hence to scale up the best practices. The study team has also observed that Berchi's gender empowerment practices, more specifically, the approaches employed in facilitating VSLA and SAA are innovative, can be easily replicated in other places, and appropriate to tackle the pervasive gender inequality in Ethiopian context. Hence, compared to the significance of the experience of Berchi, little has been done in recording, disseminating, sharing experiences, and opening room for scalability both within the project sites and outside of it. Therefore, empirical evidences from Berchi project intervention need to be disseminated to the concerned stakeholders at different tires of administration so that lessons learned and best practices will be inputs for the design of development intervention by the government, on one hand and to locally NGOs working on similar issues, on the other hand.

Berchi project has multiple interesting findings to mention some of these, increased households' income level due to diversified livelihood activities (IGAs); increased women's participation in social affairs (VSLA, SAA, *Iddir*, *equib*, and *mababer* among others); societies attitudinal changes towards gender based violence, early marriage, FGM, and recognition to women roles both at household and community levels; increased women's access to and control over productive resources, which further improved households' food security status as evidenced by graduation threshold; women's meaningful and increased representation in VSLA, SAA and other discussion forums across *Kebeles*; and number of destitute women's livelihoods and lives have been changed due to the project intervention. Berchi's project intervention is appreciated for its holistic approach and targeting the most vulnerable women and chronically food insecure households. In this case, the ways in which it approached the poor households and some of the strong efforts exerted to improve the socio-cultural challenges and economic situations within a single platform is astonishing. Therefore, CARE Ethiopia and CARE Austria must promote and replicate the experiences of SAA and VSLA at wider geographic scales and design a new project that will stimulate the best experiences and sustain the "flavor" of CARE among the beneficiary communities.

5. Concluding remarks and ways forward

5.1 Concluding remarks

Detailed discussion was carried out based on the qualitative study results and findings from the quantitative survey, as a result, the following concluding remarks have been drawn vis-à-vis Berchi's end line evaluation in two project *Weredas* of Amhara region.

This evaluation had two phases. In the first phase, the qualitative evaluation was conducted based on the OECD-DAC criteria and attempt has been made to check whether the expected results of the initial project plan have been achieved. Therefore, the evaluation results based on the OECD-DAC criteria have shown that the project was relevant and well aligned to the policies of the government and local needs of the beneficiaries. Its targets are being implemented effectively while efficiency in use of project related resources in terms of both human, material and finance have been witnessed. Concerning the targeting of the project, the lion share of the project beneficiaries are females and female headed-households, which agrees with the very premises of the project. Thus, the focus of the Berchi project towards ensuring women empowerment was a key response in filling the most sensitive gap of household food security. Although the project implementation came lately, it is possible to draw some lessons in terms of project efficiency as evidenced with the project impacts and achievements of the expected results discussed in various sections of the report. Thus, it can be noted that the Berchi project was efficient.

The project has been able to yield significant outcomes in terms of social, cultural, and livelihood improvement. For instance, descriptive statistics on age at marriage indicated that the mean age is 17.52 (n=703). Changes towards the early marriage practices can also be attributed to the works of government through various forms at all levels of administration in general, and the contributing of other locally deployed development partners, in particular. The gender relations, role assignments between men and women, and institutional practices, which were against gender equality, have begun to change and the outcomes are promising. The study has also revealed that the local institutions and practices such as VSLA and SAA have improved the social cohesion, relationship, economic performance, and boosted the confidence of women significantly and hence this could be instrumental to the project sustainability in the absence of the donor agency. Evaluation of the expected results has also indicated that women's access to and control over productive resources has been evident and promising results have been recorded in this regard.

On access to and control over resources, it was evident that majority of households three years ago were earning between 2000 to 4000 Birr a year. However, this figure has almost been doubled after the project intervention, which is statistically significant (before mean =2018.17 birr and after mean=4237.86), where the paired t-test value is (43.08) ($p < 0.001$). The income per adult equivalent for the end line sample is (2537.82 birr) ($n=848$). More specifically, FHHs have benefited from listed sources of income. In the base line the average total income for FHHs was 2574.45 birr and this amount has increased to 4197.59 birr ($n=848$). These results strongly suggest that the Berchi project is successful in achieving both its short-term and long-term targets of economic empowerment of women since most of its project beneficiaries are female-headed households.

Propensity Score Matching (PSM) estimators suggest that, on average, the project increases the income of project beneficiaries by 655.75 birr, which is statistically significant ($p < 0.001$) and the project increases the income per adult equivalent of beneficiaries by 461.14 birr when compared to non-beneficiaries ($p < 0.001$). From the same estimator, participation in SAA on average increases annual income for its beneficiaries by 716.70 Birr ($p < 0.05$). On the other hand, households that belong to the newly surveyed Kebeles and participate in SAA, on average earn 1018 Birr less than their counterparts ($p < 0.05$). Thus, there is no dispute that Berchi project has positively contributed to improvement in the household income through the diversification of livelihood activities and enhanced “saving culture”, through micro saving schemes introduced. Women’s representation and participation in different activities and institutions has shown significant change with the promising achievement of representation in VSLA and SAA. The intervention has successfully confronted the existing detrimental socio-cultural beliefs on women’s decision making and brought about significant changes in the way both male and female perceive women’s role in the decision making. However, representation in wider political spheres requires further work and advocacy.

The socio cultural norms, relations, and institutional practices of gender have begun to undergo meaningful change. The gender based role assignment has been shifting and thus women and men begun to undertake one another’s task. The local malpractice of usurers has been marginalized with the increasing participation of women in VSLAs. The project has also been carrying out experience sharing, and knowledge exchange activities by which local communities, joint facilitating institutions, and experts have been able to develop their capacity in order that they can effectively run the project and contribute to the scalability of the innovative features of the project such as gender empowerment, VSLA, and SAA. In general, in spite of challenges observed and gaps that require further work, the project has successfully achieved its result indicators and objectives stated in the project document.

5.2 Ways forward

Based on the discussions made so far and evidences documented in the report, the following points are put forward as alternative ways to address the challenges identified and experiences and best practices to be shared.

⇒ Although the Berchi project had short life span, the positive impacts and significant changes it brought into the lives of the poor women and households in terms of improved access to and control over resources, increased women participation in IGAs, increased women's participation and representation in social, economic and others affairs among the studied communities, it is imperative for CARE Ethiopia together with CARE Austria to promote and replicate the best practices of such intervention in others areas where the socio-cultural challenges are rampant. In doing so, it is essential to critically look into the limitations of the Berchi project, and devise alternatives while dealing similar issues. Moreover, for the

effective implementation of such an innovative idea, it is very crucial to create strong partnership, coordination and synergy with the government system at different levels of administration and with those locally deployed NGOs in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

- ⇒ As clearly shown in the findings of the study, the multiple discussions forums of VSLA and SAA, working modalities, monitoring and evaluations, and the overall system should be formally owned by the local government authorities as one of the future project and program agenda among the studied communities and thereby intensively work on the lessons learnt and experiences shared. In order to materialize this, the local government in consultation with those at higher level has to include the working modalities, monitoring and evaluations system of those forums into the government structure. Thus, the frontline experts, development agents, local level administrators, as well as community facilitators will be responsible for the smooth undertakings equally valued with their normal duties and responsibilities. In adapting these experiences, it is important to draw the lessons from the experts and facilitators of CARE Ethiopia in the form of workshops and seminars in a documented manner, which can be further disseminated among the government institutions.
- ⇒ On the positive impacts and significant changes of the Berchi intervention, particularly on gender equality, women empowerment, and participation in IGAs, Wereda level office of Women, Youth and Children, Agriculture and Rural Development, Cooperative Promotions, Wereda Administrator, and *Kebele* administrators should come together and design strategies through which the best experiences will continue while benefiting wider groups of the society. In this regard, it is vital to share experiences among beneficiary women themselves within the same *Kebele* and outside as well as those non-participant women who are dependent on food aids and vulnerable to shocks. Moreover, it is important to provide technical support and follow up to those VSLAs and households in order to nurture them for further changes and build up their resilience capacities.
- ⇒ Berchi project intervention is appreciated for its holistic approach and targeting the most vulnerable women and chronically food insecure households, the ways in which it approached the poor households and some of the grounded works it carried out to improve the socio-cultural challenges and economic situations within a single platform. Thus, CARE Ethiopia has to advocate the experiences of SAA and VSLA at wider geographic scales and design a project that will promote the best experiences and sustain the "flavor" of CARE among the beneficiary communities. In this regard, one of the concerns should be looking at the crosscutting issues targeting those vulnerable women and chronically food insecure households while maintaining strong synergies and coordination among sector offices and stakeholders at various hierarchies of the administrative echelons.
- ⇒ The project has induced a culture of intimacy, harmony, social cohesion and promoted a self-help motto, which is pivotal for self-reliance. The Berchi has also been helpful to erode the malpractice of usurers that is undesirable informal economic institution considered as evil both from religious as well as from development perspective. Therefore, disseminating the empirical evidences of the project intervention, including the evaluation report is very relevant to address those gaps identified and promote lessons learned and best practices among stakeholders at different levels of administrative echelons.
- ⇒ Even though the observed changes and positive impacts of the Berchi project particularly on the beneficiary households are valuable, still there are challenges that women face in access to and control

over productive resources and obstacles for gender equality and women empowerment due to its deep-rooted nature in the culture of the society. Therefore, promotion of the best practices and experiences shared and further works in an integrated way are important to improve the situation of those women and households who do not have such accesses.

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Annex A 1 Our approach to project evaluation

One of the key questions that many project evaluations are expected to address can be expressed as: “*To what extent, were the intended objectives met?*” As evident from the baseline survey, the Berchi project has clear intended objectives to be attained over the project implementation years. In this regard, Figure 9 provides a picture of this expectation. The project is presented in a “box,” that serves as a conceptual boundary between the project and the project environment. The intended objectives, which can be taken as statement of the project's *intended outcomes*, occur outside the project itself. In other words, the intended outcomes are *results* intended to make a difference outside of the project itself.



Source: Own Construction (2015)

Figure 9 Linking programs and intended objectives

In the figure, the arrow connecting the project and its intended outcomes is a key part of most project evaluations. It shows that the project is intended to *cause* the outcomes. It can be restated the "objectives achievement" question in words that are a central part of most project evaluations: “*Was the project effective (in achieving its intended outcomes)?*” On the other hand, project effectiveness is the most common reason why project evaluation is needed by most donors and government bodies on different issues. In this regard, the interest is to know whether, and to what extent, the project's actual results are consistent with the outcomes expected. With regard to this, there are *two* evaluation issues related to project effectiveness and it is clearly stated in Figure 10.

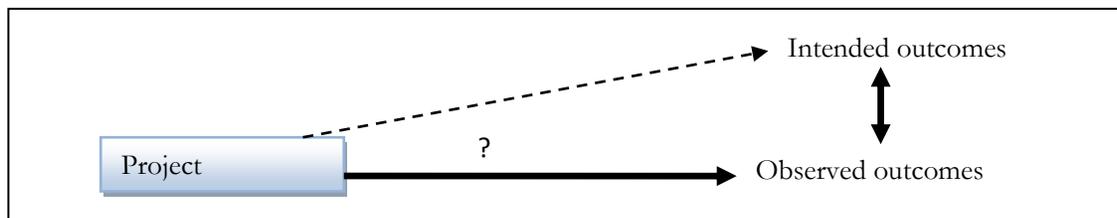


Figure 10 Two commonly asked project effectiveness questions in most evaluations

The horizontal causal link between the project and its outcomes is modified in two ways: (1) intended outcomes are replaced by the *observed outcomes* (what we actually observe when we do the evaluation), and (2) a question mark (?) has been placed over that causal arrow. We need to restate our original question about achieving intended objectives: “*To what extent, if at all, was the project responsible for the observed outcomes?*” Figure 10 raises the second evaluation question: “*To what extent, if at all, are the observed outcomes consistent with the intended outcomes?*” In this regard, the actual outcomes with what the expected comparing what we actually find with what the project was expected to accomplish. Concerning this, answering that question does not tell us whether the project was responsible for the *observed* or *intended* outcomes. As shown in Figure 10, the broken lines link the *project* to the intended outcomes, and assessments of the links are often a focus of performance measurement systems. Where, the benchmarks or comparisons between actual outcomes and intended outcomes can be made. However, what is missing from such comparisons is an assessment of the extent to which observed and intended outcomes are attributable to the project.

Annex A 2 OECD-DAC Criteria for evaluation

As suggested by CARE in the TOR, and as per our technical proposal, the OECD-DAC criterion for evaluation of development assistance project was used for this study. The core criteria used for evaluation were described as follows.

Relevance

Relevance is one of the five OECD/DAC criteria that focuses on the extent to which the objectives of a development intervention are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, country needs, global priorities and partner' and donor's policies. It also considers other approaches that may have been better suited to address the identified needs. The validity of design is an important element of relevance. In relevance, one of the major questions asked was, are we doing the right things? What is the relevance or significance of the intervention regarding local and national requirements and priorities? Hence, the relevance of the Berchi project was rigorously assessed as to what extent it has been a proper response to the socio-economic problems as well as short and long term development goals of the target communities, and consistent with the policies being implemented so far.

Efficiency

Efficiency of the project was measured as to what extent the results have been delivered in the least costly manner. Measure of efficiency was carried out based on evaluating the magnitude of the resources spent on the project and the scale and magnitude of the benefits achieved from the intervention. This was carried out by weighing up how efficient were the resources used to attain the desired goals at least cost. It is directly related to cost-effectiveness how well inputs (i.e. funds, people, material, and time) were used to undertake activities and converted into results, which implied that, the results or benefits should justify the cost.

Effectiveness

Effectiveness measures the extent to which an intervention has achieved its intended or results. It was based upon an intervention's objectives stated in the project document and related indicators, typically stated in a logical framework. However, the assessment of effectiveness should not be limited to whether an intervention has achieved its objectives, but also to identify the major reasons and key lessons to inform further implementation or future interventions. When relevant, this should include a comparison with alternative approaches to achieving the same results. Key elements of effectiveness include:

- *Timeliness:* Evaluations should assess to what extent services and items were delivered in a timely manner, and to what degree of service provision was adequately supported to achieve objectives on schedule.
- *Coordination:* This refers to how well various parts of an intervention, often involving multiple actors, were managed in a cohesive and effective manner.
- *Trade-offs:* the evaluation should assess the effect of decisions made during the intervention that may alter the goals or priorities in acknowledged or unacknowledged ways.
- *Stakeholder perspectives:* The viewpoint of stakeholders can help identify factors related to the performance of an intervention, such as who participated and why, and the influence of the local context.

Impact

This criterion deals with both the positive and negative changes produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended. This involves the main impacts and effects resulting from the activity on the local, social, economic, environmental, and other development indicators. It attempts to measure how much difference the project made. During the examination, it is important to consider both the intended and unintended results and must include the positive and negative impact of external factors, such as changes in terms of market and financial conditions. Its scope includes the wider effects of an intervention, including the social, economic, technical, and environmental effect on individuals, groups, communities, and institutions. Even if it is difficult to measure the impact of Berchi project given the short time span of its implementation, we tried to explore those aspects of lasting and meaningful changes in terms of social, economic, culture and practice, norms etc, which have been seen and directly attributed to the project intervention. Hence, impact to the context of this particular project was seen and assessed in relative terms.

Sustainability

Sustainability is the fifth OECD-DAC evaluation criterion that is concerned with measuring whether the benefits of an activity are likely to continue after donor funding has been withdrawn. This criterion is particularly appropriate for longer-term interventions. There are also indicators of sustainability such as the extent of local institutional and social capacity that could maintain the continuation of the project with sense of ownership and confidence. In general, the five major evaluation criteria of OECD-DAC were used to evaluate the project comprehensively, in so doing; the basic questions of OECD-DAC were adapted to fit into the study context and helped the data collection and analysis of the findings.

Annex A 3 Details on project evaluation methodology and methods

In the evaluation, both probability and non-probability sampling techniques were used in order to draw the required sample beneficiaries households. In order to generate adequate and relevant data for the qualitative evaluation, we selected institutions, individuals and households for FGDs and MSC by using a purposive sampling technique. Participants and the corresponding numbers in each response group was mentioned in section (Annex 27). On the other hand, for the purpose of the quantitative evaluation, the two *Weredas* of South Gondar and all *Kebeles* within *Weredas* where beneficiaries reside formed the study population from which sample frame was selected. As mentioned above, both probability and non-probability sampling techniques were employed to select the study *Kebeles*; beneficiaries of the evaluation (to make comparison between those HHs who have been benefited from the psychosocial support program and those who did not benefited), and to explore the achievements of baseline indicators.

Therefore, a multistage sampling technique was used to select the study *Kebeles* and target beneficiaries. Here the multistage is to indicate the stages of sample selection at (*Wereda*, *Kebele* and HH level) and the different sampling techniques combined together. In stage 1, the two *Weredas* (Ebinat and Simada) as a project implementation sites were selected purposively. The purpose is to keep the consistency with the baseline samples *Kebeles* in each *Wereda* and explore the baseline indicators set in the project document. Thus, it is a must to include two of the study *Weredas*. In stage 2, proportional stratified sampling technique was used to select beneficiary households the study *Weredas*. The stratification was based on sex and being household head (I.e. FHH vs. MHH and women from MHH). In stage 3, in order to examine the benefits of discussion in SAA, it was needed to create two sample households based on the inclusion of HHs into the psychosocial support program (included Vs. not included). Thus, we agreed to add 300 addition HHs as a new sample group to be compared with the 550 HHs for this particular discussion. The 550 HHs were proposed) in fourteen *Kebeles* of the two *Weredas* as end line sample group and 300 *HHs* as a new sample group in ten *Kebeles*. In stage 4, in order to determine the required sample size for the quantitative survey, we employed size determinations formula given by (Kothari, 2004)

$$n = \frac{z^2 \cdot p \cdot q \cdot N}{e^2 (N - 1) + z^2 \cdot p \cdot q}$$

Where, N = size of population (11, 000) I.e., beneficiaries according to the CARE baseline.

n = sample size needed

e = acceptable error (the precision) 5% (0.05);

z = confidence level (95 %) where z=1.96;

p= sampling proportion (0.5) q= 1-p=0.5;

Thus, a total sample size=372, which is 3.38 % of the target beneficiaries, to maintain the baseline sample and make it more representative, we decided to take 5% of the target beneficiaries population (i.e., 550 beneficiaries). Besides to this, as per our agreement with CARE Ethiopia and Austria, 300 additional HHs were included into the final sample to see the discussion in SAA compared with 550 HHs, totally 850 HHs. In this regard, using proportion to population size (PPS) from each *Wereda* and stratum, 596 (70.28 %) females HHs and 252 (29.72%) male HHs were chosen. Totally, 548 HHs (64.62 %) were selected for the end line sample group and 300 HHs (35.38%) as new sample groups, which in the model fitting served as the control group (Annex 1). In other words, the fourteen *Kebeles* with 550 HHs were designed to

compare the results achieved against the baseline figure and ten *Kebeles* with 300 HHs were selected to look into the discussion in SAA compared with 550 HHs (See Annex 1). Finally, as indicated in the stratification, the target beneficiary households from each stratum in each *Wereda* was contacted for the quantitative survey using simple random sampling technique and interviewed HHs in a face to face manner by 24 trained enumerators. In terms of the sample proportion, out of the total 848 HHs, 751 (88.56 %) were VSLA members and 97 (11.44%) were not VSLA member households. When membership in SAA considered, out of the total sample, only 215 HHs interviewed reported as members in SAA. Thus, 86 % of the sample was from VSLA members, 11.44 % were from non-VSLA members, however, in the sample, we did not include those households out of the Berchi intervention.

a) Sources and types of data

Both primary and secondary sources of data were used to generate qualitative and quantitative data for the evaluation. Primary data were collected from local and higher-level institutions such as Regional Food Security Unity, Zonal Food Security Officer, Zonal level CARE field staff (Northern Program Manager), Food Security Task Forces (at *Wereda* and *Kebele* levels), *Wereda* Youth and Children Affair Office Head, *Wereda* Agriculture Development Office Head, *Wereda* Food Security Head, *Wereda* Agricultural Extension Unit Head, *Wereda* Cooperatives Office Head, *Wereda* ACSI Head; *Wereda* Administrator, *Wereda* Justice System Head, *Wereda* Youth and Children Affair Office Expert, *Wereda* level CARE field staff (Officer), *Kebele* administrators, and Development Agents.

The other major sources of primary data were the beneficiaries of the project. In-depth qualitative information were collected from beneficiary individuals/households such as women headed-households, women from male-headed households, and men from male-headed households. Secondary data were generated from a systematic review of documents, policies, plans, and periodic as well as Berchi project performance reports relevant to the project. These documents were collected from CARE, government institutions at local and higher levels (*Wereda* to Federal) mainly from agriculture and rural development sector.

b) Methods of data collection

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

Key informant interview was the major qualitative technique employed during the baseline survey. Hence, we also applied this technique in order to maintain consistency with the baseline methodology. Selected individual officials from the government institutions who have direct influence over (decision-making) and knowledge of the project were selected and interviewed based on the interview checklist. The main focus of the KII was to obtain information on major outcomes and impacts of the project achieved so far in terms of changes in the economic, social and agricultural practices. Moreover, changes that the project has brought in the structure (policy and institutional level) were also be the focus of the KII. Information regarding the status of gender violence over the project's years were collected from key informants in the *Wereda* justice system (police and judiciary). However, tracing the project outcomes require the use of variety of techniques and tools to allow adequate triangulation of facts and attitudes. The KIIs included were, Regional Agriculture and Rural Development Bureau (food security section), Zonal Food Security Officer, *Wereda* Youth and Children Affair Office Head, *Wereda* Agriculture and Rural Development Office Head, *Wereda* Food Security Head, *Wereda* Cooperatives Office Head, *Kebele* administrators, *Wereda* Saving and Credit Institution Head, *Wereda* Administrator, *Wereda* Justice System Head, *Kebele* Chief Administrator, *Wereda* CARE field staff, and Development Agent. Fourteen key informants were interviewed in each *Wereda*, which together amount twenty-eight KIIs for the end line evaluation.

Expert Interviews (EIs)

Experts were selected from *Wereda* and *Zone* for an in-depth interview to elicit such information that was related mainly to the attainment of the project objectives against the targets in the project document. Besides these, experts were better suited to provide information on the scale and magnitude of attitudinal changes both among communities and among institutions. To get the best out of the expert interviews, efforts were exerted to interview those experts who had been working there since the project initiation and who had adequate information on the 'before' and 'after' situations of the

project environment. The experts included were from *Wereda* Food Security Unit, *Wereda* Women, Youth and Children Affairs Office, *Zonal* CARE field staff, and *Wereda* Agricultural Extension Unit. To this end, a total of seven EIs were carried out.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

Focus group discussions were held at *Kebele* and *Wereda* levels. The FGD included were *Wereda* Taskforce, *Kebele* Taskforce, FGD of female-headed households, mixed group FGD, and FGD of male-headed households. As per our discussion with the CARE staff, we agreed up on the inclusion of FGD of male-headed households based on conditions. We conducted three FGDs with (MHHs, FHHs, and Mixed group) in one of the study *Kebeles* as a pilot to check the data or information differences and similarities between the FGD of MHHs and mixed group FGD. As a result, we continued only with three categories at *Kebele* level FGD with (FHHs, Mixed and *Kebele* taskforce) in order to reduce redundancy of information (between the FGDs of MHHs and the mixed groups) and avoid unnecessary complication of analysis and reporting.

Questions asked to the taskforce members were mainly focused on achievements at individual and community level while questions for beneficiary women focused on changes at agency (family and individual) level detailing the benefits and trends of changes in their livelihood and in psychosocial aspects). In the community level mixed FGD, both religious and traditional leaders were included and shared their ideas on the benefits and impacts of the Berchi project. The FGD had a minimum of eight and a maximum of fifteen beneficiary households. Thus, 20 FGDs were carried out (10 in each *Wereda*) i.e., three *Kebeles* from each *Wereda*. The selection of *Kebeles* was carried out in consultation with CARE field staff and considered those *Kebeles*, which were included in the baseline study. Accordingly, using the lottery method, among baseline *Kebeles*, three *Kebeles* were selected from each *Wereda*.

Case Studies (CSs)

As indicated in the TOR, few selected case studies were conducted to have an in-depth information and impression on the lives of the beneficiaries. The case studies involved narration of the socio-economic conditions they were in before the project intervention; the progress they have made throughout the project work; and the benefits or changes in terms of access to and control over productive assets they have acquired now. Due attention were also given to the social and cultural relations, gender norms and practices, attitudinal changes and their consciousness to maintain and sustain the current level of success in absence of the donor agency. This was because the end line evaluation was exclusively guided by the OECD-DAC criteria of project evaluation in order that tracking the changes and evaluating the trends towards the success of the project was manageable. The cases study focused on households whose lives have been changed or remained the same after the intervention of the Berchi project. However, as a chance, four of the cases studies conducted were more of success stories than failure cases. During the case selection, we consulted the DAs, CFs, and beneficiary households in order to explore the detailed experiences and best practices of the project intervention. Using this technique, we conducted four cases studies in four *Kebeles* (I.e., two case studies in each *Wereda*).

Most Significant Change (MSC) technique

MSC is a form of participatory evaluation technique, an informative appreciative interview, alternatively called as storytelling, and even called evaluation *-without*-indicators (Davies and Dart, 2005). It was used to elicit information on the project outcomes/impact through storytelling and appreciative enquiry. It was carried out in collaboration with the community facilitators (CFs) initially searching for the most significant impacts of the project. The designated CFs along with our staff organized a panel of beneficiaries and the most significant changes achieved from the project were raised, discussed, and agreed. The panel include eight to twelve beneficiary households selected in each *Wereda*. Thus, we had two panels for the end line evaluation (one in each *Wereda*). The process of narrating the changes were in the form of storytelling and the participants did this aloud and turn by turn. Eventually, consensus were reached after a series of questions and answers following each story of significant changes. In the discussion, we used defined criteria as to how to select cases for the MSC, and documented the detailed processes of story selection and integrated the findings with other

qualitative information to enrich the evaluation. Therefore, we used the technique to broaden the possibility of obtaining relevant evaluation information.

Field Observation (FO)

We observed the overall situations of the beneficiary households in order to capture the local realities in relation to the project impacts. The observation was conducted in a village where case studies and MSCs were conducted, and the project beneficiaries were densely populated with observable changes due to the project intervention. The observation was guided by a checklist to look at the physical, natural, and social assets acquired by the beneficiary communities in common or individually and as a result photos were taken and documented along with other relevant information.

Document Reviews (DRs)

Secondary data were generated from the documented sources such as policies, plans, and reports at different levels, mainly baseline survey and others to cross-check the planned issues in the baseline survey and achievements as well as challenges on the end line evaluation. Detailed document reviews were carried out in line with checklist we developed. On the other hand, in order to trace the practical changes of the project intervention on the beneficiaries, we thoroughly reviewed the relevant report documents particularly the Berchi project performance reports.

Household Survey (HS)

In order to meet the end line evaluation objectives indicated in the TOR, we employed full-fledged household survey questionnaire to gather all the relevant quantitative data. To address objectives and base line indicators, we adapted those relevant questions used in the base line survey and added some questions to capture issues vis-à-vis SAA, VSLA and the psychosocial components. As a result, twenty-three modules thematically divided were prepared to generate data from beneficiary households in two four Kebeles of the two *Weredas*. For the validity of the data, questionnaire was translated from English to Amharic language and pilot test was carried out to see the apt of HS against the study objectives and result indicators, minor corrections were made accordingly. Therefore, a total of 850 HHs were surveyed in twenty-four *Kebeles* with the help of twenty-four trained data collectors along with field supervisors employed by TZBMC.

c) Methods of data analysis

Once the relevant qualitative information and quantitative data were gathered, both qualitative and quantitative analysis techniques were applied. For the qualitative information, editing, coding, and categorizing the information was carried out thematically. The analysis was carried out following the idea of Bazeley (2009) that involves thematic analysis (*three key strategies*), including description of data, classification of data, and seeing how concepts interconnect. Initially the data were transcribed as they were; then classified into groups based on their similarities and differences; at the end, we made connections between the information in order to construct the picture of evaluation. In so doing, not all these processes happened in the same way rather they occurred concurrently while working on the data, we were transcribing the cases interviewed or observed in the field, i.e., the process was more iterative than linear. Moreover, the qualitative information with boxes and quotes were given due attention in order to maintain high quality of the findings.

On the other hand, the collected numeric data was coded, edited, organized and entered into software by qualified data encoders/data clerk (three from Central Statistics Authority of Ethiopia). Once the data entry was completed, two types of data cleaning techniques were carried out. The first one was possible-code cleaning, which a process of checking to see that only the codes assigned to the answer choices for each question (possible codes) appear in the data file. Thus, series of cross tabulations, frequency tables and raw data checkups were carried out using this data clearing technique. Contingency cleaning was the second type, which is the process of checking that only those cases that should have data on a particular variable do in fact have such data. Since all of the modules were thematically designed. Some of the modules were only applicable to male respondents, female respondents and some mixed. Therefore, we rigorously used these techniques and possibly cleaned before the actual analysis and model fitting.

To process, analyze, organize, and present the findings in various statistical forms, both SPSS (21.0) and STATA (13.0 and 14.0) softwares were used interchangeably. Thematically in line with the basic indicators of the evaluation adapted from the baseline survey and the project documents, accordingly, descriptive statistics such as (mean, median, range, maximum, minimum, and standard deviation) were used to present the descriptive findings or variables with scale measurement. Besides, correlations (income and expenditure before and after the project intervention), chi-square test (to see statistically significant difference on expected results before and after the project intervention), paired t-test (income and expenditure before and after the project intervention), t-test (model adequacy checking), Propensity Score Matching (PSM) (to see statistically significant differences in the income level of households and their membership in VSLA, SAA and other livelihood activities) by comparing participants with non-participants. We also employed Arc-GIS (10.2.1) for mapping the study area.

d) Impact evaluation model estimation

In measuring the impact of a certain program, one often encounters the problem of selection bias that arises from either targeting criteria, or self-selection. The former is mostly referred to as “program placement” bias, and results from effective targeting of the program to poor communities and households while the later prescribe to the idea that people who choose to participate in the program may be different than those with access to the program, but choose not to participate (Gilligan et al., 2009; Khandker et al., 2010; Gertler et al., 2011). Typically, the use of randomized experiments ensures that selection bias is avoided since it compares two groups that are similar in all characteristics except participation in a program, which is randomly assigned (Caliendo & Kopeinig, 2008). These preconditions, however, are not fulfilled by the Berchi project as individuals or households enrolled into the project are selected on the basis of predefined criteria, which targets female-headed households or single-mothers. This means that apart from their participation in the project, project beneficiary individuals/households are likely to be systematically different from non-beneficiary individuals/households on other aspects which may affect the outcome variable resulting in a biased estimate of impact of the project. Typically, the use of randomized experiments or Randomized Control Trials (RCTs) ensures that selection bias is avoided as it compares two groups of samples that are similar in all characteristics except participation in a project (Caliendo & Kopeinig, 2008). However, in cases where random assignment is not possible, an evaluation has to rely on non-experimental methods to identify program/project impacts.²⁴

Our impact identification strategy therefore follows a non-experimental approach in which project beneficiaries are the treatment group and non-beneficiaries are used as a control group in order to estimate the Average Treatment Effects (ATE) of the program. Non-experimental methods all share the idea that some assumptions have to be made in order to identify the causal effect of an intervention in the absence of an observable counterfactual (Bryson, et al., 2002; Gertler et al., 2011). A variety of non-experimental evaluation methods exist and the choice of the best strategy depends on practical considerations such as the project’s features and the type and quality of available data.

Matching methods are the commonly used group of non-experimental approaches that can be applied to evaluate any program or project intervention outcomes as long as there is a group that did not participate in the program/project. Matching principally uses statistical techniques to artificially construct a comparison group through identifying “for every possible observation under treatment, a non-treatment observation (or set of non-treatment observations) that has the most similar characteristics possible.” (Gertler et al., 2011:107). Thus, matching methods depend on observed characteristics to construct a comparison group. Due to this, the methods require the strong assumption that there are no unobserved differences in the treatment and comparison groups that are also associated with the outcomes to be estimated. The most popular matching estimator is the Propensity Score Matching (PSM) (Becker & Ichino, 2002) and

²⁴ This applies for most social programs that deal with poverty alleviation but even where an experiment is feasible, the implementation can be quite difficult. Often, the individuals who are randomly assigned to a control group will try to be in the treatment group if they recognize benefits creating leakage (Nichols, 2007). Moreover, RCT has limited external validity (see Ravallion, 2009).

we used this method along with Direct Nearest Neighbour or one-to-one matching as a strategy to rigorously identify the impact of the Berchi Project intervention. Various comparisons made between experimental methods and PSM have suggested that PSM can produce reliable and low-bias estimates if (1) treatment and control groups are drawn from the same data source; (2) treatment and control groups are exposed to similar economic incentives, such as access to markets; and (3) there are enough variables that can be used to explain outcomes and identify program participation (Heckman et al., 1998; Bryson et al., 2002; Austin, 2011).

The approach operates with the following two assumptions:

$$E(Y_0 | X, T = 1) = E(Y_0 | X, T = 0), \text{ and} \quad (1)$$

$$0 < P(X) < 1 \quad (2)$$

The first assumption (equation 3) is called conditional mean independence. It shows that after controlling for X , mean outcomes of beneficiaries would be identical to outcomes of non-beneficiaries if they had not received the programme. The second assumption (equation 4) is the assumption of ‘common support’ given by expression (3)²⁵. Common support ensures there is sufficient overlap in both treatment and control propensity score distributions (Khandker et al., 2010). Units that fall outside of the region of common support area are dropped. The selection and inclusion of covariates to estimate a propensity score usually depends on a mix of decision criteria that includes knowledge of the program, its targeting criteria, and previous theoretical and empirical studies.

Our analysis utilized two matching methods: Nearest Neighbor Matching and Kernel Matching. Nearest Neighbor matches each treatment unit to a comparison unit with the closest propensity score (which is then unavailable for further matches). For Kernel Matching, a mean figure for the impact variable is used for the number of control units within a pre-defined propensity score, which is allocated a weight inversely proportional to the distance from the treatment unit. Compared to the nearest neighbor, the Kernel has the advantage that we will not lose control observations. Thus, our interpretation of the results of the project’s impact mostly focuses on the Kernel matching outcomes. In order to check the robustness of the mean estimates, Direct Nearest Neighbour Matching (NNM) was also performed. This is a nonparametric estimate which does not need to rely on the probit model used in estimating the propensity score (see Gilligan et al., 2009).²⁶ In the following sections, both the PSM and Direct NNM results are reported on each of the outcome variables.

e) Quality control and ethical consideration

Before the actual data collection, key individuals, experts, and beneficiary households were identified properly, as a result, administration of the actual data was carried out using the various data collection instruments. To ensure the reliability of information gathered, both the core team members and data collectors checked all the interview notes, photos, and audio recordings on daily basis. Moreover, the transcription of all the information from the various tools

²⁵ The propensity score offers a one dimensional summary of multidimensional covariates such that when it is balanced across the treatment and control groups, the distribution of the covariates are balanced in expectation across the two groups (Nichols, 2007).

²⁶ The method is basically the same with PSM as it shares the assumptions of conditional mean independence and common support.

was carried out concurrently in the field. On the other hand, before the data collections, we had the formal communications with the local authorities and concerned sector offices. We pilot tested the survey questionnaire in local language. Data collectors and supervisors were trained and well informed about ethical issues throughout the data collection process. We also received verbal consent from all the key individuals, experts, and beneficiary households in order to carry out the interviews, focus group discussions, and panels in the MSC as well as willingness in the survey questionnaire. In this regard, we maintained the confidentiality and anonymity of information provided by the participants of the qualitative evaluation.

Annex B 1 Household survey questionnaire (HSQ)

Introduction

Hello, my name is _____ and I am from Terneh Zenna Business and Management Consultancy (TZBMC). CARE Ethiopia has been implementing a project named "Berchi or be strong" in your Kebele. The purpose of this Household Survey Questionnaire (HSQ) is to collect information for an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project. You are selected randomly for this survey and your participation in the survey is based on your willingness to take part. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the HSQ will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

General instruction for the interviewer/enumerator

- Please put the code chosen by the respondent in the space provided for close-ended questions;
- The respondent can choose more than one response for some questions;
- Skip the code to which it does not require the response;
- Write down the response for open-ended questions whenever the respondent provides and necessary;
- All questions that require the respondent's recalling time should not extend beyond three years (I.e., exactly before the project intervention);
- Seriously follow the module identification codes;
- **Module identification codes:**
 - CODE A: Applicable to both sexes
 - CODE B: Applicable to only male respondents/male headed household CODE C: Applicable to only female respondents/Female-Headed household and woman from male-headed household.

MODULE NUMBER	MODULE DESCRIPTION
MODULE 1	IDENTIFICATION
MODULE 2	BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
MODULE 3.1	INCOME LEVEL
MODULE 3.2	INCOME SOURCE
MODULE 4	PRODUCTIVE CAPITA
MODULE 5	LOAN COLLATERAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

MODULE 6	HOUSEHOLD DECISION-MAKING
MODULE 7	DOMESTIC TASKS
MODULE 8	GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
MODULE 9	INDIVIDUAL LEADERSHIP
MODULE 10	PERCEPTIONS OF SERVICE PROVISION
MODULE 11	FAMILY PLANNING
MODULE 12	PERCEPTION OF WOMEN LEADERSHIP
MODULE 13	PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY (DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FOOD SECURITY)
MODULE 14	PERCEPTIONS ON RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS
MODULE 15	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH MYTHS
MODULE 16	CONFIDENCE LEVELS
MODULE 17	TIME ALLOCATION
MODULE 18	ACCESS TO SERVICES AND PUBLIC RESOURCES
MODULE 19	CONTROL OVER DECISIONS AFFECTING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
MODULE 20	WOMEN'S MOBILITY
MODULE 21	PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL AFFAIRS, VSLA, SAA, AND FORMAL INSTITUTION
MODULE 22	KNOWLEDGE ON CLIMATE CHANGE
MODULE 23	QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE VALIDITY FEEDBACK

MODULE 1: IDENTIFICATION (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)	
1.1 Questionnaire code	<input type="text"/>
Date of Enumeration	<input type="text" value="___/___/___"/>
1.2 Enumerator Name:	
1.3 Name of Survey <i>Wereda</i>	
1.4 Name of Survey <i>Kebele</i> :	
1.5 Date/Month/Year/of interview: Day: _____ Month: _____ Year: _____	

1.6 Start time(hh:mm)	_____ : _____	end time(hh:mm)	_____ : _____
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MODULE 2: BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S.No.	Questions	Codes	Response
2.1	Sex of the respondent	1=Male 2=Female	
2.2	Marital status	1=Single 2=Married 3=Widowed 4=Divorced 5= Separated	
2.3	If married, age entered into current marriage.	Write _____ in _____ number	
2.4	Religious affiliation	1= Orthodox; 2=Protestant 3= Catholic; 4=Muslim 5= Other specify _____	
2.5	Age of the household head	1 = 18 years or less 2 = 19 to 35 3 = 36 to 55 4 = Over 55 years	
2.6	Total number of persons who are household members as per the definition above		
2.6.1	Children aged 5 years or less _____		
2.6.2	Children or adolescents aged 6 to 18 _____		
2.6.3	Adults aged 19 to 35 _____		
2.6.4	Adults aged 36 to 55 _____		
2.6.5	Persons older than 55 years _____		
2.7	Level of education	1= Illiterate; 2= Grade 1-4 3= Grade 5-8; 4=Grade 9-10 5=Grade 11-12; 6=Above	
2.8	Length of years in current residence area _____		
2.9	Size of land owned in ha _____		

2.10	Terms of ownership	1=Own 2=Rental 3= Other specify_____	
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MODULE 3.1: INCOME LEVEL (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)					
	Income source	1 Who earned income from this [activity] in the past years? Men=1 Women=2 Both =3 No one = 4 If 4, skip to next Source	2 How many months did this [activity] generate income within a year?	3 How much money on average did you get from [activity] each month?	4 How much input did you have in decisions on the use of this income? No input=1 Input on few decisions=2 Input into some decisions=3 Input into most decisions=4 Input into all decisions=5
3.1.1	Agriculture wage labor				
3.1.2	Non-agriculture wage labor				
3.1.3	Skilled labor services				
3.4	Business or trade activities				
3.5	Salary received from Gov't, an NGO, or a private business				
3.6	Transfer payments from Gov't or an NGO				
3.7	Sales of handicrafts				
3.8	Remittances from family members				
3.9	Sales of wood/charcoal				
3.10	Sales of non-timber forest products				
3.11	Crop Sales				
3.12	Sales of livestock or poultry				
3.12a	Sales of milk, eggs or honey				
3.13	Sales of nursery products (vegetable seedlings, tree seedlings)				
3.14	Seed selling (cereals, vegetables, herbs)				
3.15	Renting out tools or equipment				
3.16	Leasing out land				

3.17	Other specify _____				
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MODULE 3.2: INCOME SOURCE (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	Did you receive income from any of the following sources of within the last year? Codes: 1 = Yes 2 = No	Response
3.2.1 Agriculture		
3.2.1 .1	Sales of cereal crops	
3.2.1 .2	Sales of vegetables	
3.2.1 .3	Sales of perennial crops (fruit, if any, coffee and kat)	
3.2.1.4	Sales of oilseeds	
3.2.1.5	Other crop sales (specify _____)	
3.2.1.6	Leasing out crop land	
3.2.1.7	Leasing out farm tools or machinery	
3.2.2 Livestock and livestock products		
3.2.2 .1	Selling fattened shoats (meat)	
3.2.2.2	Selling fattened cattle (meat)	
3.2.2.3	Selling unfattened livestock (cattle, shoats, camels, donkeys)	
3.2.2 .4	Selling raw dairy products (milk)	
3.2.2.5	Selling processed dairy products (cheese, yogurt)	
3.2.2.6	Selling raw animal skins, hides or dung	
3.2.2.7	Selling poultry (meat)	
3.2.2.8	Selling poultry products (eggs)	
3.2.2.9	Selling bee colonies or beehives	
3.2.2.10	Selling honey or bees' wax	
3.2.2.11	Renting oxen for farming	
3.2.2.12	Renting animals for transport	
3.2.2.13	Other livestock related activities or products	
3.2.3. Employment		
3.2.3.1	Salaried job with government	
3.2.3.2	Salaried job with an NGO	
3.2.3.3	Salaried job with a private sector business	
3.2.3.4	Salaried job with another household (e.g. domestic work)	
3.2.3.5	Agricultural wage labor	

3.2.3.6	Non-Agricultural wage labor	
3.2.3.7	Cash transfers or public works from government (PSNP or other source)	
3.2.3.8	Cash transfers or public works from an NGO	
3.2.3.9	Military Service	
3.2.4 Trading and Business		
3.2.4.1	Trading in crops from an established shop (grains, pulses, vegetables, chat, coffee)	
3.2.4.2	Market brokering in crops (grains, pulses, vegetables, chat, coffee)	
3.2.4.3	Trading livestock or livestock products from an established shop	
3.2.4.4	Market brokering in livestock or livestock products	
3.2.4.5	Trading in other products from an established shop	
3.2.4.6	Petty trading from an established location	
3.2.4.7	Mobile trading or street vending	
3.2.4.8	Selling tea or coffee	
3.2.4.9	Selling processed food products	
3.2.4.10	Other business or trade, (specify _____)	
3.2.5 Sales of natural products		
3.2.5.1	Selling firewood or charcoal	
3.2.5.2	Selling water	
3.2.5.3	Selling grass or fodder for animals	
3.2.5.4	Selling construction materials	
3.2.5.5	Selling wild fruit, vegetables, herbs or bush meat	
3.2.5.6	Selling other natural products (specify: _____)	
3.2.6 Crafts and small industry		
3.2.6.1	Making and selling baskets or mats	
3.2.6.2	Spinning or weaving and selling cloth (cotton or wool)	
3.2.6.3	Making and selling traditional utensils	
3.2.6.4	Making and selling farm tools	
3.2.6.5	Making and selling pottery	
3.2.6.6	Producing and selling metalwork	
3.2.6.7	Producing and selling furniture or other wood products	
3.2.6.8	Other crafts or small industry (specify: _____)	
3.2.7 Services		

3.2.7.1	Making or repairing clothes (embroidery, tailoring)	
3.2.7.2	Providing blacksmithing or metal working services	
3.2.7.3	Providing skilled trade services (carpentry, bricklaying, electricity, plumbing)	
3.2.7.4	Water carrier, porter	
3.2.7.5	Barber or hairdresser	
3.2.7.6	Musician (drummer, singer, dancer)	
3.2.7.7	Traditional healer	
3.2.7.8	Midwife or birth attendant	
3.2.7.9	Counsellor or mediator	
3.2.7.10	Begging	
3.2.7.11	Other Services: (Specify: _____)	
3.2.7.12	Estimated household yearly income three years ago _____	
3.2.7.13	Estimated household yearly income now _____	
3.2.7.14	Estimated household yearly expenditure three years ago _____	
3.2.7.15	Estimated household yearly expenditure now _____	

MODULE 4: PRODUCTIVE CAPITA (hereafter, PC) (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

Productive capital		Does anyone in your household currently have any [ITEM]?	How many of [ITEM] does your household currently have?	Who do you think owns most of the [ITEM]?	Who do you think decides whether to sell [ITEM] most of the time?	Who contributes most to decisions regarding a new purchase of [ITEM]?
		Yes=1 No =2 If no, skip to next item		Code CODE 1↓	CODE 1↓	CODE 1↓
		PC1	PC 2	PC3	PC4	PC5
4.1	Agricultural land (pieces/plots)					
4.2	Large livestock (oxen, cattle)					
4.3	Small livestock (goats, pigs, sheep)					
4.4	Chickens, ducks, turkeys, pigeons					
4.5	Fish pond or fishing equipment					

4.6	Farm equipment (non-mechanized)					
4.7	Farm equipment (mechanized)					
4.8	Nonfarm business equipment					
4.9	House (and other structures)					
4.10	Stored seed					
4.11	Small consumer durables (radio, cookware)					
4.12	Cell phone/mobile					
4.13	Other land not used for agricultural purposes (pieces, residential or commercial land)					
4.14	Means of transportation (bicycle, motorcycle, donkey)					
4.15	Savings accounts					
4.16	If your answer is self and partner/spouse jointly on decision-making responses (PC 4 & PC5) of each [ITME], then who usually makes the final decision?	Codes 1=Self 2= Partner				

Code entered definition M4.1. _1 to 5 is for questions and continues until the M4s completed for five questions in column

Code 1 (for PC 4 & PC5): DECISION-MAKING AND CONTROL OVER CAPITAL (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)	
1=Self 2=Partner/Spouse 3=Self and partner/spouse jointly	4=Self and other female household member 5=Self and other male household member 6=Partner/Spouse and other female household member 7=Partner/spouse and other male household member 8=No response

**MODULE5: LOAN COLLATERAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES (HEREAFTER, LC & FS)
(APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)**

Lending sources	Has anyone in your household taken any loans or borrowed cash/in-kind from	Who made the decision to borrow from [SOURCE]	Who makes the decision about what to do with the money/			Did you want to borrow or get a loan from	Why were you not able to borrow from [SOURCE]?
-----------------	--	---	---	--	--	---	--

	[SOURCE] in the past years? Yes...1= cash Yes...2= in-kind Yes....3= cash and in-kind No= 4 Skip to the next question Don't know=5 Skip to the next question	?	item borrow from [SOURCE]?			[SOURCE] in the last 12 months but did not? 1=Yes 2=No Skip to the next source	CODE 2
	LC & FS1	LC & FS2	LC & FS3			LC & FS4	LC & FS5
Village Savings and Lending Associations (VSLA)							
Is the VSLA supported by CARE/FSF or Berchi?	Codes: 1= Yes 2= No						
ACSI							
RUSACCO (Rural Savings and Credit Cooperative)							
Public/private bank							
Informal lender/usurer							
Relative/family members							
Non-governmental organization (NGO)							
Merry-Go-Round							
If your answer is self and partner/spouse jointly on decision-making response, then who usually makes the final decision?	Codes 1=Self 2=Partner						

CODE 1 (for LC & FS1- LC & FS5): Decision-making and control over capital	CODE 2 (LC & FS 5, borrowing)
1=Self 2=Partner/Spouse 3=Self and partner/spouse jointly 4= Other household member 5=Self and other female household member 6=Self and other male household member 7=Partner/Spouse and other female household member 8=Partner/spouse and other male household member 9=No response	1=Have enough money 2=Afraid of losing collateral 3=Do not have enough collateral/did not qualify for the loan 4=Afraid cannot pay back the money 5=Interest rate/other costs too high 6=Not allowed to borrow/family dispute in borrowing decision 7=Place of lender is too far Other, specify

MODULE 6: HOUSEHOLD DECISION-MAKING (HEREAFTER, HDM) (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	Remark for the enumerator If a household does not engage in that particular activity, enter code for “Decision not made” and proceed to next activity.	HDM1, when decisions are made regarding the following aspects of household life, who normally makes the [decision]? CODE 1↓	HDM 2, How much input do you have in making decisions about [ACTIVITY]? CODE 2↓
6.1	Major household expenditures (large appliances, etc)		
6.2	Household consumption of stored crops		
6.3	Buying clothes or other personal items for yourself		
6.4	Spending money that you have earned yourself		
6.5	Spending money that your spouse has earned him or herself?		
6.6	Deciding which children should go to school		
6.7	Seeking medical treatment for your children or yourself in case of illness		
6.8	Whether or not to use family planning (including contraception)		

CODE 1: Decision making	CODE 2: Input into decision making
1=Main male or husband	1=No input
2=Main female or wife	2=Input into some decisions
3=Either the husband or wife	3=Input into most decisions
4=Both husband and wife together	4=Input into all decisions
5=Someone else in the household	9=No Response
6=Decision not made	

MODULE 7: DOMESTIC TASKS (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S.No	Questions	Codes	Response
How often do men and boys involve in tasks at household level?			
7.1	Watching out for the safety of small children (i.e., babysitting)	1 = Never 2 = Rarely 3 = Sometimes 4 = Often 5 = Not applicable	
7.2	Bathing children who cannot do by themselves (child hygiene)		
7.3	Fetching water for the household		
7.4	Collecting firewood for the household		
7.5	Taking children for health care when they become ill		
7.6	Taking children to school		
7.7	Cleaning the house and homestead where people live		
7.8	Cleaning the places where animals are kept		
7.9	Keeping the toilet clean		
7.10	Taking care of the crops being grown on the homestead (i.e., kitchen garden)		
7.11	Cooking food for the household		

MODULE 8: GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

No.	Question	Codes	Response
8.1	In your opinion, is it acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she fails to complete her household chores?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Never 4 = No Opinion	

8.2	In your opinion, is it acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she fails to show respect for her in-laws?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Never 4 = No Opinion	
8.3	In your opinion, is it acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she fails to grant sexual access to her husband?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Never 4 = No opinion	
8.4	In your opinion, is it acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she goes somewhere without his approval?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Never 4 = No opinion	
8.5	In your opinion, is it acceptable for a husband to beat his wife if she questions how household money is used?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Never 4 = No opinion	
8.6	In your opinion, if a girl is age 18 and her parents find a husband for her and make a commitment for her to marry him without her knowledge, would this be considered a forced marriage?	1 = Yes, of course 2 = Maybe 3 = No 4 = No opinion	
8.7	In your opinion, it is necessary for a girl to undergo female genital mutilation	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Never 4 = No Opinion	
8.8	What do you think about the level of GBV towards women over the past three years?	1=Increased, 2=Decreased 3=The same	
8.9	What do you think about community's level of condemning gender based violence over the past three years?	1=Increased, 2=Decreased 3=The same	
8.10	What do you think about the level of forced marriage towards girls over the past three years?	1=Increased, 2=Decreased	

		3=The same	
8.11	What do you think about the level of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) towards girls over the past three years?	1=Increased, 2=Decreased 3=The same	

MODULE 9: INDIVIDUAL LEADERSHIP (CODE C: APPLICABLE TO ONLY FEMALE RESPONDENTS)

S.No.	Question	Codes	Response
9.1	Do you feel comfortable speaking up in public to help decide on infrastructure (like small wells, roads, water supplies) to be built in your community?	1=No, not at all comfortable 2=Yes, but with a great deal of difficulty 3=Yes, but with a little difficulty	
9.2	Do you feel comfortable speaking up in public regarding gender issues (e.g., women's rights, access to common resources, etc.)?	4=Yes, fairly comfortable 5=Yes, very comfortable	
9.3	Are you a member of female only VSLA or some other group?	1 = Yes 2 = No If no, skip to the next question	
9.4	How often do you attend meetings of the association?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Not very often	
9.5	How would you describe your participation in the meetings?	1 = I always say what I think 2 = Sometimes I say what I think 3 = I'm not given much chance to speak in the meetings 4 = I'm there mainly to listen	
9.6	Are you a member of a Producers or Marketing Association?	1 = Yes 2 = No If no, skip to the next question	
9.7	How often do you attend PMA meetings?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Not very often	
9.8	How would you describe your participation in the meetings?	1 = I always say what I think 2 = Sometimes I say what I think	

		3 = I'm not given much chance to speak in the meetings 4 = I'm there just to listen	
9.9	Are you a member of savings or credit association?	1 = Yes 2 = No If no, skip to the next question	
9.10	How often do you attend Savings and Credit Association meetings?	1 = Always 2 = Sometimes 3 = Not very often	
9.11	How would you describe your participation in the meetings?	1 = I always say what I think 2 = Sometimes I say what I think 3 = I'm not given much chance to speak in the meetings 4 = I'm there just to listen	

MODULE 10: PERCEPTIONS OF SERVICE PROVISION (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	Question	Codes	Response
10.1	How would you rate the quality of the support you have received from the government Development Agents (DAs)?	1 = DAs are usually available and give good advice 2 = DAs are available sometimes and sometimes give useful advice 3 = DAs are available sometimes but do not provide much useful advice for me 4 = I rarely interact with any DAs 5 = Others specify_____	
10.2	How would you rate the quality of the support you have received from the government Health Extension Workers (HEWs)?	1 = HEWs are usually available and give good advice 2 = HEWs are available sometimes and sometimes give useful advice 3 = HEWs are available sometimes but do not provide much useful advice for me 4 = I rarely interact with any HEWs 5 _____ = _____ Others specify_____	
10.3	How would you rate the quality of the support you have received from the government Cooperatives Promotion Office?	1 = Cooperative Agents are usually available and give good advice 2 = Cooperative Agents are available sometimes and sometimes give useful advice 3 = Cooperative Agents are available sometimes but do	

		<p>not provide much useful advice for me</p> <p>4 = I rarely interact with any Cooperative Agents</p> <p>5 = Others</p> <p>specify _____</p>	
10.4	How would you rate the quality of the support you have received from the government Office of Women and Children's Affairs?	<p>1 = Representatives are usually available and give good advice</p> <p>2 = Representatives are available sometimes and sometimes give useful advice</p> <p>3 = Representatives are available sometimes but do not provide much useful advice for me</p> <p>4 = I rarely interact with any representatives</p> <p>5 = Others</p> <p>specify _____</p>	
10.5	How would you rate the quality of the support that people in the community receive from the police for addressing issues of physical violence against women?	<p>1 = the police are readily available and effective</p> <p>2 = the police are supportive but not very effective</p> <p>3 = the police usually do not want to get involved in cases of physical violence against women</p> <p>4 = the police will get involved in cases of physical violence against women if they are "motivated"</p> <p>5 = Others</p> <p>specify _____</p>	
10.6	How would you rate the quality of the support that people in the community receive from the justice system for mediating cases of physical violence against women?	<p>1 = the courts are effective and fair</p> <p>2 = the courts are not very effective at mediating cases</p> <p>3 = the courts are mediating cases, but not in a fair way</p> <p>5 = Others</p> <p>specify _____</p>	
10.7	How would you rate the quality of the support that people in the community receive from traditional leaders for mediating cases of physical violence against women?	<p>1 = traditional leaders are effective and fair</p> <p>2 = traditional leaders are not very effective at mediating cases</p> <p>3 = traditional leaders are mediating cases, but not in a fair way</p> <p>5 = Others</p> <p>specify _____</p>	
10.8	How would you rate the quality of the support you have received from banks or micro-finance organizations?	<p>2 = Representatives are available sometimes and sometimes give useful support</p> <p>3 = Representatives are available sometimes but do not provide much useful support for me</p> <p>4 = I rarely interact with any representatives</p> <p>5 = Others</p>	

		specify_____	
10.9	How would you rate the quality of the support you have received from the government Kebele Administration?	1 = Administrators are accessible and give good support 2 = Administrators are accessible sometimes and sometimes give useful support 3 = Administrators are accessible sometimes but do not provide much useful support for me 4 = Administrators are not very accessible 5 = _____ Others specify_____	
10.10	How would you rate the quality of the support you have received from the government Woreda Administration?	1 = Administrators are accessible and give good support 2 = Administrators are accessible sometimes and sometimes give useful support 3 = Administrators are accessible sometimes but do not provide much useful support for me 4 = Administrators are not very accessible 5 = _____ Others specify_____	

MODULE 11: FAMILY PLANNING (CODE C: APPLICABLE TO ONLY FEMALE RESPONDENTS)

S. No.	Question	Codes	Response
11.1	Are you currently practicing any form of modern family planning (e.g., pills, injectables, implants, condoms, IUDs, tubal ligation, or vasectomy)?	1= Yes 2 = No 3 = Not applicable	
11.2	If your answer is no, for question 11.1, what is the reason?	1=Lack of access to modern family planning services 2= Not willing to use 3=Lack of partner's willingness 4= Lack of adequate information on the use 5= Unable to buy the pills and others 6=Others specify_____	

MODULE 12: PERCEPTION OF WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	How do you rate your perception on women's leadership?	Codes	Response
12.1	Women are generally not very good at supervising, so they should not be responsible for organizing community work.	1 = I strongly disagree 2 = I disagree 3 = No opinion 4 = I agree 5 = I strongly agree	
12.2	Women have difficulty making strong decisions.		
12.3	Women do not know enough about community issues in order to make good decisions.		
12.4	Women do have multiple responsibilities that they should not participate in community decision-making meetings regularly.		
12.5	Women are reluctant to express their ideas in community decision-making meetings.		
12.6	Women do not have good skills at managing decision-making meetings.		
12.7	Women are good leaders and should be given more opportunities to lead community decision-making processes.		
12.8	Women who cannot read or write cannot be effective leaders.		
12.9	What do you think about community's perception towards women leadership over the past three years?	1=more encouraging 2= less encouraging 3=About the same	

MODULE 13: PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY (DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING FOOD SECURITY) (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	Questions	Codes	Response
13.1	In the past year, did you participate in any community development activities organized by the Kebele taskforce/kebele administration?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
If your answer for the above question is no, skip to the next question.			
13.2	In the past year, did you participate in any community development activities organized mainly by a Government Development Agent?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
If your answer for the above question is no, skip to the next question.			
13.3	In the past year, did you participate in any community development activities organized mainly by a Government	1 = Yes 2 = No	

	Health Extension Worker?		
If your answer for the above question is no, skip to the next question.			
13.4	In the past year, did you participate in any community development activities organized mainly by the Cooperation Promotion Office?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
If your answer for the above question is no, skip to the next question.			
13.5	In the past year, did you participate in any community development activities organized mainly by the Office of Women's and Children's Affairs?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
If your answer for the above question is no, skip to the next question.			

MODULE 14: PERCEPTIONS ON RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	Would you tell us your level of agreement or disagreement to the following statements?	Codes	Response
14.1	A spouse should be involved in all household decision-making.	1 = I strongly disagree 2 = I disagree 3 = No opinion 4 = I agree 5 = I strongly agree	
14.2	When a wife brings home money from her own personal income generating activities, she must hand the money to her husband whether she wants to or not for him to decide how to use it.		
14.3	When a wife brings home money from her own personal income generating activities, she can add the money to the common household money for both her and her husband to decide how to use it.		
14.4	When a wife brings home money from her own personal income generating activities, she can keep the money to use as she wants.		
14.5	A wife should have the same opportunity as a husband to attend a training event sponsored by government or an NGO.		
14.6	A wife should have the same opportunity as a husband to undertake an income-generating activity that requires her to leave the house at least sometimes.		
14.7	Girls should have the same opportunity as boys to be sent to school by their parents.		
14.8	A wife should seek permission from her husband or other family member to go the market.		
14.9	A wife should seek permission from her husband or other family member to go to a friend's or family members' house near-by.		
14.10	A wife should seek permission from her husband or other family members to go to a community meeting.		
14.11	A wife should seek permission from her husband or other family member to go to seek service from a health care facility/hospital.		
14.12	A woman should have the right to choose the man she marries.		
14.13	A girl should have the right to choose when she marries.		

MODULE 15: SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH MYTHS (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	Would you tell us your level of agreement or disagreement to the following statements?	Codes	Response
15.1	Women who use contraceptives need special food.	1= I strongly agree	
15.2	Men who have a vasectomy will become weak.	2 = I agree	
15.3	An IUD can move around inside a woman and hurt her.	3 = No opinion	
15.4	Women using family planning are more likely to become unfaithful.	4 = I disagree	
15.5	A man who lets his wife use family planning will lose control of her.	5= I strongly disagree	
15.6	A couple who do not want children are not normal.		
15.7	It is wrong for a woman without a husband to use any sort of family planning techniques.		

MODULE 16: CONFIDENCE LEVELS (CODE C: APPLICABLE TO ONLY FEMALE RESPONDENTS)

No.	Would you tell us your level of agreement or disagreement to the following statements?	Codes	Response
16.1	I do not let my economic status stop me from participating in community events.	1= I strongly disagree	
16.2	I can influence important decisions in my community.	2 = I disagree	
16.3	I have at least one good friend with whom I can discuss my problems	3 = No opinion	
		4 = I agree	
		5= I strongly agree	
16.4	How often are your discussions with your husband on household topics productive?	1 = Never	
		2 = Rarely	
		3= Sometimes	
		4 = Always	
		6 = Not married	
		7 = No Opinion	
16.5	How often do you and your husband have arguments?	1 = Never	
		2 = Rarely	
		3 = Sometimes	
		4 = Often	
		5 = Not married	
		6 = No response	

MODULE 17: TIME ALLOCATION (CODE C: APPLICABLE TO ONLY FEMALE RESPONDENTS)

S. No.	Question	Codes	Response
17.1	Was yesterday a holiday or non-working day?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
17.2	Regarding the amount of sleep you got last night, was that [READ RESPONSES]?	1 = Less than average 2 = Average 3 = More than average	
17.3	How satisfied are with your available time for leisure activities like visiting neighbours, listening to the radio, spending time with friends or doing sports? Please give your opinion on a scale of 1 to 5.	1= I never have enough time 2 = Sometimes I have enough time, but not usually 3 = No opinion 4 = I usually have enough time 5= I always have enough time	
17.4	In the last four weeks, how many days of your primary daily activities did you miss because of poor health?		
17.5	Do you suffer from a chronic disability?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
17.6	Are you currently pregnant or breastfeeding?	1 = Yes, I am pregnant 2 = Yes, I am breastfeeding 3 = Yes, I am pregnant and breastfeeding 4 = No	

MODULE 18: ACCESS TO SERVICES AND PUBLIC RESOURCES (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No.	Question	Codes	Response
18.	How do you describe your access to the following services and public resources?		
18.1	Agricultural extension services	1=The service/resource is readily available and I have no problem accessing it 2 = The service/resource is available but I have difficulty accessing it 3=The service/resource is not available in my area 4 = No opinion	
18.2	Health extension services		
18.3	Micro-finance services		
18.4	Common property land		

**MODULE 19: CONTROL OVER DECISIONS AFFECTING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
(CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)**

S. No.	Can you tell us how much input you share towards the following types of decisions?	Codes	Response
19.1	Decision to limit family size	1= No input	
19.2	Use of a birth control method	2 = Input into some decisions	
19.3	Sexual practice	3 = Input into most opinions	
19.4	Accessing reproductive health services	4 = Input into all decisions	
19.5	Female genital mutilation	5= No opinion or not applicable	
19.6	Early marriage		
19.7	Polygamous marriage		

MODULE 20: WOMEN'S MOBILITY (CODE B: APPLICABLE TO ONLY MALE RESPONDENTS)

S. No.	Does your wife have to seek permission from you if she wants to go...?	Codes	Response
20.1	To the market?	1= Yes, always	
20.2	To a female friend's house?	2 = Yes, sometimes	
20.3	To the house of one of your relatives?	3 = No, never	
20.4	To the temple, mosque or church?	4 = No opinion	
20.5	To a public village meeting?		
20.6	To a meeting of any association of which you are a member?		
20.7	Outside your village?		
20.8	To a local social event (fair, theatre, cinema, etc.)		
20.9	To a health care provider?		

**MODULE 21: PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL AFFAIRS, VSLA, SAA, AND FORMAL INSTITUTION
(CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)**

S.No	Questions	Codes	Response
21.1	Do you participate in social affairs such as <i>Iddir, Equib, Mahaber</i> & others?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
If your answer for the above question is no, skip to the next question.			

21.2	Level of participation in social affairs such as (<i>Iddir, Equib, Mahaber</i> & others)	1=High 2=Medium 3=Low 4=None	
21.3	Are you a member of a village-based group that mobilizes savings and gives loans to members (like a VSLA)?	1=Yes 2=No	
21.4	Is this group established with support by Berchi/FSF+?	1=Yes 2=No	
21.5	When was your VSLA founding date? * (too many issues to summarize and may be misleading due to misreporting on dates and years of establishment and overlap in the names of VSLA's)		
21.6	What is name of the VSLA?		
21.7	Is the chairperson of your VSLA male or female?	1=Male 2= Female	
21.8	How is the group composition?	1= All male 2= All female 3= Mixed	
21.9	Has your VSLA been doing the monthly discussions on various topics?	1=Yes 2= No	
21.10	Which topics has your VSLA discussed? (can provide prompts)		
21.11	Does your husband/wife attend the monthly discussions? (all the time, sometimes, never)	1= Yes 2=No	
21.12	Are you a VSLA discussion group facilitator (yes/no)	1= Yes 2=No	
21.13	Have you received asset transfer? (E.g., sheep, goat , etc)	1=Yes 2= No	

21.14	If yes, how many times?	Write in number _____	
21.15	Have you received training on IGA, business development? (bee keeping, business plan, etc)	1= Yes 2=No	
21.16	If yes, how many times?	Write in number _____	
21.17	Have you received training on women's leadership?	1= Yes 2=No	
21.18	If yes, how many times?	Write in number _____	
21.19	Have you received Role Model Training?	1= Yes 2=No	
21.20	If yes, how many times?	Write in number _____	
21.21	Are you a member of the social analysis and action (SAA) forum in your village?	1= Yes 2=No	*psm* model fitting variable
21.22	If yes, when did the discussions start? Month _____ Year _____		
21.23	If yes, are you a SAA Group Facilitator?	1= Yes 2=No	
21.24	Are you a 5-to-1 leader?	1= Yes 2=No	
21.25	Is the person who leads your 5-to-1 also a member of the SAA forum?	1= Yes 2=No 3= Not sure	
21.26	Are you a religious leader?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
21.27	Are you a village agent?	1= Yes 2=No	
21.28	How do you assess the perception of the local people towards SAA?	1=Positively 2=Negatively 3=Do not know	
21.29	Who do you think has benefited most from SAA discussion forums?	1=Mostly woman 2=Mostly man 3=Boys & Girls 3=All 4=Do not know	

MODULE 22: KNOWLEDGE ON CLIMATE CHANGE (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S.No	Questions	Codes	Response
22.1	How important is the issue of long-term environmental change (temperatures, rainfall quantity, rainfall patterns, biodiversity) or climate change to you personally?	1 = Not at all important 2 = Not very important 3 = Important	

		4 = Critically important 4 = I have never heard anything about this	
22.2	Do you think there is anything that you can do to be able to adapt to the effects of climate change?	1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Don't know 4 = I don't think it's necessary to adapt	

MODULE 23: QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE VALIDITY FEEDBACK (CODE A: APPLICABLE TO BOTH SEXES)

S. No	Questions	Codes	Response
23.1	Have you been interviewed by BERCHI/FSF project?	1=Yes 2= No	
23.2	Did they promise you any benefit?	1=Yes 2= No	
23.3	Did they deliver the promised benefits, if any?	1=Yes 2= No	
23.4	Do you think that the questionnaire was too long?	1=Yes 2=No	
23.5	Do you believe the cooperation for response will be helpful/important?	1=Yes 2= No	
23.6	Are you willing to participate in a subsequent survey?	1=Yes 2= No	
23.7	How do you rate our questions?	1= Worse 2= Bad 3= Fair 4= Good 5= Excellent	

Annex B 2 Key Informant Interview Guide

Introduction

The purpose of this **Key Informant Interview (KII)** is to conduct an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the KII will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

Part I: Background Information of the Key Informants

1. Age in years _____
2. Sex: _____
3. Level of education _____
4. Work experiences in years _____
5. Position held _____

6. Institution of work _____

1. Place of work _____ Wereda _____ Kebele _____

1) Relevance

- 1) Was the Berchi project intervention aligned to the Ethiopia's policies and strategies related to food security and poverty reductions as well women empowerment? How?
2. Was the Berchi project intervention a proper response to the short and long term need (food security and livelihoods) of the target communities? How?
3. How is it aligned to the activities of the Wereda and the institutional implementation capacity? (technical feasibility and compatibility to the local activities)?
4. Was the Berchi project relevant to address the gender related problems (gender equality, participation of women, and women empowerment) How?

2) Effectiveness

1. Was the Berchi project implemented according to plan? If not, why not? And what was done about it?
2. To what extent were the objectives of the Berchi project (access and control over productive assets; representation and participation; gender equality; women's empowerment) achieved? What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of objectives? How?
3. Were the activities and outputs of the intervention consistent with the overall goal and attainment of its objectives? Were they also consistent with the intended outcomes and impacts? If not why?
4. Do women and men have equal access to project events, benefits or services? How?
5. Who benefits the most from the project? How and Why?

3) Efficiency

1. How efficient was the use of allocated resources (financial, human and material) for the Berchi project? And implementation based on the planned time frame?
2. To what extent has effective coordination and collaboration with existing interventions and partners been addressed and achieved?
3. Were there other feasible ways to implement the Berchi project that would be more economical than the existing one?

4) Impact

1. Were there some signs (evidences) of positive or negative changes in the lives of the beneficiary communities and their environment? If so, what contributed to this change? If not, why not?
2. Were there any unintended changes (positive or negative) in the lives of the beneficiary communities and in their environment? What were they? Were they directly or indirectly related to the Berchi project or due to other factors?
3. What were the changes on women's access to and control over productive resources, gender equality, women empowerment? How?
4. What intended or unintended changes the Berchi project has brought to the implementation capacity of local institutions to undertake their own development actions?
5. To what extent did the Berchi project contribute to the improvements of the socio-cultural, norms, practices, and relations that were detrimental to gender equality in the project sites?

5) **Sustainability**

1. To what extent can the activities and the benefits of the Berchi intervention continue in the absence of the donor agency among the beneficiary communities?
2. To what extent the local institutional capacity has been built to sustain the project without the assistance of CARE Ethiopia?
3. What specific areas of the Berchi project intervention clearly unsustainable? What are the challenges (risks and threats) to sustain it)? What lessons can be learned from such areas?

Part III: Questions related to expected results of the Project

1) Changes in agency

1. How did the project contribute to the equitable access by women over the productive assets and resources at household level? If not why?
2. How did the project contribute to the increased women's control over assets and resources at household level? If not why?

2) Changes in relations

1. What practical changes have been made in the formal and informal institutions to be supportive to women's empowerment? If not why?
2. What practical changes have been achieved in changing the social and cultural norms to encourage equality of women and men? If not why?
3. Do women and men have equal decision making power at the household? If no, why?
4. Do women and men have equal access and control over resources and income/service provision? If not, why?

5. In what kind of activity do women make decision at household level?
6. Do women face gender based violence/domestic violence/ at home by their husband? If yes, what type of gender based violence?

3) Changes in structure

1. How did the project intervention contribute to women's meaningful participation in household and community level decision-making? Any change in HH work assignment?
2. To what extent did women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation) due to the project intervention? If not why?
3. How supportive was the structure across different tiers of administration in realizing women empowerment? If not why?
4. Do the policy and the law protect and safeguard women and men equally? How and if not why?
5. How does the institution address women and men agendas or needs separately/not homogeneously? If not why?
6. What practical changes have been observed in the capacity and performance of local institutions, changes in local rules, practices, and attitudes that support women empowerment due to Berchi project? If not, why?

4) Outcomes in promoting key learning and impact measurement

1. What were the best practices and key learning outcomes for women's empowerment captured and shared among beneficiary as well as key implementing institutions of the project?
2. To what extent the key research questions contributing to women's empowerment have been answered by the project? If not why?
3. What are the key learning of the project in addressing women and men needs differently?

Annex B 3 Expert Interview Guide

Introduction

The purpose of this **Expert Interview** (EI) is to conduct an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the KII will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

Part I: Background Information of the Interviewee

1. Age in years_____
2. Sex: _____
3. Level of education_____
4. Total work experience in years_____
5. Length of years in current work place_____
6. Position held_____
7. Institution of work_____ Place of work_____
8. Woreda_____ Kebele_____

1) Relevance

1. Was the Berchi project intervention aligned to the Ethiopia's policies and strategies related to food security and poverty reductions as well women empowerment? How?
2. Was the Berchi project intervention a proper response to the short and long term need (food security and livelihoods) of the target communities? How?
3. How is it aligned to the activities of the Wereda and the institutional implementation capacity? (technical feasibility and computability to the local activities)?
4. Was the Berchi project relevant to address the gender related problems (gender equality, participation of women, and women empowerment) How?

2) Effectiveness

1. Was the Berchi project implemented according to plan? If not, why not? And what was done about it?
2. To what extent were the objectives of the Berchi project (access and control over productive assets; representation and participation; gender equality; women's empowerment) achieved? What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of objectives? How?
3. Were the activities and outputs of the intervention consistent with the overall goal and attainment of its objectives? Were they also consistent with the intended outcomes and impacts? If not why?
4. Do women and men have equal access to project events, benefits or services? How?
5. Who benefits the most from the project? How and Why?

3) Efficiency

1. How efficient was the use of allocated resources (financial, human and material) for the Berchi project? And implementation based on the planned time frame?
2. To what extent has effective coordination and collaboration with existing interventions and partners been addressed and achieved?
3. Were there other feasible ways to implement the Berchi project that would be more economical than the existing one?

4) Impact

1. Were there some signs (evidences) of positive or negative changes in the lives of the beneficiary communities and their environment? If so, what contributed to this change? If not, why not?
2. Were there any unintended changes (positive or negative) in the lives of the beneficiary communities and in their environment? What were they? Were they directly or indirectly related to the Berchi project or due to other factors?
3. What were the changes on women's access to and control over productive resources, gender equality, women empowerment? How?
4. What intended or unintended changes the Berchi project has brought to the implementation capacity of local institutions to undertake their own development actions?
5. To what extent did the Berchi project contribute to the improvements of the socio-cultural, norms, practices, and relations that were detrimental to gender equality in the project sites?

5) Sustainability

1. To what extent can the activities and the benefits of the Berchi intervention continue in the absence of the donor agency among the beneficiary communities?
2. To what extent the local institutional capacity has been built to sustain the project without the assistance of CARE Ethiopia?
3. What specific areas of the Berchi project intervention clearly unsustainable? What are the challenges (risks and threats) to sustain it)? What lessons can be learned from such areas?

Part III: Questions related to expected results of the project

1) Changes in agency

1. How did the project contribute to the equitable access by women over the productive assets and resources? If not why?
2. How did the project contribute to the increased women's control over assets and resources? If not why?

2) Changes in relations

1. What practical changes have been made in the formal and informal institutions to be supportive to women's empowerment? If not why?
2. What practical changes have been achieved in changing the social and cultural norms to encourage equality of women and men? If not why?

3) Changes in structure

1. How did the project intervention contribute to women's meaningful participation in household and community level decision-making? Any changes in HH work assignment?
2. To what extent did women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation) due to the project intervention? If not why?
3. How supportive was the structure across different tiers of administration in realizing women equality being demonstrated in their respective policies and plans? If not why?
4. How does your institution address women and men agendas or needs separately/not homogeneously?
5. What practical changes have been observed in the capacity and performance of your institution, changes in local rules, practices, and attitudes that support women empowerment due to Berchi project? If not, why?

4) Outcomes in promoting key learning and impact measurement

1. What were the best practices and key learning outcomes for women's empowerment captured and shared among beneficiary as well as your's as key implementing institutions of the project?
2. To what extent the key research questions contributing to women's empowerment have been answered by the project? If not why?
3. What are the key learning of the project in addressing women and men needs differently?

Annex B 4 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide: For Wereda Taskforce

Introduction

The purpose of this **Focus Group Discussion (FGD)** is to conduct an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the KII will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

Part I: Background Information of the FGD members

1. Total number of FGD members (M ____ F ____ T ____)
2. Institution of work _____ Place of work _____
3. Wereda _____ Kebele _____

1) Relevance

1. Was the Berchi project intervention consistent to the existing food security policies and in harmony with the Wereda food security (PSNP and HABP) programs being implemented by the Wereda government? If not, what were the deviations?
2. Was the Berchi project intervention a proper response to the short and long term need (food security and livelihoods) of the target communities? How?
3. How is it aligned to the activities of the Wereda and the institutional implementation capacity? (Technical feasibility and computability to the local activities)?
4. Was the Berchi project relevant to address the gender related problems (gender equality, participation of women, and women empowerment) How?

2) Effectiveness

1. Was the Berchi project implemented according to plan? If not, why not? And what was done about it?
2. To what extent were the objectives of the Berchi project (access and control over productive assets; representation and participation; gender equality; women's empowerment) achieved? What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of objectives? How?
3. Were the activities and outputs of the intervention consistent with the overall goal and attainment of its objectives? Were they also consistent with the intended outcomes and impacts? If not why?
4. Do women and men have equal access to project events, benefits or services? How?
5. Who benefits the most from the project? How and Why?

3) Efficiency

1. How efficient was the use of allocated resources (financial, human and material) for the Berchi project? And implementation based on the planned time frame?
2. To what extent has effective coordination and collaboration with existing interventions and partners been addressed and achieved?
3. Were there other feasible ways to implement the Berchi project that would be more economical than the existing one? How and What?

4) Impact

1. Which of the project goals have been achieved, which haven't been achieved and why?
2. Was there any evidence of positive or negative changes in the lives of the beneficiary communities and their environment? If so, what contributed to these changes? If not, why not?
3. Were there any unintended changes (positive or negative) in the lives of the beneficiary communities and in their environment? What were they? Were they directly or indirectly related to the Berchi project or due to other factors?
4. What were the changes on women's access to and control over productive resources, gender equality, women empowerment? How?
5. What intended or unintended changes the Berchi project has brought to the implementation capacity of local institutions to undertake their own development actions?
6. To what extent did the Berchi project contribute to the improvements of the socio-cultural, norms, practices, and relations that were detrimental to gender equality in the project sites?

5) Sustainability

1. To what extent can the activities and the benefits of the Berchi intervention continue in the absence of the donor agency among the beneficiary communities?
2. To what extent the local institutional capacity has been built to sustain the project without the assistance of CARE Ethiopia?
3. What specific areas of the Berchi project intervention clearly unsustainable? What are the challenges (risks and threats) to sustain it)? What lessons can be learned from such areas?

Part III: Questions related to expected results of the Project

1) Changes in agency

1. How did the project contribute to the equitable access by women over the productive assets and resources at household level? If not why?
2. How did the project contribute to the increased women's control over assets and resources at household level? If not why?

2) Changes in relations

1. What practical changes have been made in the formal and informal institutions to be supportive to women's empowerment? If not why?
2. How effective was the social analysis and action (SAA) practice in changing the socially detrimental practices and relations of gender inequality both at household and community level? If not why?
3. How effective were the psychosocial activities in changing gender norms as well as the activities towards changing gender norms (including strategic focus on engaging men) such as SAA, VSLA discussions, role models in contributing to women's access and control over resources and to women's meaningful participation;

4. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and representation of women and girls in decision-making on matters that affect their life since the project intervention both at household and community level? If not why?
5. What practical attitudinal changes have been seen in relations between men and women both at household and community level? If not why?
6. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and representation of women and girls in local self-support organizations such as Ikub, Iddir, mahber and others since the project intervention both at household and community level? If not why?
7. Do women face gender based violence/domestic violence/ at home by their husband? If yes, what type of gender based violence? (Specific to justice representative)

3) Changes in structure

1. How did the project intervention contribute to women's meaningful participation in household and community level decision-making? Any change in HH work assignment?
2. To what extent did women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation) due to the project intervention? If not why?
3. How supportive was the structure across different tiers of administration in realizing women empowerment?
4. Do the policy and the law protect and safeguard women and men equally?
5. How does the institution address women and men agendas or needs separately/not homogeneously? If not why?
6. What practical changes have been observed in the capacity and performance of local institutions, changes in local rules, practices, and attitudes that support women empowerment due to Berchi project? If not, why?

4) Outcomes in promoting key learning and impact measurement

1. What were the best practices and key learning outcomes for women's empowerment captured and shared among beneficiary as well as key implementing institutions of the project?
2. To what extent the key research questions contributing to women's empowerment have been answered by the project? If not why?
3. What is the key learning of the project in addressing women and men needs differently?

Annex B 5 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide: For Kebele Taskforce

Introduction

The purpose of this **Focus Group Discussion (FGD)** is to conduct an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the KII will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

Part I: Background Information of the FGD members

1. Total number of FGD members (M ____ F ____ T ____)
2. Institution of work _____ Place of work _____
3. Wereda _____ Kebele _____

Part II: Questions on OECD-DAC Criteria for Berchi Project

1) Relevance

1. Was the Berchi project intervention a proper response to the short and long term need (food security and livelihoods) of the your communities? How?
2. How is it aligned to the activities of your Kebele and the taskfroce's implementation capacity? (Technical feasibility and computability to the local activities)?
3. Was the Berchi project relevant to address the gender related problems (gender equality, participation of women, and women empowerment) of your Kebele? How? If Not why?

2) Effectiveness

1. Was the Berchi project implemented according to plan? If not, why not? And what was done about it?
2. To what extent were the objectives of the Berchi project (access and control over productive assets; representation and participation; gender equality; women's empowerment) achieved? What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of objectives? How?
3. Were the activities and outputs of the intervention consistent with the overall goal and attainment of its objectives? Were they also consistent with the intended outcomes and impacts? If not why?
4. Do women and men have equal access to project events, benefits or services? How?
5. Who benefits the most from the project? How and Why?

3) Efficiency

1. How efficient was the use of allocated resources (financial, human and material) for the Berchi project? And implementation based on the planned time frame?
2. To what extent has effective coordination and collaboration with existing interventions and partners been addressed and achieved?
3. Were there other feasible ways to implement the Berchi project that would be more economical than the existing one?

4) Impact

1. Which of the project goals have been achieved, which haven't been achieved and why?
2. Was there any evidence of positive or negative changes in the lives of the beneficiary communities and their environment? If so, what contributed to these changes? If not, why not?
3. Were there any unintended changes (positive or negative) in the lives of the beneficiary communities and in their environment in your Kebele? What were they? Were they directly or indirectly related to the Berchi project or due to other factors?
4. What were the changes on women's access to and control over productive resources, gender equality, women empowerment in in your Kebele? How? If not why?
5. What intended or unintended changes the Berchi project has brought to the implementation capacity of the taskforce to undertake its own development actions?
6. To what extent did the Berchi project contribute to the improvements of the socio-cultural, norms, practices, and relations that were detrimental to gender equality in the project sites?

5) Sustainability

1. To what extent can the activities and the benefits of the Berchi intervention continue in the absence of the donor agency among the beneficiary communities in your Kebele? If not why?
2. To what extent the local institutional capacity, including the taskforce, has been built to sustain the project without the assistance of CARE Ethiopia?
3. What specific areas of the Berchi project intervention clearly unsustainable? What are the challenges (risks and threats) to sustain it)? What lessons can be learned from such areas?

Part III: Questions related to expected results of the project

1) Changes in agency

1. How did the project contribute to the equitable access by women over the productive assets and resources at household level? If not why?
2. How did the project contribute to the increased women's control over assets and resources at household level? If not why?

2) Changes in relations

1. What practical changes have been made in the formal and informal institutions to be supportive to women's empowerment in your Kebele? If not why?
2. How effective was the social analysis and action (SAA) practice in changing the socially detrimental practices and relations of gender inequality both at household and at community level in your Kebele? If not why?
3. How effective were the psychosocial activities in changing gender norms as well as the activities towards changing gender norms (including strategic focus on engaging men) such as SAA, VSLA discussions, role models in

contributing to women's access and control over resources and to women's meaningful participation in your Kebele? If Not why?

4. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and representation of women in decision-making on matters that affect their life since the project intervention both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?
5. What practical attitudinal changes have been seen in relations between men and women both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?
6. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and representation of women in local self-support organizations such as Ikub, Iddir, mahber and others since the project intervention both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?
7. Do women face gender based violence/domestic violence/ at home by their husband? If yes, what type of gender based violence? (Specific to justice representative)

3) Changes in structure

1. How did the project intervention contribute to women's meaningful participation in household and community level decision-making in your Kebele? Any change in HH work assignment? If not why?
2. To what extent did women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation) due to the project intervention in your Kebele? If not why?
3. How supportive was the structure across different tiers of administration (Kebele and Wereda) in realizing women empowerment?
4. Do the policy and the law protect and safeguard women and men equally in your Kebele? If not why?
5. How does the institution address women and men agendas or needs separately/not homogeneously in your Kebele? If not why?
6. What practical changes have been observed in the capacity and performance of local institutions, changes in local rules, practices, and attitudes that support women empowerment due to Berchi project? If not, why?

4) Outcomes in promoting key learning and impact measurement

1. What were the best practices and key learning outcomes for women's empowerment captured and shared among beneficiary as well as key implementing institutions of the project?
2. To what extent the key research questions contributing to women's empowerment have been answered by the project? If not why?
3. What is the key learning of the project in addressing women and men needs differently?

Annex B 6 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide: Mixed group of beneficiaries

Introduction

The purpose of this **Focus Group Discussion (FGD)** is to conduct an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the KII will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

Part I: Background Information of the Discussants

Group composition: Male _____ Female _____ Total _____

Wereda _____ Kebele _____

Part II: Questions on OECD-DAC Criteria for Berchi Project

Relevance

1) Relevance

1. Was the Berchi project intervention a proper response to the short and long term need (food security and livelihoods) of both men and women beneficiaries? How?
2. Was the Berchi project relevant to address the gender related problems (gender equality, participation of women, and women empowerment)? How? If Not why?

2) Effectiveness

1. Was the Berchi project implemented according to plan? If not, why not? And what was done about it?
2. To what extent were the objectives of the Berchi project (access and control over productive assets; representation and participation; gender equality; women's empowerment) achieved? What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of objectives? How?
3. Do women and men have equal access to project events, benefits or services? How?
4. Who benefits the most from the project? How and Why?

3) Efficiency

1. How efficient was the use of allocated resources (financial, human and material) for the Berchi project? And implementation based on the planned time frame?
2. To what extent has effective coordination and collaboration with existing interventions and partners been addressed and achieved?
3. Were there other feasible ways to implement the Berchi project that would be more economical than the existing one?

4) Impact

1. Was there any evidence of positive or negative changes in your lives and your environment? If so, what contributed to this change? If not, why not?
2. What were the actual impacts or changes on women's access to and control over productive resources, households' food security, and poverty reduction since the project intervention? If not why?
3. To what extent did the Berchi project contribute to the improvements of the socio-cultural, norms, practices, and relations that were detrimental to gender equality in your locality?

4. What were the actual impacts of the Berchi project in increasing the households income, and women decision-making role? If not what were the factors that influenced the changes both from the project and outside the project?
5. What roles do men and women typically play in the community? If not why?

5) Sustainability

1. Will you maintain or continue with the benefits and activities of the Berchi project without the assistance of CARE Ethiopia? If not why?
2. To what extent the local institutional capacity has been built to sustain the project in the absence of CARE Ethiopia?

Part III: Questions related to expected results of the project

1) Changes in agency

1. How did the project contribute to the equitable access by women and men over the productive assets and resources at household level? If not why?
2. How did the project contribute to the increased women's control over assets and resources at household level? If not why?
3. Do women voice their agenda at the public setting and have a say? If not why?

2) Changes in relations

1. What were the practical changes that have been made both in the formal and informal institutions in order to support women's empowerment? If not why?
2. To what extent the project intervention contributed to you in terms of changes in socially detrimental practices and relations of gender equality at household, community, and local government levels? If not why?
3. How do the psychosocial activities affect women's access to and control over resources (food security and economic empowerment)? If not why?
4. How do the economic empowerment activities affect women's meaningful representation? If not why?
5. How does engaging men in gender equality affect women's access to and control over resources? If not why?
6. Did the social analysis and action (SAA) practice contribute to you in changing the socially detrimental practices and relations of gender equality both at household and community level? If not why?
7. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and meaningful representation of women in decision-making on matters that affect their life since the project intervention both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?
8. What practical attitudinal changes have been seen in relations between men and women both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?
9. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and representation of women in local self-support organizations such as Ikub, Iddir, mahber and others since the project intervention both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?

3) Changes in structure

1. How did the project intervention contribute to women's meaningful participation in household and community level decision-making? Any change in HH work assignment? If not why?
2. To what extent did women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation) due to the project intervention? If not why?
3. How supportive was the structure across different tiers of administration (Kebele and Wereda) in realizing women empowerment? If not why?
4. Do the policy and the law protect and safeguard women and men equally in your Kebele? If not why?
5. How does the institution address women and men agendas or needs separately/not homogeneously in your Kebele? If not why?
6. What practical changes have been observed in the capacity and performance of local institutions, changes in local rules, practices, and attitudes that support women empowerment due to Berchi project? If not, why?

4) Psychosocial Issues

1. What were the psychological and social practices that affected women's empowerment and gender equality in your locality? How do they affect? Why?
2. What was the contribution of VSAL and SAA in addressing these problems? If not, why?
3. What actual changes have been achieved in the psychological and social status of women due to the Berchi project? If not, why?
4. What future actions are required in order to ameliorate the psychological and social challenges that are detrimental to women empowerment and gender equality in your locality? Who should do what? How?

Annex B 7 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide: Female Headed Households

Introduction

The purpose of this **Focus Group Discussion (FGD)** is to conduct an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the KII will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

Section I: Female Headed Households

Part I: Background Information of the Discussants

Wereda _____ Kebele _____

Part II: Questions related to expected results of the project

5) Changes in agency

4. How did the project contribute to the equitable access by women and men over the productive assets and resources at household level? If not why?

5. How did the project contribute to the increased women's control over assets and resources at household level? If not why?
6. Do women voice their agenda at the public setting and have a say? If not why?

6) Changes in relations

10. What were the practical changes that have been made both in the formal and informal institutions in order to support women's empowerment? If not why?
11. To what extent the project intervention contributed to you in terms of changes in socially detrimental practices and relations of gender equality at household, community, and local government levels? If not why?
12. How do the psychosocial activities affect women's access to and control over resources (food security and economic empowerment)? If not why?
13. How do the economic empowerment activities affect women's meaningful representation? If not why?
14. How does engaging men in gender equality affect women's access to and control over resources? If not why?
15. Did the social analysis and action (SAA) practice contribute to you in changing the socially detrimental practices and relations of gender equality both at household and community level? If not why?
16. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and meaningful representation of women in decision-making on matters that affect their life since the project intervention both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?
17. What practical attitudinal changes have been seen in relations between men and women both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?
18. What is the extent of change in the level of participation and representation of women in local self-support organizations such as Ikub, Iddir, mahber and others since the project intervention both at household and community level in your Kebele? If not why?

7) Changes in structure

7. How did the project intervention contribute to women's meaningful participation in household and community level decision-making? Any change in HH work assignment? If not why?
8. To what extent did women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation) due to the project intervention? If not why?
9. How supportive was the structure across different tiers of administration (Kebele and Wereda) in realizing women empowerment? If not why?
10. Do the policy and the law protect and safeguard women and men equally in your Kebele? If not why?
11. How does the institution address women and men agendas or needs separately/not homogeneously in your Kebele? If not why?
12. What practical changes have been observed in the capacity and performance of local institutions, changes in local rules, practices, and attitudes that support women empowerment due to Berchi project? If not, why?

8) Psychosocial Issues

5. What were the psychological and social practices that affected women's empowerment and gender equality in your locality? How do they affect? Why?
6. What was the contribution of VSAL and SAA in addressing these problems? If not, why?
7. What actual changes have been achieved in the psychological and social status of women due to the Berchi project? If not, why?
8. What future actions are required in order to ameliorate the psychological and social challenges that are detrimental to women empowerment and gender equality in your locality? Who should do what? How?

Section II for Focus Group Discussion Questions only for VSLA Members

Theme 1: VSLA discussion topics:

- GBV,
- reproductive and productive and community roles,
- women's mobility,
- power relations and decision making in the household,
- women's representation and decision making in formal and informal institutions,
- Family size and polygamy,
- The Impact of Early and forced Marriage,
- Female Genital Mutilation /Cutting(FGM/C),
- Social services, resources and support mapping

Theme 2: What kinds of psychosocial activities have you organized or supported? Like discussing in VSLA group about self-esteem and communication, or parenting?

Probe to get groups to mention VSLA discussion topics:

- self-esteem,
- discrimination and exclusion
- communication
- conflict resolution
- parenting

1. Have you ever attended any activity organized by the Role Models? If yes, what?

Membership in VSLA/economic empowerment activities' impact on women's leadership

2. Do you think your membership in the VLSA, or your participation in the income generation activities, trainings like market access or value chain... do you think your participation in these activities has any effect on your ability to take up leadership in your communities? If yes, how?

Psychosocial activities' impact on women's leadership

3. We can understand that you and some of your male family members have had some discussions on the following topics:
 - Dreams
 - Discrimination, exclusion, and solidarity
 - Self-Esteem Development
 - Communication Skills
 - Conflict Resolution Skills
 - Parenting Skills

4. Do you think these discussions have affected your ability to take up leadership in your communities? If yes, how? If not why?

VSLA discussions on gender norms, roles, and its impact on women's leadership:

5. We can understand that you and some of your male family members have had some discussions on the following topics:
 - GBV, reproductive and productive and community roles,
 - women's mobility,
 - power relations and decision making in the household,
 - women's representation and decision making in formal and informal institutions,
 - Family size and polygamy,
 - The Impact of Early and forced Marriage,
 - Female Genital Mutilation /Cutting(FGM/C),
 - Social services, resources and support mapping
6. Do you think your and your family members' participation in these discussions did contribute to your ability to take leadership in your communities? If yes, how? If not why?

Role models and their impact on women's leadership

7. Do you think any of the activities you attended organized by your community role models have affected your ability to take up leadership in your communities? If yes, how? If not why?

Finally, we would like to ask you

1. How did it feel to have your husband or male family members involved in the discussions?
2. Which discussion in the VSLA has most changed something in your life?

Annex B 8 Checklist for Case Study

Part I: Background information of the case under study

1. Name of the case _____ Sex _____ Age _____
2. Residence area/kebele_____
3. Length of years in current residence area_____
4. Occupation_____ Education level _____
5. Family size _____ number of children M____F____ T____
6. Number of school age children M__ F ____T ____ Children attending school M ____ F ____T _____
7. Size of land owned in ha _____ Terms of ownership _____

Part II: Information related to 'before' the Berchi intervention

- 1) What was the status of households' access to and control over productive resources (food security and economic empowerment)? before and after the project?
- 2) What was the status of households before and after the project in terms of:
 - Gender relations at HH level;
 - The condition of gender violence and gender based work assignment at family level;

- Level of participation in collective decision making process at kebele level;
- Level of representation at community level and membership to available social affiliations (organizations);
- Role-played and influence exerted in social institutions (such as Ikub and Idir) and in formal government institutions in social, economic and political affairs;
- Level of participation in collective development activities that favor the local community (watershed management, water harvesting, road construction, etc);
- Participation in VSLA and/or SAA and significance of the participation for social, economic and gender related changes of the household (only after the project intervention);
- The food security status of the household after the project;
- Level and amount of overall productive assets of the HH after the project;

Part III: Issues of psychosocial activities

1. What were the psychological and social practices that affected women's empowerment and gender equality in your locality? How do they affect? Why?
2. What was the contribution of VSAL and SAA in addressing these problems? If not, why?
3. What actual changes have been achieved in the psychological and social status of women due to the Berchi project? If not, why?
4. What future actions are required in order to ameliorate the psychological and social challenges that are detrimental to women empowerment and gender equality in your locality? Who should do what? How?

Part IV. Open comments and suggestions of the case regarding the project

1. What are the major strong sides and achievements of the project?
2. What are the major drawbacks of the project?
3. What should be done in the future? Who should do what?

Annex B 9 Most Significant Change (MSC) Guide

Introduction

The purpose of this **Most Significant Change (MSC)** is to conduct an end line evaluation of the 'Berchi or be strong' project and to assess the project as per OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. Moreover, the evaluation is intended to critically analyze what changes and impacts the project has brought in line with the intended objectives based on the indicators used in the baseline study and to generate evidence of changes that the project has delivered. It also seeks to answer key questions as to what extent the changes have been seen at three different levels of structure, relations, and agency. The information you provided will be useful to draw some conclusions, acquire lessons and forwarding possible recommendations, which can be helpful for making some practical interventions by the concerned bodies. Therefore, your kind cooperation with honest responses to the MSC will be vital for the overall success of the study. Results and any other details will not be used for un-intended purpose. To this end, anonymity and confidentiality of our respondents are highly guaranteed unless and otherwise under mutual agreement between the concerned parts.

The MSC questions

The MSC process begins by searching for the answer to a simple question. For the end line evaluation; we designed questions along the main formwork of the analysis (SLF) and the questions are as follows:

- 1) From your point of view, can you describe the most significant change in your household livelihood situation/food security/ gender equality/ women empowerment? When did these changes begin? What do you think caused them?

This question has six parts:

- a) **'From your point of view...'** - this asks the storyteller to make their own judgment.
- b) **'...can you describe...'** – this asks the storyteller to tell a detailed story.
- c) **'...the most significant...'** - this asks the storyteller to focus on one particular thing, rather than to comment on many different things.
- d) **'...change...'** - this asks the storyteller to be more selective and to talk about a change rather than something that was already happening.
- e) **'...your household livelihood situation/food security/ gender equality/ women empowerment ...'** - this asks the storyteller to talk about a specific type of change that they think has happened to them, rather than to other people.
- f) **'...when did the changes begin'**– this provides the point of time in order to delineate the project intervention from other initiatives.
- g) **'...what do you think caused them...'** - this indicates the particular attribution of Berchi project.

This is the MSC approach and template by which the facilitators lead the story telling process turn by turn until the level of data saturation among the discussants. The facilitator initiates further discussion by raising issues related to major project achievements by saying "in my opinion", "from my point of view", so forth. so as to guide the story tellers to be focused. The storytellers will describe what the most significant change from their perspective is and tell a story of their own lives in relation to the change they describe. The stories of each speaker will be carefully recorded and photographed. Then, the facilitator sorts out the major changes frequently raised by storytellers and facilitate the discussion towards consensus.

Annex B 10 Field Observation Checklist

Part I. Background information of observation area

1. Name of kebele of observation _____
2. Name of specific village of observation _____
3. Number of households in the village _____
4. Number of Berchi project beneficiary households in the village M _____ F _____ T _____

Part II. Guidelines for observation: the following issues will be observed during the transect walk

1. The condition of housing
2. The condition of infrastructure (health facilities, schools, farm training center, potable water, roads, flour mill, saving and credit institutions, etc.)
3. The condition of natural resources (soil fertility, water, vegetation cover)
4. The condition of agricultural activities
5. The condition of domestic animals and crop yield
6. The level of resource dependence by communities
7. Management of common pool resources (if any)

Annex B 11 Document review checklist

Documents to be reviewed include CARE's reports, baseline document, project documents, and government documents including policies, strategies, plans related to agricultural development, food security and livelihood diversification, and women empowerment mainly at zonal, regional, and national levels. The review will focus on the:

- 1) Comprehensiveness in integrating multifaceted aspects of rural development;
- 2) Emphasis on livelihood improvement and inclusion of viable strategies;
- 3) Synergy among policies and strategies of livelihood diversification, food security, and women empowerment;
- 4) Two sets of reports (before and after Berchi intervention) of Wereda government focusing on food security, women empowerment and livelihood diversification will be explored for comparison; and
- 5) The recent performance reports of Berchi project will be compared against the baseline document.

Annex 1 Study *Kebeles* by *Wereda*

		Name of Survey Wereda		Total
		Ebinat	Simada	
Name of survey <i>Kebele</i>	<i>Kebeles</i>	Freq.	Percent	
	<i>Kebele 5</i>	41	4.8	41
	<i>Kebele 7</i>	34	4.0	34
	<i>Kebele 12</i>	33	3.9	33
	<i>Kebele 36</i>	39	4.6	39
	<i>Kebele 19</i>	34	4.0	34
	<i>Kebele 9</i>	34	4.0	34
	<i>Kebele 39</i>	34	4.0	34
	<i>Kebele 2</i>	34	4.0	34
	<i>Kebele 24</i>	30	3.5	30
	<i>Kebele 32</i>	30	3.5	30
	<i>Kebele 35</i>	30	3.5	30
	<i>Kebele 6</i>	30	3.5	30
	<i>Kebele 26</i>	30	3.5	30
	Ziha	34	4.0	34
	Abina	34	4.0	34
	Jiman Dergeha	70	8.3	70
	Selemaya Lano	59	7.0	59
	Debre Abajale	34	4.0	34
	Gedaye	34	4.0	34
	Agesa	30	3.5	30
	Aja	30	3.5	30
	Shungi	30	3.5	30
	Wariba	30	3.5	30
	Woregaja	30	3.5	30
% in each <i>Wereda</i>		48.94%	51.06%	100

Total	415	433	848
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Annex 2 Income level by sample groups

Income level & income from value chain-type sources	Additional sample (new) ²⁷ (n=300)	End line sample (EL1) (n=548) ²⁸	End line total sample (EL2) (n=848) ²⁹	Base line sample (BL) (n=493) ³⁰
Number of households reporting income level	279	508	787	493
Number of female-headed households reporting income level	186	353	539	189
Number of male-headed households reporting income level	93	155	248	304
Number of landless households reporting income levels	62	134	196	96
Average total income from listed sources	3902.54	4422.02	4237.86	4761.08
Average total income for female-headed households	3887.69	4360.88	4197.59	2574.45
Average total income for male-headed households	3932.26	4561.29	4325.40	6002.62
Average total income for landless households from listed sources	4242.03	4225.31	4225.306	2485.43
Percent of households reporting earning income from business or trade activities	22.00	14.36	17.09	16.2
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from business or trade activities	44.14(49)	55.85%(111)	18.62 (145)	22.2
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from business or trade activities	25.75(17)	21.51(17)	29.56(34)	12.2

²⁷ This refers to the sample households added to capture the psychosocial components of the project, which was not included during the baseline study among the studied *Kebeles*. For the discussion purpose, we used new to indicate the additional sample households where (n=300) across the report.

²⁸ This is to indicate the total sample determined for the end line evaluation and we agreed during the kick off meeting (n=550), in the report, we used EL1 to indicate the end line (EL1) sample. Two households were missing and we used (n=548) as a final sample throughout the report.

²⁹ This is to indicate the total sample households involved in the end line evaluation, which is the aggregate of the new sample and end line sample 1 (300+ 548=848). In the report, we used EL2 to indicate the total end line sample (EL2).

³⁰ This is to indicate the total sample households involved during the base line study. In the report, we used BL to indicate the total base line sample (BL) where (n=493).

Number of households reporting women earning income from business or trade activities	49	62	111	10
Number of households reporting men earning income from business or trade activities	17	17	34	4
Average income from business or trade	355.803	482.974	425.089	172.28
Average income from business or trade for female-headed households	293.938	413.306	360.612	137.02
Average income from business or trade for male-headed households	534.117	737.058	635.588	212.3
Average income from business or trade for households reporting women earning income from this source	229.00	321.28	276.94	
Average income from business or trade for households reporting men earning income from this source	443.33	440.56	441.83	
Percent of households reporting earning income from sales of handicrafts	1.66	4.57	3.65	11.8
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from sales of handicrafts	1.95	5.89	4.53	18.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from sales of handicrafts	1.05	1.27	1.19	7.6
Number of households reporting women earning income from sales of handicrafts	1.00	4.20	3.07	52
Number of households reporting men earning income from sales of handicrafts	0.67	0.18	0.35	6
Average income from sales of handicrafts	57.5	86.72	76.38	104.67
Average income from sales of handicrafts for female-headed households	60.73	116.12	97.06	76.31
Average income from sales of handicrafts for male-headed households	50.52	13.50	27.46	147.83
Average income from sales of handicrafts for hhs reporting women earning income from this source	7	7.82	7.73	
Average income from sales of handicrafts for households reporting men earning income from this source	7.5	2	5.66	

Percent of households reporting earning income from crop sales	19.33	12.59	14.98	22.9
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from crop sales	17.76	8.76	11.78	20.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from crop sales	6.19	5.63	5.82	24.3
Number of households reporting women earning income from crop sales	9.67	3.28	5.54	54
Number of households reporting men earning income from crop sales	7.67	5.11	6.01	10
Average income from crop sales	317.1	211.63	248.94	189.95
Average income from crop sales for female-headed households	337.95	182.19	235.77	88.1
Average income from crop sales for male-headed households	272.10	284.95	280.11	236.13
Average income from crop sales for households reporting women earning income from this source	1877.24	2273.33	2028.93	
Average income from crop sales for households reporting men earning income from this source	1639.13	1782.42	1717.80	
Percent of households reporting earning income from sales of livestock or poultry	22.00	15.90	18.06	22.9
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from sales of livestock or poultry	19.51	16.15	17.31	12.2
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from sales of livestock or poultry	27.37	15.29	19.84	26
Number of households reporting women earning income from sales of livestock or poultry	31	39	70	28
Number of households reporting men earning income from sales of livestock or poultry	19	27	46	32
Average income from sales of livestock and poultry	661.59	804.00	743.75	780.98
Average income from sales of livestock or poultry for female-headed households	482.12	724.53	632.19	688.65

Average income from sales of livestock or poultry for male-headed households	937.69	1010.6	973.43	807.53
Average income from sales of livestock/poultry for hhs reporting women earning income from this source	450.64	617.05	543.35	
Average income from sales of livestock/poultry for hhs reporting men earning income from this source	663.94	739.44	708.26	
Percent of households reporting earning income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	12.33	6.76	8.74	27.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	9.76	6.92	7.90	22.2
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	17.89	6.37	10.71	30.9
Number of households reporting women earning income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	16	19	35	103
Number of households reporting men earning income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	5	4	9	5
Average income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	71.78	49.01	57.06	32.78
Average income from sales of milk/eggs/honey for female-headed households	59.02	43.45	48.80	32.6
Average income from sales of milk/eggs/honey for male-headed households	99.31	62.86	76.60	32.78
Average income from sales of milk/eggs/honey for hhs reporting women earning income from this source	434.68	524.47	483.42	
Average income from sales of milk/eggs/honey for hhs reporting men earning income from this source	396	437.5	414.44	
Percent of households reporting earning income from sales of nursery products	2.33	3.65	3.18	1.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from sales of nursery products	1.95	2.56	2.35	0
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from sales of nursery products	3.16	6.37	5.16	2.6

Number of households reporting women earning income from sales of nursery products	0	1	5	0
Number of households reporting men earning income from sales of nursery products	1	6	16	5
Average income from sales of nursery products	19.2	41.84	33.83	233.62
Average income from sales of nursery products for female-headed households	23.41	32.30	29.24	0
Average income from sales of nursery products for male-headed households	10.10	65.60	44.68	233.62
Average income from sales of nursery products for hhs reporting women earning income from this source	405	86.66	214	
Average income from sales of nursery products for hhs reporting men earning income from this source	101.66	0.00	19.06	
Percent of households reporting earning income from seed selling	4.68	2.74	3.42	2
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from seed selling	2.93	3.07	3.02	0.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from seed selling	8.51	1.91	4.38	3
Number of households reporting women earning income from seed selling	2	2	8	4
Number of households reporting men earning income from seed selling	4	2	11	1
Average income from seed selling	45.4	18.90	28.27	308.7
Average income from seed selling for female-headed households	33.17	22.91	26.44	45
Average income from seed selling for male-headed households	71.78	8.91	32.61	338
Average income from seed selling for hhs reporting women earning income from this source	1080	490	711.25	
Average income from seed selling for hhs reporting men earning income from this source	883.33	916	898.18	
Percent of households reporting earning	0	0.18	0.12	0.2

income from renting out tools or equipment				
Percent of female-headed households reporting income from renting out tools/equipment	0	0.26	0.17	0
Percent of male-headed households reporting income from renting out tools/equipment	0	0	0	0.3
Number of households reporting women earning income from renting out tools/equipment	0	0	0	0
Number of households reporting men earning income from renting out tools/equipment	0	1	1	1
Average income from renting out tools or equipment	0	1440	1440	30
Average income from renting out tools/equipment for female-headed households	0	1440	1440	0
Average income from renting out tools/equipment for male-headed households	0	0	0	30
Average income from renting out tools/equipment for hhs reporting women earning income from this source	0	1440	1440	
Average income from renting out tools/equipment for hhs reporting men earning income from this source	0	0	0	

Annex 3 Input into income decision-making

Input into income decision-making	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of female respondents reporting on income from business or trade activities	45	56	101	57
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from business or trade activities	57.57	58.22	57.93	59.6
Number of female respondents reporting on income from crop sales	198	364	562	?
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from crop sales	66.66	44.77	54.83	40.6
Number of female respondents reporting on income from sales of livestock or poultry	37	62	99	51

Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from sales of livestock or poultry	55.38	53.33	54.19	35.1
Number of female respondents reporting on income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	19	27	46	73
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from sales of milk, eggs or honey	47.22	50.00	48.64	58.9
Number of female respondents reporting on income from sales of nursery products	7	20	27	0
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from sales of nursery products	28.57	40.00	37.03	0
Number of female respondents reporting on income from seed selling	5	12	17	4
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on income from seed selling	33.33	66.66	50	25
Number of female respondents reporting on income from renting out tools or equipment	0	1	1	0
Percent of female respondents reporting input on most or all decisions on renting out tools or equipment	0	100	100	0

Annex 4 Graduation threshold

Graduation threshold	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Average reported annual income per adult equivalent household member	2331.49	2642.30	2537.82	0
Percentage of these reporting more than 400 birr per year per adult equivalent HH member	79.33%(238)	84.72%(466)	99.43%(704)	%(N)

Annex 5 Income sources by sample

Income sources	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of households reporting income sources	279	508	787	493
Number of female-headed households reporting income sources	186	353	539	189
Number of male-headed households reporting income sources	93	155	248	304
Number of female respondents reporting income sources	179	326	505	291
Number of male respondents reporting income sources	100	182	282	202

Number of landless households reporting income sources	62	134	196	96
Average number of different sources of income for all households	NA ³¹	NA	NA	4.01
Average number of different sources of income for female-headed households	NA	NA	NA	4.22
Average number of different income sources for male-headed households	NA	NA	NA	3.89
Average number of different sources of income for female respondents	NA	NA	NA	4.017
Average number of different sources of income for male respondents	NA	NA	NA	4.019
Average number of different sources of income reported by landless households	NA	NA	NA	3.58
<i>Value-chain income sources</i>				
Percent of households reporting sales of cereal crops	61.33	59.31	60.02	19.1
Percent of female-headed households reporting sales of cereal crops	70.24	62.15	64.93	16.9
Percent of male-headed households reporting sales of cereal crops	42.11	52.23	48.41	20.4
Percent of female respondents reporting sales of cereal crops	69.70	62.09	64.77	16.2
Percent of male respondents reporting sales of cereal crops	45.10	53.80	50.70	23.3
Percent of households reporting sales of vegetables	43.67	39.42	40.92	6.9
Percent of female-headed households reporting sales of vegetables	40.00	34.78	36.58	2.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting sales of vegetables	51.58	50.96	51.19	9.5
Percent of female respondents reporting sales of vegetables	38.38	31.87	34.16	4.8
Percent of male respondents reporting sales of vegetables	53.92	54.35	54.20	9.9
Percent of households reporting sales of perennial crops	2.67	4.01	3.54	4.5

³¹ Tabulation of such sources is misleading. Thus, we considered it as not applicable for our comparison purpose.

Percent of female-headed households reporting sales of perennial crops	2.44	3.32	3.02	1.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting sales of perennial crops	3.16	5.73	4.76	6.3
Percent of female respondents reporting sales of perennial crops	2.02	3.30	2.85	2.7
Percent of male respondents reporting sales of perennial crops	3.92	5.43	4.90	6.9
Percent of households reporting sales of oilseeds	12.33	10.77	11.32	9.9
Percent of female-headed households reporting sales of oilseeds	8.78	10.23	9.73	7.4
Percent of male-headed households reporting sales of oilseeds	20.00	12.10	15.08	11.5
Percent of female respondents reporting sales of oilseeds	6.57	6.32	6.41	9.3
Percent of male respondents reporting sales of oilseeds	23.53	19.57	20.98	10.9
Percent of households reporting other crop sales	1.00	0.73	0.83	1.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting other crop sales	0.98	0.77	0.84	4.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting other crop sales	1.05	0.64	0.79	1.3
Percent of female respondents reporting other crop sales	1.01	0.82	0.89	1.4
Percent of male respondents reporting other crop sales	0.98	0.54	0.70	2
Percent of households reporting leasing out farm tools or equipment	2.00	1.82	1.89	1
Percent of female-headed households reporting leasing out farm tools or equipment	2.44	2.56	2.52	2.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting leasing out farm tools or equipment	1.05	0.00	0.40	0.3
Percent of female respondents reporting leasing out farm tools or equipment	2.53	2.75	2.67	1
Percent of male respondents reporting leasing out farm tools or equipment	0.98	0.00	0.35	1
Percent of households reporting selling fattened shoats	22.67	25.36	24.41	1.8
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling	14.63	16.88	16.11	2.6

fattened shoats				
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling fattened shoats	40.00	46.5	44.05	1.3
Percent of female respondents reporting selling fattened shoats	14.14	15.66	15.12	1.7
Percent of male respondents reporting selling fattened shoats	39.22	44.57	42.66	2
Percent of households reporting selling fattened cattle	4.67	8.23	6.97	1.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling fattened cattle	4.39	5.90	5.38	1.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling fattened cattle	5.26	14.01	10.71	1.6
Percent of female respondents reporting selling fattened cattle	3.54	4.41	4.10	1
Percent of male respondents reporting selling fattened cattle	6.86	15.76	12.59	2.5
Percent of households reporting selling unfattened livestock	30.00	19.53	23.23	16.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling unfattened livestock	23.90	16.88	19.30	8.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling unfattened livestock	43.16	26.11	32.54	21.5
Percent of female respondents reporting selling unfattened livestock	23.23	13.74	17.08	11.7
Percent of male respondents reporting selling unfattened livestock	43.14	30.98	35.31	23.8
Percent of households reporting selling raw dairy products	24.33	25.36	25.00	1
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling raw dairy products	28.29	22.51	24.50	1.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling raw dairy products	15.79	32.48	26.19	1
Percent of female respondents reporting selling raw dairy products	28.28	22.80	24.73	1.4
Percent of male respondents reporting selling raw dairy products	16.67	30.43	25.52	0.5

Percent of households reporting selling processed dairy products	0.00	1.09	0.71	0.8
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling processed dairy products	0.00	1.02	0.67	0.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling processed dairy products	0.00	1.27	0.79	1
Percent of female respondents reporting processed dairy products	0.00	0.55	0.36	0.7
Percent of male respondents reporting processed dairy products	0.00	2.17	1.40	1
Percent of households reporting selling raw animal skins, hides or dung	0.33	3.65	2.48	3.7
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling raw animal skins, hides or dung	0.49	3.07	2.18	2.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling raw animal skins, hides or dung	0.00	5.10	3.17	4.6
Percent of female respondents reporting selling raw animal skins, hides or dung	0.00	1.65	1.07	2.4
Percent of male respondents reporting selling raw animal skins, hides or dung	0.98	7.61	5.24	5.4
Percent of households reporting selling poultry	33.67	30.84	31.84	5.9
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling poultry	33.17	31.97	32.38	8.9
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling poultry	34.74	28.03	30.56	7.6
Percent of female respondents reporting selling poultry	32.32	32.14	32.21	8.2
Percent of male respondents reporting selling poultry	36.27	28.26	31.12	7.4
Percent of households reporting selling poultry products	46.67	39.78	42.22	6.4
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling poultry products	46.34	36.32	39.77	20.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling poultry products	47.37	48.41	48.02	30.3
Percent of female respondents reporting selling poultry products	46.97	35.71	39.68	23.7

Percent of male respondents reporting selling poultry products	46.08	47.83	47.20	30.2
Percent of households reporting bee colonies or beehives	4.67	3.65	4.01	1.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting bee colonies or beehives	2.93	2.81	2.85	1.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting bee colonies or beehives	8.42	5.73	6.75	1.6
Percent of female respondents reporting bee colonies or beehives	3.03	3.02	3.02	1.4
Percent of male respondents reporting bee colonies or beehives	7.84	4.89	5.94	2
Percent of households reporting renting oxen for farming	2.33	2.74	2.59	0.2
Percent of female-headed households reporting renting oxen for farming	1.46	3.32	2.68	0.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting renting oxen for farming	4.21	1.27	2.38	0
Percent of female respondents reporting renting oxen for farming	1.52	3.57	2.85	0.3
Percent of male respondents reporting renting oxen for farming	3.92	1.09	2.10	0
Percent of households reporting renting animals for transport	0.33	0.91	0.71	0.2
Percent of female-headed households reporting renting animals for transport	0.49	0.51	0.50	0.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting renting animals for transport	0.00	1.91	1.19	0
Percent of female respondents reporting renting animals for transport	0.51	0.55	0.53	0.3
Percent of male respondents reporting renting animals for transport	0.00	1.63	1.05	0
Percent of households reporting market brokering in crops	1.67	2.01	1.89	3.0
Percent of female-headed households reporting market brokering in crops	2.44	2.30	2.35	2.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting market brokering in crops	0.00	1.27	0.79	3.3

Percent of female respondents reporting market brokering in crops	0.51	1.65	1.25	2.1
Percent of male respondents reporting market brokering in crops	3.92	2.72	3.15	4.5
Percent of households reporting market brokering in livestock or livestock products	0.33	0.18	0.24	1.4
Percent of female-headed households reporting market brokering in livestock or livestock products	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting market brokering in livestock or livestock products	1.05	0.64	0.79	1.3
Percent of female respondents reporting market brokering in livestock or livestock products	0.00	0.00	0.00	1
Percent of male respondents reporting market brokering in livestock or livestock products	0.98	0.54	0.70	2
Percent of households reporting selling processed food products	1.67	1.82	1.77	4.1
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling processed food products	2.44	2.56	2.52	6.9
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling processed food products	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.3
Percent of female respondents reporting processed food products	2.53	2.75	2.67	6.2
Percent of male respondents reporting processed food products	0.00	0.00	0.00	1
Percent of households reporting selling grass or fodder for animals	5.33	5.84	5.66	8.1
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling grass or fodder for animals	4.88	5.88	5.54	6.3
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling grass or fodder for animals	6.32	5.73	5.95	9.2
Percent of female respondents reporting selling grass or fodder for animals	2.53	4.40	3.74	5.8
Percent of male respondents reporting selling grass or fodder for animals	10.78	8.70	9.44	11.4
Percent of households reporting making and selling	0.67	2.37	1.77	0.8

baskets				
Percent of female-headed households reporting making and selling baskets	0.00	2.30	1.51	1.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting making and selling baskets	2.11	2.55	2.38	0.3
Percent of female respondents reporting making and selling baskets	0.00	2.20	1.42	1
Percent of male respondents reporting making and selling baskets	1.96	2.72	2.45	0.5
Percent of households reporting spinning or weaving and selling cloth	24.00	21.35	22.29	10.3
Percent of female-headed households reporting spinning or weaving and selling cloth	29.53	27.62	33.17	18.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting spinning or weaving and selling cloth	4.21	5.73	5.16	5.3
Percent of female respondents reporting spinning or weaving and selling cloth	34.34	28.85	30.78	15.1
Percent of male respondents reporting spinning or weaving and selling cloth	3.92	6.52	5.59	3.5
Percent of households reporting making and selling farm tools	1.33	1.64	1.53	0.4
Percent of female-headed households reporting making and selling farm tools	1.95	2.30	2.18	0.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting making and selling farm tools	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.3
Percent of female respondents reporting making and selling farm tools	0.00	0.82	0.53	0.5
Percent of male respondents reporting making and selling farm tools	3.92	3.26	3.50	0.3
Percent of households reporting making and selling pottery	0.67	0.73	0.71	0.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting making and selling pottery	0.98	0.77	0.84	0.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting making and selling pottery	0.00	0.64	0.40	0.7

Percent of female respondents reporting making and selling pottery	1.01	0.82	0.89	0.5
Percent of male respondents reporting making and selling pottery	0.00	0.54	0.35	0.7
Percent of households reporting producing and selling metalwork	0.67	1.09	0.94	0.4
Percent of female-headed households reporting producing and selling metalwork	0.49	1.02	0.84	0
Percent of male-headed households reporting producing and selling metalwork	1.05	1.27	1.19	0.7
Percent of female respondents reporting producing and selling metalwork	0	0	0	0
Percent of male respondents reporting producing and selling metalwork	1.96	3.26	2.80	0.7
Percent of households reporting producing and selling furniture or other wood products	1.33	0.73	0.94	0.6
Percent of female-headed households reporting producing and selling furniture or other wood products	0.00	0.26	0.17	0
Percent of male-headed households reporting producing and selling furniture or other wood products	4.21	1.91	2.78	1
Percent of female respondents reporting producing and selling furniture or other wood products	0	0	0	0
Percent of male respondents reporting producing and selling furniture or other wood products	3.92	1.63	2.45	1
<i>Additional business-related activities</i>				
Percent of female-headed households reporting selling honey or bees' wax	0.98	1.53	1.34	0.5
Percent of male-headed households reporting selling honey or bees' wax	2.11	5.73	4.37	0.2
Percent of women reporting selling honey or bees' wax as an income source	1.01	1.65	1.42	0
Percent of men reporting selling honey or bees' wax as an income source	1.96	4.89	3.85	
Percent of female-headed households reporting trading in crops from an established shop as an income source	0.98	1.79	1.51	1.6

Percent of male-headed households reporting trading in crops from an established shop as an income source	0.00	0.64	0.40	2.8
Percent of women reporting trading in crops from an established shop as an income source	1.01	1.37	1.25	0
Percent of men reporting trading in crops from an established shop as an income source	0	1.63	1.05	
Percent of female-headed households reporting trading livestock or livestock products from an established shop as an income	0.98	0.51	0.67	1.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting trading livestock or livestock products from an established shop as an income	0.00	1.91	1.19	2.6
Percent of women reporting trading livestock or livestock products from an established shop as an income source	0	0.55	0.36	3
Percent of men reporting trading livestock or livestock products from an established shop as an income source	1.96	1.63	1.75	
Percent of female-headed households reporting trading in other products from an established shop as an income source	1.46	0.77	1.01	1.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting trading in other products from an established shop as an income source	0.00	0.64	0.40	1
Percent of women reporting trading in other products from an established shop as an income source	1.52	0.55	0.89	0
Percent of men reporting trading in other products from an established shop as an income source	0	1.09	0.70	
Percent of female-headed households reporting petty trading from an established location as an income source	1.46	1.28	1.34	11.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting petty trading from an established location as an income source	0.00	0.64	0.4	5.9
Percent of women reporting petty trading from an established location as an income source	1.52	1.10	1.25	6
Percent of men reporting petty trading from an established location as an income source	0	1.09	0.70	
Percent of female-headed households reporting mobile trading or street vending as an income source	1.95	1.02	1.34	2.1

Percent of male-headed households reporting mobile trading or street vending as an income source	1.05	0.00	0.40	3.3
Percent of women reporting mobile trading or street vending as an income source	2.02	0.82	1.25	0
Percent of men reporting mobile trading or street vending as an income source	0.98	0.54	0.70	
Percent of female-headed households reporting other business or trade as an income source	1.46	0.77	1.01	12.7
Percent of male-headed households reporting other business or trade as an income source	1.05	0.00	0.40	5.3
Percent of women reporting other business or trade as an income source	1.52	0.82	1.07	0.6
Percent of men reporting other business or trade as an income source	0.98	0	0.35	
Percent of women reporting making and selling traditional utensils as an income source	2.44	4.09	3.52	3
Percent of men reporting making and selling traditional utensils as an income source	5.26	1.91	3.17	
Percent of men reporting making and selling traditional utensils as an income source	4.40	2.53	3.74	
Percent of men reporting making and selling traditional utensils as an income source	1.63	4.90	2.80	
Percent of female-headed households reporting other crafts or small industry as an income source	0.00	0.26	0.17	3.7
Percent of male-headed households reporting other crafts or small industry as an income source	0.00	0.00	0.00	2
Percent of women reporting other crafts or small industry as an income source	0.00	0.27	0.18	0
Percent of men reporting other crafts or small industry as an income source	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Percent of female-headed households reporting making or repairing clothes as an income source	17.07	16.37	16.61	0
Percent of male-headed households reporting making or repairing clothes as an income source	1.05	1.91	1.59	1
Percent of women reporting making or repairing clothes as an income source	17.58	17.68	17.62	0

Percent of men reporting making or repairing clothes as an income source	0.98	1.63	1.40	
Percent of female-headed households reporting or hairdresser as an income source	2.93	4.86	4.19	1.6
Percent of male-headed households reporting or hairdresser as an income source	4.21	1.91	2.78	0
Percent of women reporting barber or hairdresser as an income source	2.02	3.85	3.20	0
Percent of men reporting barber or hairdresser as an income source	5.88	4.35	4.90	
Percent of female-headed households reporting counselor or mediator as an income source	15.12	17.14	16.44	1.1
Percent of male-headed households reporting counselor or mediator as an income source	25.26	14.65	18.65	0.3
Percent of women reporting counselor or mediator as an income source	15.15	16.76	16.19	3
Percent of men reporting counselor or mediator as an income source	24.51	15.76	18.88	

Annex 6 Productive capital

Productive capital	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of households reporting on productive capital	239 (79.67%)	446 (81.39%)	685 (80.78%)	493
Number of female-headed households reporting on productive capital	156	313	469	135
Number of male-headed households reporting on productive capital	83	133	216	262
Number of male respondents reporting on productive capital	152	293	445	171
Percent of households reporting having no land (landless)	25.55	21.00	23.94	19.5
Percent of households reporting having a house (loan collateral)	76.23	80.00	77.57	67.3
Percent of households reporting having large animals (loan collateral)	42.33	52.19	48.70	52.9

Percent of households reporting having savings accounts	76.67	71.66	68.92	-
Average number of types of productive capital reported for all households	4.66	4.64	4.65	3.38
Average value of productive capital per adult equivalent household member for all households	NA	NA	NA ³²	
Average value of productive capital per adult equivalent household member for female-headed households' households	NA	NA	NA	
Average value of productive capital per adult equivalent household member for male-headed households' households	NA	NA	NA	
Percent of all households with more than a value of 4,000 birr in productive capital per adult equivalent household member	NA	NA	NA	
<i>Joint ownership of productive capital</i>				
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" ownership of agricultural land	67.16	78.31	71.43	49.7
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" ownership of agricultural land	NA	NA	NA ³³	69.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" ownership of large livestock	78.31	67.16	71.43	60.4
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" ownership of large livestock	NA	NA	NA	66.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" ownership of small livestock	100	86.92	90.81	65.2
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" ownership of small livestock	NA	NA	NA	36.4
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" ownership of poultry	62.75	75.51	66.89	60.8
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" ownership of poultry	NA	NA	NA	48.5

³² This item has no value assigned both in the baseline and end line survey questionnaire.

³³ For the purpose of this cross tabulation, households are only categorized into female headed households and male headed households.

Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" ownership of a house	75.32	71.81	80.40	73
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" ownership of a house	NA	NA	NA	63.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" ownership of means of transportation	50.00	25.00	28.57	-
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" ownership of means of transportation	NA	NA	NA	-
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" ownership of savings accounts	73.08	56.80	63.05	-
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" ownership of savings accounts	NA	NA	NA	-
<i>Joint decision-making on selling an asset</i>				
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on leasing out agricultural land	75.86	56.69	63.52	86.5
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on leasing out agricultural land	NA	NA	NA	77.4
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on selling large livestock	78.26	70.86	98.21	86.1
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on selling large livestock	NA	NA	NA	79.3
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on selling small livestock	91.67	68.63	77.16	66.7
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on selling small livestock	NA	NA	NA	85.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on selling poultry	75.51	62.75	66.89	63.9
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on selling poultry	NA	NA	NA	84.2
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on selling means of transportation	50.00	25.00	28.57	-
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on selling means of transportation	NA	NA	NA	-
<i>Joint Decision-Making on Buying an Asset</i>				

Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on leasing in agricultural land	68.97	58.44	62.24	55.6
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on leasing in agricultural land	NA	NA	NA	77.4
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on buying large livestock	91.07	70.20	75.85	64.6
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on buying large livestock	NA	NA	NA	79.3
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on buying small livestock	86.67	69.61	75.93	66.7
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on buying small livestock	NA	NA	NA	78.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on buying poultry	67.35	62.75	64.24	63.9
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on buying poultry	NA	NA	NA	84.2
Percent of male respondents reporting "joint" decision-making on buying means of transportation	50.00	33.33	35.71	-
Percent of female respondents in MHH reporting "joint" decision-making on buying means of transportation	NA	NA	NA	-

Annex 7 Loan collateral and financial services

Household decision-making	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of households reporting on decision-making on major household expenses	299	542	841	407
Percent of these households reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	4.67	5.47	5.19	1
Percent of these households reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	43.33	35.40	38.21	54.5
Number of women reporting on decision-making on buying personal items	198	363	561	33
Percent of these women reporting that main male or husband makes the decision	2.02	3.02	2.67	9.1
Percent of these women reporting that main female or wife makes the decision	56.57	63.74	61.21	0

Percent of these women reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	3.03	5.49	4.63	3
Percent of these women reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	30.81	22.80	25.62	87.9
Number of women reporting on decision-making on spending money earned	198	362	560	33
Percent of these women reporting that main male or husband makes the decision	0.51	2.47	1.78	0
Percent of these women reporting that main female or wife makes the decision	57.07	63.46	61.21	3
Percent of these women reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	2.53	5.49	4.45	0
Percent of these women reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	32.83	23.90	27.05	90.9
Number of households reporting on decision-making on deciding which children to send to school	299	546	845	33
Percent of these households reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	5.00	6.57	6.01	0
Percent of these households reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	38.14	47.00	41.27	0
Number of women reporting on decision-making on seeking medical treatment for child or self	342	189	531	33
Percent of these women reporting that main male or husband makes the decision	2.02	1.65	1.78	0
Percent of these women reporting that main female or wife makes the decision	55.56	60.16	58.54	0
Percent of these women reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	2.02	6.04	4.63	0
Percent of these women reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	30.81	25.27	27.22	100
Number of households reporting on decision-making on whether or not to use family planning	255	459	714	33
Percent of these households reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	4.03	4.93	4.61	0
Percent of these households reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	40.94	38.50	39.36	66.7

Annex 8 Household decision-making

Household decision-making	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of households reporting on decision-making on major household expenses	299	542	841	407
Percent of these households reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	4.67	5.47	5.19	1
Percent of these households reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	43.33	35.40	38.21	54.5
Number of women reporting on decision-making on buying personal items	198	363	561	33
Percent of these women reporting that main male or husband makes the decision	2.02	3.02	2.67	9.1
Percent of these women reporting that main female or wife makes the decision	56.57	63.74	61.21	0
Percent of these women reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	3.03	5.49	4.63	3
Percent of these women reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	30.81	22.80	25.62	87.9
Number of women reporting on decision-making on spending money earned	198	362	560	33
Percent of these women reporting that main male or husband makes the decision	0.51	2.47	1.78	0
Percent of these women reporting that main female or wife makes the decision	57.07	63.46	61.21	3
Percent of these women reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	2.53	5.49	4.45	0
Percent of these women reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	32.83	23.90	27.05	90.9
Number of households reporting on decision-making on deciding which children to send to school	299	546	845	33
Percent of these households reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	5.00	6.57	6.01	0
Percent of these households reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	38.14	47.00	41.27	0
Number of women reporting on decision-making on	342	189	531	33

seeking medical treatment for child or self				
Percent of these women reporting that main male or husband makes the decision	2.02	1.65	1.78	0
Percent of these women reporting that main female or wife makes the decision	55.56	60.16	58.54	0
Percent of these women reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	2.02	6.04	4.63	0
Percent of these women reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	30.81	25.27	27.22	100
Number of households reporting on decision-making on whether or not to use family planning	255	459	714	33
Percent of these households reporting that either husband or wife makes the decision	4.03	4.93	4.61	0
Percent of these households reporting that husband and wife make the decision together	40.94	38.50	39.36	66.7

Annex 9 Participation in community-level activities

Participation in Community-Level Activities	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by the kebele food security task force	95	157	252	202
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes" on participation	75.78	71.97	73.41	79.2
Number of female respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by the kebele food security task force	205	391	596	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "yes" on participation	71.21	66.24	67.95	62.9
Number of male respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by a development agent	134	247	252	202
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes" on participation	54.47	46.96	75.00	84.2
Number of female respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by a development agent	185	260	596	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "yes" on participation	77.83	100.00	67.78	64.9

participation				
Number of male respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by a health extension worker	95	157	252	202
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes" on participation	72.63	60.50	65.07	73.8
Number of female respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by a health extension worker	205	391	596	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "yes" on participation	69.26	57.54	61.57	72.5
Number of male respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by the cooperatives office	95	157	252	202
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes" on participation	62.10	54.14	57.14	44.6
Number of female respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by the cooperatives office	205	391	596	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "yes" on participation	60.97	53.70	56.20	34.7
Number of male respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by the office of women and children's affairs	95	157	252	202
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes" on participation	63.15	55.41	58.33	46.5
Number of female respondents reporting on participation in activities organized by the office of women and children's affairs	205	391	596	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "yes" on participation	62.43	53.70	56.71	42.3

Annex 10 Knowledge on climate change

Knowledge on climate change	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on importance of environmental change	94	157	251	202
Percent of male respondents reporting "not at all" or "not very" important	17.02	24.20	21.51	21.3
Percent of male respondents reporting "important" or	68.08	61.78	64.14	74.7

"critical"				
Percent of male respondents reporting "i have not heard anything about this"	0.00	6.36	3.98	4
Number of female respondents reporting on importance of environmental change	205	391	596	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "not at all" or "not very" important	22.92	31.96	28.85	29.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "important" or "critical"	65.85	52.94	57.38	52.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "i have not heard anything about this"	3.41	8.43	6.71	17.3

Annex 11 Membership

Membership	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of women reporting on membership in a vsla	146	253	399	33
Percent of these reporting "yes"	73.73	69.50	71.00	30.3
Number of women reporting on membership in a pma	51	108	159	33
Percent of these reporting "yes"	25.75	29.67	28.29	3

Annex 12 Perceptions on service provision

Perceptions on Service Provision	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on government development agents (exclude "no opinion")	95	205	252	242
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on government development agents (exclude "no opinion")	158	390	595	197
Percent of male respondents reporting "das available with good advice"	77.89	69.75	76.19	65
Percent of female respondents reporting "das available with good advice"	74.68	67.94	68.57	51.2

Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	38	51.25	63(fi) ³⁴	1.52
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	78	119	1.82
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on government health extension workers	95	204	299	185
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on government health extension workers	157	391	548	268
Percent of male respondents reporting "hews available with good advice"	78.94	76.47	77.35	56.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "hews available with good advice"	77.70	65.47	68.97	60.1
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	23.75	51.00	63	1.62
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	97.75	149	1.57
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on government cooperatives office	95	205	252	148
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on government cooperatives office	157	391	596	194
Percent of male respondents reporting "cooperative agents available with good advice"	50.52	50.24	56.34	20.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "cooperative agents available with good advice"	59.87	47.05	48.15	17
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	23.75	51.25	63	2.52
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	97.75	149	2.68
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on government office of women and children's affairs	95	204	252	136
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on government office of women and children's affairs	157	391	595	202
Percent of male respondents reporting "representatives available	50.52	55.88	53.17	31.6

³⁴ The mean fi of (code 1 to 4).

with good advice"				
Percent of female respondents reporting "representatives available with good advice"	54.77	43.47	47.73	33.7
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	23.75	51.25	63	2.18
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	97.75	149	2.24
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on police addressing GBV	95	205	300	191
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on police addressing GBV	157	385	542	246
Percent of male respondents reporting "police available and effective"	75.78	70.24	72	170.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "police available and effective"	73.88	65.19	67.71	54.5
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	23.75	82	75	1.54
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	96.25	135.5	1.72
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on the justice system in addressing GBV	94	205	252	181
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on the justice system in addressing GBV	158	391	596	291
Percent of male respondents reporting "the courts are effective and fair"	81.91	80	83.33	56.4
Percent of female respondents reporting "the courts are effective and fair"	84.17	86.95	84.56	65.8
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	31.33	51.25	83.66	1.52
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	39.50	130.33	149	1.44
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on traditional leaders for mediating GBV	95	205	251	196
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on traditional leaders for mediating GBV	156	391	596	254

Percent of male respondents reporting "traditional leaders are effective and fair"	77.89	78.53	81.27	67.3
Percent of female respondents reporting "traditional leaders are effective and fair"	83.33	78.51	78.52	60.2
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	31.66	51.25	83.66	1.36
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	52	97.75	149	1.48
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on services from banks or microfinance organizations	95	205	252	137
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on services from banks or microfinance organizations	157	389	594	181
Percent of male respondents reporting "representatives available with good support"	53.68	59.51	63.49	32.8
Percent of female respondents reporting "representatives available with good support"	69.42	53.98	55.89	24.3
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	23.75	51.25	63	1.92
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	97.25	148.5	3.15
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on government kebele administration	95	205	252	200
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on government kebele administration	157	390	595	273
Percent of male respondents reporting "administrators are accessible and give good support"	71.57	51.25	71.42	57
Percent of female respondents reporting "administrators are accessible and give good support"	71.33	97.50	66.21	54.9
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	23.75	8	63	1.62
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	16	149	1.72
Number of male respondents reporting perceptions on government woreda administration	95	204	252	200
Number of female respondents reporting perceptions on government woreda administration	157	389	593	217

Percent of male respondents reporting "administrators are accessible and give good support"	43.15	51.96	52.38	45
Percent of female respondents reporting "administrators are accessible and give good support"	57.96	43.44	46.37	44.7
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	23.75	51	63	1.74
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 4)	39.25	97.25	148.25	1.84

Annex 13 Domestic tasks

Male engagement in domestic tasks	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on domestic tasks	95	156	251	300
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on watching small children	49.47	41.02	44.22	36.1
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on watching small children	27.36	33.97	31.47	6.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on bathing small children	43.15	37.57	39.68	33
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on bathing small children	33.68	39.49	3.96	4.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on fetching water	57.89	46.49	50.79	38.9
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on fetching water	15.78	26.75	22.61	4.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on collecting firewood for the household	42.10	31.21	35.31	52.3
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on collecting firewood for the household	46.31	52.22	50	15.9
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on taking children for health care	47.36	65.60	31.34	46.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on taking children for health care	47.36	65.60	1.19	38
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on taking children to school	40	33.12	35.71	48.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on	42.10	49.68	46.82	30.7

taking children to school				
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on cleaning the house and homestead	46.31	46.49	46.42	27.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on cleaning the house and homestead	28.42	27.38	27.77	5.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on cleaning the places where animals are kept	38.94	26.75	39.28	38.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on cleaning the places where animals are kept	28.42	26.75	27.38	8
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on keeping the toilet clean	27.36	45.45	42.46	45.2
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on keeping the toilet clean	27.36	31.46	28.17	22.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on taking care of crops on the homestead	30.52	26.11	27.77	51.9
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on taking care of crops on the homestead	56.84	55.41	55.95	30.4
Percent of male respondents reporting "sometimes" on cooking for the household	38.29	28.66	25.09	12
Percent of male respondents reporting "often" on cooking for the household	24.46	25.47	25.09	3
Number of female respondents reporting on male engagement in domestic tasks	203	391	594	167
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on watching small children	11.33	68.54	11.95	17.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on watching small children	58.62	17.13	19.69	3.3
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on bathing small children	4.92	12.24	9.76	17.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on bathing small children	66.50	69.38	68.51	2.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on fetching water	16.74	21.73	20.03	31.3
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on fetching water	78.32	74.16	75.58	5.4

Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on collecting firewood for the household	15.76	23.27	20.70	44.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on collecting firewood for the household	76.84	72.89	74.24	8.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on taking children for health care	18.62	19.94	62.62	32.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on taking children for health care	56.86	65.47	62.62	23.4
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on taking children to school	15.76	16.36	16.16	33.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on taking children to school	55.66	67.26	63.29	24.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on cleaning the house and homestead	21.67	20.20	20.70	26.7
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on cleaning the house and homestead	69.95	74.93	73.23	7.3
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on cleaning the places where animals are kept	19.70	21.22	20.70	30.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on cleaning the places where animals are kept	68.47	71.61	70.53	4.4
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on keeping the toilet clean	16.37	25.65	22.72	34.8
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on keeping the toilet clean	62.38	68.58	67.84	10.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on taking care of crops on the homestead	21.78	23.01	22.59	39.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on taking care of crops on the homestead	59.90	64.70	5.56	22.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "sometimes" on cooking for the household	84.65	11.28	10.64	11.4
Percent of female respondents reporting "often" on cooking for the household	84.65	81.79	82.77	2.4

Annex 14 Gender-based violence

Gender-based violence	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on attitudes toward gender-based violence	95	157	252	304
Number of female respondents reporting on attitudes toward gender-based violence	205	391	596	185
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to complete household chores	86.31	86.62	86.50	69.7
Percent of female respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to complete household chores	69.26	69.05	69.12	61.7
Average ³⁵ perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	47.5	51.66	83.33	2.62
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	66.33	127.33	193.66	2.56
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to respect in-laws	85.26	85.98	85.71	73.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to respect in-laws	68.29	71.61	70.46	69.7
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	31.66	52	83.66	2.69
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	64.66	128	149	2.64
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to grant sexual access	71.57	80.25	76.98	83.8
Percent of female respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for failing to grant sexual access	58.53	67.51	64.42	80.9
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	47.5	50.66	63	2.78

³⁵ We used codes (1-3) frequency average, to compare the average values in the baseline for FHH, MHHs across the three groups (end line samples, n=848, within end line samples, n=548 and n=300).

Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	62.33	117.33	179.66	2.73
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for going somewhere without approval	83.15	79.61	80.95	67.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for going somewhere without approval	60.97	56.77	58.22	57.6
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	31.33	51.66	83	2.59
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	64.66	125.33	190	2.45
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for questioning how money is used	85.26	84.61	84.86	86.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "never" on beating wife for questioning how money is used	63.41	71.86	3.69	85.5
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	47	51.33	82.66	2.84
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	98.5	125.66	191.33	2.83
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, of course" on forced marriage	52.63	55.41	54.36	64.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "yes, of course" on forced marriage	43.90	43.22	43.45	63.9
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	30.66	50.66	81.33	1.62
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	64	119.66	183.66	2.61
Percent of male respondents reporting "never" on female genital mutilation	92.63	78.98	84.12	80.4
Percent of female respondents reporting "never" on female	84.87	1.53	78.18	70.5

genital mutilation				
Average perceptions score for male respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	31.66	52	83.66	2.66
Average perceptions score for female respondents (average of codes reported, 1 to 3)	67.33	128.33	195.66	2.48
Percent of male respondents reporting "decreased" on level of GBV over the last three years	90.52	94.26	92.85	NA
Percent of female respondents reporting "decreased" on level of GBV over the last three years	3.43	88.74	90.42	NA
Average perception of male reporting decreased" on level of GBV over the last three years (code 1-3)	47.5	52.33	84	NA
Average perception of female reporting decreased" on level of GBV over the last three years (code 1-3)	68	130.33	198.33	NA
Percent of male respondents reporting "decreased" on community's level of condemning GBV over the last three years	70.52	3.18	69.04	NA
Percent of Female Respondents Reporting "decreased" on community's level of condemning GBV over the last three years	68.78	67.51	67.95	NA
Average perception of male reporting decreased" on community's level of condemning GBV over the last three years (code 1-3)	31.66	52.33	84	NA
Average perception of female reporting decreased" on community's level of condemning GBV over the last three years (code 1-3)	68.33	130.33	198.66	NA
Percent of male respondents reporting "decreased" on level of forced marriage over the last three years	85.26	93.63	90.47	NA
Percent of female respondents reporting "decreased" on level of forced marriage over the last three years	87.31	89.76	88.92	NA
Average perception of male reporting decreased" on level of forced marriage over the last three years (code 1-3)	31.66	52.33	84	NA
Average perception of female reporting decreased" on level of forced marriage over the last three years (code 1-3)	68.33	130.33	198.66	NA

Percent of male respondents reporting "decreased" on level of FGM over the last three years	90.52	93.63	92.46	NA
Percent of female respondents reporting "decreased" on level of FGM over the last three years	96.58	88.71	91.42	NA
Average perception of male reporting decreased" on level of FGM over the last three years (code 1-3)	31.66	52.33	84	NA
Average perception of female reporting decreased" on level of FGM over the last three years (code 1-3)	68.33	130	198.33	NA

Annex 15 Individual leadership

Individual leadership	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of female respondents reporting on individual leadership	205	422	627	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "fairly" "or "very" comfortable speaking in public on infrastructure	32.68	27.01	28.87	66.3
Average score on comfort scale (average of codes reported, 1 to 5, 5 = "very comfortable")	41	84.4	125.4	3.49
Percent of female respondents reporting "fairly" "or "very" comfortable speaking in public on gender issues	35.12	15.40	16.10	65.6
Average score on comfort scale (average of codes reported, 1 to 5, 5 = "very comfortable")	41	84.4	125.4	3.46
Percent of female respondents who are members of a women's association	73.73	69.50	71.00	25.4
Percent of respondents reporting "always" attending meetings	74.69	71.63	72.75	59.5
Percent of respondents reporting "sometimes" attending meetings	21.60	24.82	23.65	37.8
Meeting Attendance Score (Average of Codes Reported, 1 to 3, 1 = "Always")	54	94	148	1.43
Percent of respondents describing participation as "always say what I think"	52.55	40.76	45.29	28.3

Percent of respondents describing participation as "sometimes say what I think"	21.42	35.35	30.00	29.2
Percent of respondents describing participation as "not given chance to speak"	6.63	8.28	7.65	1.4
Percent of respondents describing participation as "there to listen"	19.38	15.60	17.06	31.4
Participation score (average of codes reported, 1 to 4, 1 = "always...")	49	78.5	127.5	2.35
Percent of female respondents who are members of a producers or marketing association	25.75	29.67	28.29	2.7
Percent of respondents reporting "always" attending meetings	38.21	28.04	32.05	12.5
Percent of respondents reporting "sometimes" attending meetings	52.03	51.32	51.60	62.5
Meeting attendance score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3, 1 = "always")	41	63	104	2.13
Percent of respondents describing participation as "always say what I think"	38.06	23.90	29.31	0
Percent of respondents describing participation as "sometimes say what I think"	36.12	37.05	36.69	100
Percent of respondents describing participation as "not given chance to speak"	11.61	19.92	16.74	0
Percent of respondents describing participation as "there to listen"	14.19	19.12	17.24	0
Participation score (average of codes reported, 1 to 4, 1 = "always...")	38.75	62.75	101.5	2
Percent of female respondents who are members of a savings and credit association	77.43	78.72	78.27	16.8
Percent of respondents reporting "always" attending meetings	70.87	63.51	66.25	26.5
Percent of respondents reporting "sometimes" attending meetings	20.32	30.29	26.58	67.3
Meeting attendance score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3, 1 = "always")	60.66	102.33	163	1.8

Percent of respondents describing participation as "always say what I think"	52.60	40.67	45.08	10.2
Percent of respondents describing participation as "sometimes say what I think"	25.00	37.30	32.75	46.9
Percent of respondents describing participation as "not given chance to speak"	5.72	9.174	7.89	2
Percent of respondents describing participation as "there to listen"	16.66	12.84	14.25	40.8
Participation score (average of codes reported, 1 to 4, 1 = "always...")	48	81.75	129.75	2.73

Annex 16 Time allocation

Time allocation	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on time allocation	NA ³⁶	NA	NA	291
Number of female respondents reporting on time allocation	106	231	337	202
Percent of all female respondents reporting "less than average" sleep	16.66	25.27	22.24	26.8
Percent of all female respondents reporting "never enough" or "not usually enough" leisure time	10.60	11.26	11.03	33.3
Average number of sick days reported by all female respondents	7.61	2.0	0.64	6.95
Average number of sick days reported by filtered (excluding those with chronic disabilities) female respondents	NA	3.47	2.00	6.44

Annex 17 Family planning

Family planning	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting family planning	NA ³⁷	NA	NA	134
Number of female respondents reporting family planning	99	133	232	250
Percent of female respondents reporting "yes" on using modern family planning	36.53	50	41.28	33.2

³⁶ It was only asked for female respondents in the end line.

³⁷ In the end line survey, it was only asked for female respondents.

Annex 18 Perceptions on women's leadership

Perceptions on women's leadership	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on women's leadership perceptions	101	167	252	202
Number of female respondents reporting on women's leadership perceptions	203	377	596	291
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree ³⁸ " or "strongly agree" that women should not organize community work	15.84	11.97	0.39	33.8
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women should not organize community work	6.40	11.40	9.39	21.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women have difficulty making hard decisions	20.20	19.62	20.23	41.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women have difficulty making hard decisions	7.920	15.68	12.91	40.2
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not know enough about community issues to make good decisions	17.89	19.74	19.047	29.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not know enough about community issues to make good decisions	8.292	13.55	11.74	34.1
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women have too much other work to participate regularly in community decision-making	1.052	12.10	13.49	56.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women have too much other work to participate regularly in community decision-making	9.268	15.08	13.08	51.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women are reluctant to express their ideas in community decision-making meetings	24.21	28.02	26.58	48
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women are reluctant to express their ideas in community decision-making meetings	15.60	26.92	22.98	44.7

³⁸ We used only the agreed scale since the strongly agree scale frequencies are tiny. The option is also either or in the base line survey. Thus, we used the agree one to compare it with the baseline findings.

Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women are good leaders and should be given more opportunities to lead	23.15	17.83	19.84	84.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women are good leaders and should be given more opportunities to lead	14.63	26.59	22.48	77.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not have good skills at managing decision-making meetings	57.89	54.14	52.43	29.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women do not have good skills at managing decision-making meetings	51.21	55.242	55.24	28.5
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women who cannot read or write cannot be effective leaders	48.42	30.57	37.30	58
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women who cannot read or write cannot be effective leaders	28.29	21.48	23.82	56.7

Annex 19 Perceptions on rights of women and girls

Perceptions on rights of women and girls	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on perceptions on rights of women and girls	95	157	252	202
Number of female respondents reporting on perceptions on rights of women and girls	205	391	596	291
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a spouse should be involved in all household decision-making	76.84	71.38	73.41	86.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a spouse should be involved in all household decision-making	70.24	69.30	69.63	76.9
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should give husband her IGA money	52.63	59.23	56.74	51.0
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should give husband her IGA money	51.70	57.03	55.20	49.5
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should add her IGA money to household money for she and her husband to decide how to use	67.36	73.88	71.42	86

Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should add her IGA money to household money for she and her husband to decide how to use	68.78	65.72	66.77	82.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife can decide herself how to use her IGA money	29.47	35.03	32.93	29.7
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife can decide herself how to use her IGA money	35.12	46.54	42.61	35.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should have the same opportunity as her husband to attend a training event	72.63	68.15	69.84	92.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should have the same opportunity as her husband to attend a training event	64.39	70.84	68.62	92.5
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should have the same opportunity to do an IGA that requires leaving the house	76.84	70.06	72.61	78.7
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should have the same opportunity to do an IGA that requires leaving the house	65.36	72.63	70.13	88
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that girls should have the same opportunities as boys to go to school	57.89	64.96	62.30	95.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that girls should have the same opportunities as boys to go to school	59.02	67.00	64.26	84.5
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go to the market	48.42	54.14	51.98	80.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go to the market	58.53	52.68	54.69	80.1
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go to a friend or family member's house	51.57	52.86	52.38	71.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go to a friend or family member's house	58.04	46.54	50.50	63.5
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go to a community meeting	58.94	50.31	53.57	80.2

Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go to a community meeting	60.78	47.57	52.10	81.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go seek medical care	68	55.35	63.88	80.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a wife should seek permission to go seek medical care	68.96	60.21	61.57	82.1
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a woman has the right to choose her spouse	65.26	75.15	71.42	89.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a woman has the right to choose her spouse	73.65	71.35	72.14	84.9
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a girl has the right to choose when she marries	63.82	73.71	69.44	87.7
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a girl has the right to choose when she marries	71.07	71.61	70.46	83.5

Annex 20 Joint decision-making

Joint decision-making	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on attitudes on joint decision-making	95	155	252	202
Number of female respondents reporting on attitudes on joint decision-making	205	391	592	291
Percent of male respondents reporting "either" should decide on when to consume stored crops	9.47	9.67	9.52	0
Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to consume stored crops	58.94	74.19	67.85	85.3
Percent of female respondents reporting "either" should decide on when to consume stored crops	0.48	4.60	3.18	1.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to consume stored crops	27.31	19.18	21.97	59.9
Percent of male respondents reporting "either" should decide on when to take a sick child for medical treatment	7.36	9.55	8.73	0

Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to take a sick child for medical treatment	84.21	78.34	80.55	94
Percent of female respondents reporting "either" should decide on when to take a sick child for medical treatment	1.95	5.62	4.36	1.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on when to take a sick child for medical treatment	29.75	23.52	25.67	67.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "either" should decide on which children to send to school	9.47	8.28	8.73	0
Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on which children to send to school	75.78	73.24	74.20	94.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "either" should decide on which children to send to school	2.43	4.34	3.69	1.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on which children to send to school	28.29	20.20	22.98	68.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "either" should decide on whether to use family planning	8.51	7.64	7.96	0
Percent of male respondents reporting "both together" should decide on whether to use family planning	70.21	78.34	75.29	96.2
Percent of female respondents reporting "either" should decide on whether to use family planning	1.96	3.83	3.19	0.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "both together" should decide on whether to use family planning	27.45	22.50	24.20	77.1

Annex 21 Sexual and reproductive health myths

Sexual and reproductive health myths	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of male respondents reporting on sexual and reproductive health myths	98	160	252	202
Number of female respondents reporting on sexual and reproductive health myths	204	386	596	291
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women who use contraceptives need special food	11.22	15	13.88	85.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women who use contraceptives need special food	15.19	12.17	13.08	85.3
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree"	38.94	33.75	35.71	58.9

that men who have vasectomy will become weak				
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that men who have vasectomy will become weak	44.39	28.38	33.89	35.7
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that an IUD can move around inside and hurt a woman	29.47	35.03	32.93	49.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that an IUD can move around inside and hurt a woman	38.04	30.43	33.05	39.6
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women using family planning are more likely to become unfaithful	65.26	67.51	66.66	35.8
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that women using family planning are more likely to become unfaithful	64.87	57.03	59.73	27.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a man who lets his wife use family planning will lose control of her	69.47	66.24	67.46	20.3
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a man who lets his wife use family planning will lose control of her	61.46	58.31	59.39	17.5
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a couple who do not want children are not normal	58.94	59.23	59.12	39.1
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that a couple who do not want children are not normal	53.65	50.12	51.34	37.8
Percent of male respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that it is wrong for a woman without a husband to use any family planning	49.47	57.32	54.36	44.5
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that it is wrong for a woman without a husband to use any family planning	53.17	47.57	49.49	42.6

Annex 22 Confidence levels

Confidence levels	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of female respondents reporting on confidence levels	198	364	562	291
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that "I do not let my economic status stop me..."	54.54	38.46	44.12	90.9
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that " I can influence important decisions..."	44.94	45.32	45.19	55.6
Percent of female respondents reporting "agree" or "strongly agree" that " I have at least one good friend...."	42.92	61.53	54.98	69.7
Percent of female respondents in MHH ³⁹ Reporting "never" or "rarely" on productive discussions with husband	14.77	8.21	10.68	21.2
Percent of married female respondents reporting "sometimes" on productive discussions with husband	38.63	39.72	39.31	22.7
Percent of married female respondents reporting "always" on productive discussions with husband	35.22	41.78	39.31	24.6
Percent of married female respondents reporting "never" or "rarely" on arguments with husband	12.5	15.06	14.10	33.76
Percent of married female respondents reporting "sometimes" on arguments with husband	44.31	37.67	40.17	43.31
Percent of married female respondents reporting "always" on arguments with husband	5.68	11.64	9.40	22.93

Annex 23 Access to services and public resources

Access to services and public resources	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of female respondents reporting on access to services and public resources	205	391	596	324
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible (code 1)" for agricultural extension services	82.43	77.23	79.02	59.17

³⁹ It was for women under MHH, however, for the comparison purpose, only two groups of HHs were used (I.e., FHH and MHH).

Percent of female respondents reporting "service available but not accessible (code 2)" for agricultural extension services	12.19	18.41	16.27	35.29
Percent of female respondents reporting "service not available (code 3)" for agricultural extension services	1.95	2.55	2.34	5.54
Average service perceptions score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3, 1 = "available and accessible") for agricultural extension services	32.19	32.73	32.55 ⁴⁰	1.48
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible (code 1)" for health extension services	78.04	70.84	73.32	64.80
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available but not accessible (code 2)" for health extension services	17.07	26.08	22.98	30.59
Percent of female respondents reporting "service not available (code 3)" for health extension services	2.43	1.79	2.01	4.61
Average service perceptions score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3, 1 = "available and accessible") for health extension services	32.52	32.90	32.77	1.41
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available and accessible (code 1)" for micro-finance services	76.09	66.24	69.63	23.18
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available but not accessible (code 2)" for micro-finance services	18.53	26.34	23.65	37.34
Percent of female respondents reporting "service not available (code 3)" for micro-finance services	3.41	4.60	4.19	39.48
Average service perceptions score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3, 1 = "available and accessible") for micro-finance services	32.68	32.39	32.49	2.19
Percent of female respondents reporting "resource available and accessible (code 1)" for common property land	46.82	16.45	26.93	19.35
Percent of female respondents reporting "service available but not accessible (code 2)" for common property land	18.53	23.39	21.71	32.80

⁴⁰ In this case, we constructed the average % not the average fi as mentioned in different sections above.

Percent of female respondents reporting "service not available (code 3)" for common property land	18.53	28.27	24.91	47.85
Average service perceptions score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3, 1 = "available and accessible") for common property land	27.96	22.70	24.52	2.28

Annex 24 Control over decisions affecting sexual and reproductive health rights

Control over decisions affecting sexual and reproductive health rights	New	EL1	EL2	BL
Number of female respondents reporting on decision to limit family size	205	391	596	257
Percent of female respondents reporting "no input" on decisions to limit family size	3.41	4.347	4.02	21.01
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on some decisions" related to limiting family size	9.26	9.20	9.22	22.18
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on most decisions" related to limiting family size	25.85	30.17	28.69	30.35
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to limiting family size	53.17	50.89	51.67	26.48
Number of female respondents reporting on decisions around use of a birth control method	205	391	597	239
Percent of female respondents reporting "no input" on decisions around use of birth control method	6.82	6.13	6.36	26.36
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on some decisions" around use of birth control method	8.29	6.90	7.3	23.48
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on most decisions" around use of birth control method	18.53	25.06	22.78	24.69
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" around use of birth control method	56.58	54.98	55.44	5.52
Number of female respondents reporting on decisions on sexual practice	205	391	596	246
Percent of female respondents reporting "no input" on decisions on sexual practice	6.829	10.23	9.06	27.24
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on	21.46	21.73	21.64	28.26

some decisions" on sexual practice				
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on most decisions" on sexual practice	18.53	15.60	16.61	24.39
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" on sexual practice	41.46	42.19	41.94	19.92
Number of female respondents reporting on decisions around accessing reproductive health services	205	391	596	254
Percent of female respondents reporting "no input" on decisions around accessing reproductive health services	1.463	2.81	2.34	22.83
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on some decisions" related to accessing reproductive health services	25.36	8.95	8.22	26.77
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on most decisions" related to accessing reproductive health services	25.36	27.10	26.51	26.77
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to accessing reproductive health services	58.04	56.26	56.87	23.62
Number of female respondents reporting on decisions on female genital mutilation	205	391	596	298
Percent of female respondents reporting "no input" on decisions on female genital mutilation	4.39	7.92	6.71	23.83
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on some decisions" on female genital mutilation	10.73	14.83	13.42	24.56
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on most decisions" on female genital mutilation	26.34	22.25	23.65	19.80
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" on female genital mutilation	50.24	47.82	48.65	21.81
Number of female respondents reporting on decisions on early marriage	205	391	596	298
Percent of female respondents reporting "no input" on decisions on early marriage	3.90	9.20	7.38	22.82
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on some decisions" related to early marriage	9.75	12.27	11.40	34.23

Percent of female respondents reporting "input on most decisions" related to early marriage	18.04	22.50	20.97	16.78
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to early marriage	57.07	48.33	51.34	26.17
Number of female respondents reporting on decisions related to polygamous marriage	205	391	596	274
Percent of female respondents reporting "no input" on decisions related to polygamous marriage	12.19	15.85	14.59	31.75
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on some decisions" related to polygamous marriage	7.31	7.92	7.71	25.55
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on most decisions" related to polygamous marriage	14.14	14.57	14.42	13.87
Percent of female respondents reporting "input on all decisions" related to polygamous marriage	32.19	34.27	33.55	28.83

Annex 25 Women's mobility

Women's mobility	New	EL1	EL2	BL⁴¹
Number of male respondents reporting on women's mobility	102	184	286	324
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to the market	44.11	44.02	44.05	20.21
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to the market	36.27	29.34	31.81	43.21
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to the market	18.62	25	22.72	36.58
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to the market	33.00	32.78	32.86	2.2
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to a female friend's house	31.37	24.45	26.92	19.36
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to a female	43.13	31.52	35.66	42.91

⁴¹ In the baseline, it was asked for both sex, during the end line as per our discussion, it was suggested only for male respondents. Therefore, the comparison between baseline and end line data set is not possible, for this particular module focusing on sex of the respondents. The statement is changed into male group for reporting purpose.

friend's house				
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to a female friend's house	24.50	42.93	36.36	37.72
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to a female friend's house	33.00	32.97	32.98	2.23
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to the house of a relative	32.35	32.06	32.16	19.52
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to the house of a relative	41.17	26.08	31.46	43.84
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to the house of a relative	24.50	41.30	35.31	36.64
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to the house of a relative	32.67	33.15	32.98	2.22
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to the temple, mosque or church	27.45	24.45	25.52	5.44
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to the temple, mosque or church	28.43	16.84	20.97	15.65
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to the temple, mosque or church	43.13	57.06	52.09	78.91
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to the temple, mosque or church	33.00	32.78	32.86	2.76
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to a public village meeting	31.37	29.89	30.41	22.26
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to a public village meeting	39.21	32.60	34.96	42.81
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to a public village meeting	27.45	37.5	33.91	34.93

meeting				
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to a public village meeting	32.67	33.33	33.10	2.18
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to an association meeting	34.31	29.34	31.11	21.45
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to an association meeting	40.19	32.60	35.31	42.56
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to an association meeting	23.52	35.86	31.46	35.99
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to an association meeting	32.67	32.60	32.63	2.20
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go outside the village	55.88	46.73	50.00	41.22
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go outside the village	27.45	25.00	25.87	27.03
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go outside the village	14.70	26.63	22.37	31.76
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go outside the village	32.67	32.78	32.75	1.90
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to a local social event	39.21	35.86	37.06	25.82
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to a local social event	36.27	25.54	29.37	32.0
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to a local social event	22.54	37.50	32.16	40.98
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to a local social event	32.67	32.97	32.86	2.17
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, always" on permission to go to a health care	44.11	33.69	37.41	25.42

provider				
Percent of male respondents reporting "yes, sometimes" on permission to go to a health care provider	28.43	20.10	23.07	37.63
Percent of male respondents reporting "no, never" on permission to go to a health care provider	26.47	46.19	39.16	36.95
Average mobility score (average of codes reported, 1 to 3) on permission to go to a health care provider	33.00	33.33	33.21	2.16

Annex 26 Participation in social affairs, VSLA, SAA, and formal institution

Participation	New	EL1	EL2
No. of male respondents reporting on participation in social affairs, VSLA, SAA	95	157	252
No. of female respondents reporting on participation in social affairs, VSLA, SAA	205	391	596
Percent of male reporting on social affairs such as <i>Iddir, Equib, and Mababer</i>	92.63	90.44	91.26
Percent of female reporting on social affairs such as <i>Iddir, Equib, and Mababer</i>	86.82	85.16	85.73
Percent of male reporting "high" level of participation in social affairs such as (<i>Iddir, Equib, and Mababer</i>)	65.90	486.48	55.08
Percent of female reporting "high" level of participation in social affairs such as (<i>Iddir, Equib, and Mababer</i>)	51.64	45.89	47.85
Percent of male reporting "yes" in VSLA member	87.36	90.44	89.28
Percent of female reporting "yes" in VSLA member	89.75	87.46	88.25
Percent of male reporting "yes" VSLA supported by FSF/Berchi	85.55	73.11	86.58
Percent of female reporting "yes" VSLA supported by FSF/Berchi	91.62	100	88.96
Percent of male reporting "yes" female led VSLA	31.86	47.05	41.39
Percent of female reporting "yes" female led VSLA	59.31	57.78	58.31
Percent of male reporting female only VSLA members	45.05	50.32	48.36

Percent of female reporting “female only VSLA members	55.00	67.98	63.49
Percent of male reporting “yes” monthly discussions on various topics?	82.02	87.33	85.35
Percent of female reporting “yes” monthly discussions on various topics?	86.56	81.51	83.33
Percent of male reporting “yes” husband/wife attend monthly discussions	84.61	84.66	84.64
Percent of female reporting “yes” husband/wife attend monthly discussions	78.21	87.50	84.21
Percent of male reporting “yes” VSLA discussion group facilitator	52.32	46.30	48.51
Percent of female reporting “yes” VSLA discussion group facilitator	37.12	41.41	39.89
Percent of male reporting “yes” received asset transfer? (E.g., sheep, goat, etc)	15.90	14.28	14.89
Percent of female reporting “yes” received asset transfer? (E.g., sheep, goat, etc)	26.76	25.82	26.15
Percent of male reporting “yes” received trainings (IGAs & BD)	17.98	19.18	18.72
Percent of female reporting “yes” received trainings (IGAs & BD)	20.60	31.06	27.38
Percent of male reporting “yes” received training on women’s leadership	12.22	17.88	15.76
Percent of female reporting “yes” received training on women’s leadership	26.50	25.20	25.65
Percent of male reporting “yes” received role model training	20.45	18.49	19.23

Percent of female reporting “yes” received role model training	16.32	14.52	15.16
Percent of male reporting “yes” member of SAA	18.18	30.40	25.84
Percent of female reporting “yes” member of SAA	29.79	26.53	27.69
Percent of male reporting “yes” SAA facilitator	24.13	34.09	30.13
Percent of female reporting “yes” SAA facilitator	27.02	23.07	24.60
Percent of male reporting “yes” 1 to 5 leader	30.85	32.89	32.11
Percent of female reporting “yes” 1 to 5 leader	21.07	21.78	21.53
Percent of male reporting “yes” 1 to 5 leader leads SAA	24.44	30.00	27.91
Percent of female reporting “yes” 1 to 5 leader leads SAA	20.81	26.24	24.39
Percent of male reporting “yes” religious leader	6.38	9.80	8.50
Percent of male reporting “yes” village agent	35.48	28.75	31.30
Percent of female reporting “yes” religious leader	30.88	18.84	23.03
Percent of male reporting SAA “positively” perceived	81.31	79.60	80.24
Percent of female reporting SAA “positively” perceived	80.29	63.15	69.12
Percent of male reporting “all” benefited from SAA discussion	39.36	45.75	43.31
Percent of female reporting “all” benefited from SAA discussion	33.82	30.89	31.91

Annex 27 Data collection tools for Berchi end line evaluation

Tires of data generation	Tools of data generation					
	KIIs	EIs	FGDs	CSs	MSC	FO
Region	1	-	-	-	-	-
Zone	1	1	-	-	-	-
Wereda	16	5	2	2	1	
Kebeles (Three in each Wereda)	10	-	18	-	-	1
Grand Total	28	6	20	2*2=4	1*2=2	1*2=2

Source: Extract from data generation tools (August 2015)

ADA- Austrian Development Agency
CARE-Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
DA- Development Agent
ER_ Expected Result
FGM- Female Genital Mutilation
FHH-Female Headed Household
FSF- Food Sufficiency for Farmers
HEWs- Health Extension Workers
IFPRI- International Food Policy Research Institute
IGAs- Income Generating Activities
KFSTF- Kebele Food Security Task Force
MHH-Male Headed Household
PMA-Production Marketing Association
SAA-Social Analysis and Action
TOT-Training of Trainers
USAID- United States Agency for International Development
VSLA-Village Saving and Loan Association

Annex C: Comprehensive document reviews

1. Analysis of the Baseline and End-line Report of Berchi- Project

1.1. Background and overview of the *Berchi*-Project

The Government of Ethiopia has been implementing a Food Security Programme (FSP) since 2003. After making a review in 2009, FSP is composed of four complementary components including Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), the Household Asset Building Programme (HABP), Complementary Community Investments (CCI) and Resettlement. All these components are designed to move households into food security. The Ethiopian government and partners have been engaged in implementing food security interventions targeting the graduation of households from dependency on these programs. Both the –FSF-*Mebkat* and *Berchi* projects are designed to facilitate graduation. CARE Ethiopia with the fund secured from CARE Austria, *Berchi*-Be Strong! project is being implemented in Ebinat and Simada *Weredas* of South Gondar Zone, Amahara region. These two *Weredas* have a high record of chronic food insecurity and gender inequality. The *Berchi*-Project formally came on-line in July 2013 and it was planned to be implemented in 26 *Kebeles*, the same *Kebeles* were FSF-Mebkat with the same project management team under CARE. The target beneficiary groups of the *Berchi* project are the PSNP households; over its life this project will work with a total of 11,000 households of which 2,000 households will be enabled to graduate from PSNP.

Main objective of the *Berchi* Project: to empower chronically food insecure women to be able to achieve sustainable livelihood security.

Project intervention objective: To contribute towards social transformation that supports gender equality and women’s empowerment in Amhara Region.

Expected Result 1: Women have equitable access and control over productive assets to ensure their livelihood security

ER1.1 Equitable access by women over productive assets and resources

ER1.2 Increased women’s control over assets and resources

Expected Result 2: Meaningful representation and participation of women at all levels.

ER2.1 Women meaningfully participate in household and community level decision-making

ER2.2 Women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation)

Expected Result 3: Transform key institutional and socio-cultural norms, relations and attitudes for gender equality

ER3.1 Formal and informal institutions are supportive to women’s empowerment

ER3.2 Social and cultural norms encourage equality of women and men

Expected Result 4: Promote key Learning and Impact Measurement for women’s empowerment

ER4.1 Key good practices and learning for women's empowerment captured and shared

ER4.2 Key research questions contributing to women's empowerment answered

Summary of the Baseline Findings- *Berchi*-Be Strong! Project

Project Main Objective and its Performance Indicator

The IFPRI/USAID women's empowerment in agriculture index (WEAI) is used as a performance indicator considering responses from female respondents to five domains of empowerment, including input into decision on production, joint ownership of key resources, input into decisions on use of household income, women's leadership, and time allocations. The baseline survey indicated that more than two-thirds of the women surveyed feel that they are significantly participating in decision-making around farm production, 40% of the women feel that they are significantly participating in business-related decisions. With regard to resource ownership around two-third of women report joint ownership of farm land and large livestock. Many women perceive that they are responsible for decision making around small livestock. 35% of women reported that they have significant input on decisions on income from livestock and poultry; 60% for decisions on business-related income and from sales of milk, eggs and honey. Men are perceived to be more responsible for decision making around large livestock; women are responsible for decision making on small livestock like, poultry. Women appear to have relatively sufficient confidence in speaking, but are not allowed to speak. One- third of women report not having sufficient sleep time the previous night. The number of sick days, suggesting that people are on average sick over 20% of the time, is quite high. Community leaders and government institutions highlighted reducing women's workload as a key focus of activities in a number of Woredas.

1.2 Project intervention objective performance indicators

The *Berchi* Project intends to induce significant social change to facilitate gender equality and women's empowerment in Amhara region. As a performance indicator, 17 different types of income-generating activities related to cash crop production, sales of processed farm products, and business or petty trade activities were used to survey out the participation of women in IGAs. Only for cereal cash crops, poultry products and weaving and selling cloth did more than 15% of female respondents' report earning income. For all other types of IGAs, the percentage of women reporting earning income with a specific activity is less than 10% and for most, the percentage is less than 5%. The other indicator is the uptake of family planning, in the *Berchi*-project 33.2% of female respondents reported that they are using modern family planning methods while the percentage of male respondents was 25.4%. This decision has the potential to affect the reproductive health of women.

1.3 Expected Result 1: Access to and control over assets

Performance indicators: Proportion of women and men reporting women having access and control over productive assets, proportion of women reporting access to services and public resources, change in women's income compared with men's and percentage of targeted population engaged in IGAs disaggregated by sex are used as indicators. More men perceive that on land and men and women do not jointly own large livestock ownership. On small livestock and poultry, more men than women perceive that the asset is owned jointly. More men than women report joint decision-making on disposing of land and large livestock. The joint decision on loan received from a bank or micro-finance institution is higher at 64.9%. Women perceive that they have pretty good access to agricultural extension and health extension services, but much less access to micro-finance services and common property land. Comparing the income of MHH and FHH, except in the sale of milk, eggs and honey, both male-headed and female-headed households earn equal amount of income, on the contrary in all other sources of household income female-headed households receive less than

MHH. With respect to IGAs, FHH undertake, on average, more types of income generating activities, but receive much less income than MHH. It suggests that the activities are smaller scale, less profitable, or both. The average annual income from all listed sources was ETB 2,574 for FHH and ETB 6,0003 for MHH.

1.4 Expected Result 2: Representation and participation

Performance indicators: The following are the major performance indicators.

a) **Responsiveness of institutions:** this is measured by the percentage of women reporting improved responsiveness of institutions towards women. Over half of respondents reported services as being usually available and usually providing good advice in the case of DAs and HEWs, Cooperative Agents were perceived as least effective. Women's view on the services of the Office of Women's and Children's Affairs were sometimes available and sometimes giving good advice. The services of the police, the courts and traditional leaders were viewed as providing reasonable service, with the police viewed less favorably. The project could have significant impact on addressing gender-based violence by extensively engaging traditional leaders. Female respondents view the services of banks and micro-finance institutions quite unfavorably. For the Kebele Administration, about 55% of the female respondents viewed the services provided favorably with representatives being accessible and providing good support. For the Woreda Administration, the percentage dropped down to around 45%.

b) Women's participation in decision-making (at HH and community level)

More than 75% of female respondents reported having significant input on decisions around food crop cultivation, but the percentage drops to 67% on cash crop decisions. Almost 80% of female reported having input on marketing decisions for crops and livestock, but the percentage drop to between 35% and 60% on having decision on the use of the income that has been generated. 39% of women reported that they have input on decisions related to non-farm business activities. Less than 55% of female reported having significant input on decisions related to when to consume stored crops. The highest percentage of respondents' report that high participation at community level activities are for activities organized by the KFSTF, DAs and HEWs. The participation is lowest in the case of cooperatives activities as it incurs payment of registration fees. For activities organized by the Office of women and Children's Affairs, the percentages reporting participation in community-level activities s lower than for DAs and HEWS. Participation in community activities doesn't necessarily indicate participation in decision-making, *Berchi* project will undertake organizational capacity assessments with selected partners to check women participation in decision-making.

c) Perceptions of women's leadership skills

This indicator is measured using the percentage of men and women who respond "agree" or "strongly agree" on statements related to women leadership. Lower percentage of women agreed that women are not good at supervising. 77.6% and 84.6% of women and men respectively agreed that women should be given leadership opportunities, implies willingness to involve women in decision-making. The lower percentage is related to supervisory skills, skills for analyzing and making hard decisions, knowledge on community issues, women's workload constraints, participation in meetings, meeting management and literacy skills, this part requires *Berchi* project intervention.

d) Partnerships between women leaders

The concept for this logical framework indicator is that if the project is successful, there will be regular communication and joint planning and support between women leaders, both formal and informal, around women's issues. This is measured with increased evidence of partnership/solidarity for women priorities between women leaders at all level. There is a relative dearth of women leaders except those roles typically reserved for HEWs and staff of the Office of Women's and Children Affairs. Of the 74 community leaders

interviewed in the community leaders survey, only five were women, and they were all either of these two offices. The intervention of Berchi-project will support the formation of VSLAs and PMAs to establish a cadre of role models, at least half of whom will be women. Since the role models and groups have not yet been identified or recognized, the baseline value for these indicators is 0%.

e) Social actions initiated by women leaders

Woreda and Kebele level offices and community leaders during baseline survey highlighted social activities already being implemented by HEWs and the Office of Women and Children's Affairs. Woreda offices are organized into 3 departments, women's affairs, children's affairs and gender education. The key issues in which the sector is currently focusing on the Woreda include education on gender based violence, including providing support to victims, advocating against harmful traditional practices, promoting family planning, advocating for reducing women's workload, promoting equal access for women to farm inputs and women's participation in IGAs and advocating against exclusion of FHHs from targeting in PSNP and reducing prevalence of early marriage. The measurement indicators are the average number of social actions initiated by female leaders in these two groups within the last year.

f) Impact of social actions initiated by women leaders

The focus of the project is on building the leadership capacities of female role models and female leaders of VSLAs and PMAs; the impact should be assessed in the final evaluation.

1.5 Expected Result 3: Norms, relations and attitudes

Performance indicator: The major performance indicators are stated as follow.

a) Perceptions on the opportunities for women and girls

The baseline exercise made surveys on the perception of women's and girls' rights with "agree" or "strongly agree" responses from kebele administrative staff, DAs and HEWs and targeted households. Religious and traditional leaders were also interviewed. There is high percentage from all types of respondents on the issue that a wife should seek permission from her husband before going to market, family members' house and other places. Religious or traditional leaders conserve more traditional views on women's decision making role. The Berchi-project should specifically focus on engaging them toward transforming norms in the community.

b) Perceptions on gender-based violence (GBV)

The baseline perception data is taken from community leaders and targeted HHs. 86% of government leaders believe that it is never necessary for a girl to undergo; surprisingly 14% of the leaders believe that FGM is still necessary. All types of respondents agree that it is acceptable for a wife to be beaten by her husband.

c) Decisions on reproductive health practices

Nearly all the result show that less than half of female respondents have significant input into the important reproductive health decisions that affect them.

d) Couples conversations

The *Berchi* project plans to implement a psycho-social exercise, household survey was undertaken on female respondents in MHHs. The percentage of female respondents from MHHs who reported that they "never" or "rarely" had productive discussions with their husbands was 21.2%. The percentage of respondents who reported that they "often" had arguments with their husbands was 22.9%.

e) Women's self-esteem and confidence

The psycho-social exercise planned for the *Berchi* Project will obtain more detailed information on women's self-esteem and confidence levels. More than 80% of females suggested that women have relatively high levels of confidence. Lack of confidence in women is not as such a constraint that excludes women from community decision making.

f) Women's social connectedness

In the Berchi-project this indicator is used to capture the impact of social relations that women have outside of the household. About 70% of female respondents reporting that they were members of traditional self-help groups or a religious group; 4% of the female reporting that they were members of a trade, business or cooperative society. On average, a female is a member of between two and three groups. Around 25% of the respondents' report receiving money or food from other households. Over 30% of female respondents reported that they do not have at least one good friend with whom to discuss problems. This is a relatively high degree of personal isolation.

g) Women's mobility

Women's mobility without requiring permission from their husband is an area in which the *Berchi* Project expects to have impact. 80% of the female respondents reported that they are free to go to church or mosque. But, only 35% to 40% of female respondents in the household survey reported that they did not require permission to go to various other locations.

h) Sharing of domestic tasks

The *Berchi* Project expects to achieve impact in increasing flexibility on gender norms relative to household chores. The percentage of male and female responses on males' engagement in various types of household chores is an indicator. The survey result shows that men generally had a higher opinion of their engagement in household tasks, but the opinions of men and women were fairly similar for any specific task. In the tasks of collecting firewood, taking children for health care, keeping sanitation systems clean, and taking care of crops around the household for which men reported opinions that they were more significantly engaged than in the opinions of women respondents.

i) Attitudinal change on joint decision-making

The concept behind this indicator is that the *Berchi* Project will affect attitudes toward household decision-making. The proposed measurement indicator is the percentage of women and men who report that they believe that husband and wife should decide together on various types of household decisions. The percentage of female respondents who believe that the husband and wife should make household decisions together is consistently less than the percent of male respondents who believe that the decisions should be made together.

j) Community actions to change social norms

The information for this indicator is collected from community, kebele and woreda leaders on issues targeted by Berchi-project including FGM, gender-based violation, early marriage, women's economic engagement, women's leadership opportunities, girls' access to education and other. The project is expected to improve these situations during the final evaluation of the project.

k) Reduced belief in reproductive health myths

The proposed measurement indicator in reproductive health myths is the percent of women and men who express a belief in various myths that are common in rural areas of Ethiopia. The data shows that fairly high percentages of people in rural areas still believe in many of the myths, and there are significant differences between the responses of women and of men.

1.6 Expected Result 4: Learning and impact measurement

Indicators: The indicators are stated as follows.

a) Knowledge management on women's empowerment

Knowledge in: The current channel for new ideas and technologies brought into the *Berchi* project from outside is primarily through the FSF/*Berchi* Project Management Team supported by CARE Austria and the Program Quality and Learning (PQL) Unit for the CARE Ethiopia Country Office. The FSF/*Berchi* Project Management Team is composed of a Chief of Party and Deputy Chief of Party, both of whom have been

recruited from outside CARE Ethiopia and will bring their experience and new ideas from work experience with CARE in other country offices (Chief of Party) and from other organizations (Deputy Chief of Party).

Monitoring and evaluation: The *Berchi* Project monitoring and evaluation system is oriented around a project document including a logical framework/planning matrix. The process which CARE Ethiopia currently uses for preparing project implementation plans is a workshop involving project stakeholders in which the previous year's progress is reviewed and the coming year's plans are developed. Monthly project monitoring reports are prepared at the field level to document project activities, document progress against implementation plans, and highlight problems and success stories; field visits using checklists are also used for monitoring.

Knowledge out: The FSF/*Berchi* Project Management Team with the support of the PQL Unit and CARE Austria works on documenting and disseminating best practices and lessons learned out of *Berchi*-project are through project reporting systems and consultant reports at mid-term evaluations and final evaluations. These reports are made available through both soft copies placed in the public folder of the CARE Ethiopia web system and through hard copies that are distributed to all partners and other organizations working in development in Ethiopia.

b) Government strategies for women's empowerment

The purpose of this indicator is to capture the impact of the *Berchi* project relative to how information from the project has informed the revision or development of government policies and strategies towards women's empowerment initiatives. The Public works component of PSNP is designed to accommodate women's reproductive, home and social activities.

2. Berchi-be strong project progress/end-line report

2.1 Expected Result 1: Women have equitable access and control over productive assets to ensure their livelihood security

The *Berchi*-project has undertaken series of planning and partnership forms to build common understanding and consensus on the overall objective and implementation arrangement of the project. At the zonal level familiarization workshop held in Debre Tabor city with the participation of the zone administrator and representatives from the food security, cooperative promotion and women, children and youth departments have reaffirmed their commitment and readiness for the successful implementation of the project.

Based on CARE Ethiopia report of January-March 2014¹, the *Berchi*-project has supported the establishment of 242 VSLA groups (including 112 VSLA established in this quarter) in the two *Weredas*, 141 and 101 in Simada and Ebinat *Weredas*, respectively. They have a total membership of 4,457, including 2,091 newly organized beneficiaries in this quarter. 1,454 and 637 new target beneficiaries are joined in the newly established VSLAs in Simada and Ebinet *Weredas*, respectively. The women's number in VSLAs has been increased from 57% in previous quarter to 60% in this quarter. A total of 504 (249 Female) management committee member have got a two days training so as to enable them to exercise good leadership role in their respective groups. A total of 42 village agents selected from the project beneficiaries have got a three days basic VSLA methodology training. The objective of this training is to establish a support system for the follow up of the VSLA groups and to increase the number of VSLAs. The newly established VSLA groups have developed by-law and agreed to conduct their meeting fortnightly. VSLA kits i.e. saving box, log-book, keys and bowls or plastic dish are distributed to all VSLA groups. All VSLA members have started depositing savings for their economic and social needs. They have mobilized savings amounting ET Birr 41,662.00 (ET Birr 26,977 in this quarter) for economic and 5,642.00 (ET Birr 3,861 in this quarter) for social fund. Likewise, they have disbursed a total loan from their savings amounting ET Birr 30,970.00 (ET Birr 22,210 in

this quarter) to 203 members. 141 new members have access loan in this quarter. Around 105 women have accessed loan from the total 203 members who have accessed loan so far in Simada and Ebinet weredas¹.

VSLA leadership positions	Positions hold by Female	Positions hold by male	Remark
Chairperson	52	78	
Secretary	42	88	Most women are illiterate.
Key holders	192	68	
Box keeper	57	73	

BoFED Report on Berchi Project, Bahir Dar (15 Feb 2014)

Provision of inputs for the project beneficiaries: The project offered inputs to the Ebinat and Simada Woredas' agricultural office. The agricultural offices are in charge of distributing those inputs to the target beneficiaries organized in VSLAs. So far, 80 kg Cabbage, 50 kg carrot, 100 kg Red paper, 90 kg onion and 1500 watering cans are distributed to the beneficiaries. The project has also procured 500 saving boxes and VSLA kits and most of them are already distributed in this reporting period.

Input transfer modality validation forum: It is a type of revolving scheme where the first target beneficiary receiving support will repay back to the next/second beneficiary on loan basis through the facilitation of their VSLA group; the scheme should be managed by VSLA/FS taskforce level at kebele level with clear procedures³.

VSLA group formation and status: A total of 1,884 new members (1250 Female) have joined the VSLA groups in this quarter, and increased the total membership to 7,186 (4,379 female). A total of 1850 (1061 Female) VSLA management committee member have got a two days training. A total of 93 (23 female) village agents selected from the project beneficiaries have got a three days basic VSLA methodology training. 53 were trained in this quarter. The 370 VSLA groups organized so far have mobilized ET Birr 549,755.00 (389,731 in the last three month) for economic and 42,751.00 (23,033 is mobilized in this quarter) for social fund. The dispersed loan amount in the reporting quarter alone is 383,515 ETB to 2,713 (1,548 Female) members³. In the 4th quarter (April-June, 2015)⁵, a total of 381 VSLAs groups are established with a member of 7,588(4,369 of them are females), out of the total VSLA groups 16 of them have only female members. The participants discussed agreed on the time schedule which will be favorable both for the husbands and wives. Male participates were even engaged in making coffee at the time of training exercising the changing attitude of male participation in such types of roles⁵. Up to the 4th quarter each VSLAs group has covered 4-5 topics such as vision/dream, discrimination and unity, self-esteem, communication etc. In this 4th quarter, the amount of saving mobilized for loan is Birr 845,277, a total of 2,115 households (358 male and 1,757 female) accessed loan from this internal saving⁵.

Agricultural productivity enhancement: The Berchi-project in collaboration with the partners and development agents has continued to provide technical supports to enhance production and productivity. Most of the beneficiaries who received input supports have practiced row planting and use of modern fertilizers³. In the 4th quarter, distribution of improved seed varieties supplemented with provision of chemical fertilizers was undertaken to attain the expected result of increasing productivity and production of food grains with the application of raw plantation system⁵.

Landless honey producing groups training: This training was given at Ebinat woreda to 89 (31 female) beneficiaries. The objective of the trainings was to increase the capacity of the members on group formation, conflict management, linkage with other entities and management of the scheme³.

2.2 Expected Result 2: Meaningful representation and participation of women at all levels

The *Berchi*-project has ensured fair and equitable representation of women in all the project sensitization and planning activities; the primacy of women empowerment and women as impact group has been emphasized. In the by-laws of the VSLA groups, it is set that at least two out of five committee members in each group become women².

Zonal and Woreda Level International Women Day Celebration¹: In collaboration with the Zone Women Children and Youth Affair office, the project has coordinated the celebration events of the 103th International Women Day at Debretabor and Ebinat Towns. In both of the IWD celebration a program, CARE's commitment to women Empowerment endeavour was explained by mentioning the Berchi- be strong- project as an example. And discussions on gender and development, HIV and AIDS, women's role in the development arena and their benefit from the gains in the economy, and the impact of harmful and traditional practices on women in the context of rural areas were carried out by the facilitation of experts and officials from the zone and woreda offices.

As a result of all the efforts exerted towards representation and participation of women in the project activities the following results are achieved³.

1. Around 56% of the targeted beneficiaries are women
2. Women's representation in the VSLA management committee is 57%
3. 50% the VSLA discussion facilitators are women
4. 50% of the SAA group participants are women
5. 50% of the SAA group facilitators
6. The input provision processes provide priority to women beneficiaries and others.

2.3 Expected Result 3: Transform key institutional and socio-cultural norms, relations and attitudes for gender equality:

The Social Analysis and Action(SAA) is believed to be a powerful approach for bringing about social changes; there was no guiding SAA manual aligned to address the food security agendas. The SAA guiding manual has been developed with active participation of the *Berchi* project team during the previous quarter. A follow up TOT training and formation of SAA groups has been carried out in this quarter¹.

SAA Training of Trainer and SAA group formation: After the adoption of the SAA manual to fit to the food security programme context and translated in local language by the Berchi-project team, the project has provided a TOT training for 34 (12 Female) key government sector (Zone & woreda) experts and project staff. At the end of the training, participants have prepared action plan with emphasis of providing orientation to key stakeholders from the intervention *Kebeles* on the concept, methodology and procedures of the SAA cycle and the formation of SAA groups¹.

SAA groups Formation and Facilitators training³: Four SAA groups consist of 25-30 members in each kebele are formed. A total of 96 SAA groups were organized in 24 *Kebeles* with a 50% proportion of male and female members in the two *Woredas*. All the organized groups have started their monthly discussion sessions through the support of 192 trained SAA group facilitators. The facilitators are well equipped with a 5 days basic SAA and facilitation skills training. Each SAA group has one male and one female facilitator. And now a total of 2,482 people are undertaking a monthly SAA discussion sessions³.

Psychosocial training: Beginning from the end of March to the first week of April, a psychosocial training was carried out to 26 (14 female) project staff and experts from the respective zone and woreda government offices. The training was also used to get input from the participants for the development of key psychosocial

indicators. After the completion of the training, piloting of the psychosocial activities on selected VSLA groups has been started¹.

Psychosocial Training-Psychosocial Score Card Activities: In the reporting period, a psychosocial score card activity has been done at Ebinat and Simada Woredas. The score card activity is the second step; that is it continued from identifying domains and indicators for psychosocial well-being and for humans' positive outlook impacts. By the second step the same VSLA group exercising ranking of identified domains based on their priority needs of their psychosocial well being. In ranking activity four women VSLA groups and two men VSLA groups were engaged³.

Picture codes: For the sake of assisting the discussion sessions of the SAA groups through a pictorial presentation and description of series of pictures on different socio-cultural norms, relations and practices, the project has developed picture codes. A total of 500 bundles of pictures are availed and provided to the SAA groups³.

Gender and Climate vulnerability and Capacity Assessment training³: Gender and Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment training was organized for Development agents in FSF *woredas*. The training is one of the activities in Berchi project. The aim of the training was to build the capacity of agricultural development agents working in FSF project target kebeles with gender and CVCA tools, enable them use the tool, and mainstream climate change adaptation and mitigation in their routine development activities. The event composed of training and guided discussions aimed at enhancing participants' understanding of the link between climate change adaptation and development. The training has the following specific objectives:

- To enable DAs, acquire skills in hazard, trend, vulnerability, and capacity assessment tools
- To assess the major top hazards in the project *woredas* and prepare action plan for mitigation
- To promote mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation principles

The training focused on the CARE's CVCA tools following interactive, participatory and practical approaches for three days. A total of 40 (14Female) development agents from Simada and 46 (17Female) from Ebinat participated in the training. At the end, participants have developed action plans for managing disasters and risks based on their critical analysis and prioritization of identified hazards.

Participatory monitoring, evaluation and learning and reflection (PMELR) on climate change adaptation: In collaboration with the South Gondar zone Environmental protection and land administration and use office, the project has delivered the training to its workers at Ebinat and Simada Weredas ³. The training primarily focused on enhancing the technical skill and knowledge of experts on sustainable agriculture, improving the livelihood, climate change influence and mitigation measures, reducing the spread of desertification/drought and implement land use planning based on land capability classification. 50 development agents, including 7 women have attended the training ³.

2.4 Expected Result 4: Promote key learning and impact measurement for women's empowerment

Indicators: Review meetings and field visits are the major indicators.

Woreda level review meetings and field visits

Meetings and field visits are good instruments in promoting key learning and impact measurement for women's empowerment. A total of 70 and 55 participants have attended the meeting in Simada and Ebinat *Woredas* respectively. The participants of the review meeting were zone representatives, woreda sector officials, project beneficiary, *Kebele* leaders and project staff. The zonal steering committee members with project staff have also conducted a joint field supervision and visited VSLAs and SAA groups at a kebele levels. The visit team has appreciated the aspirations that the VSLA members have for their future lives and the practical actions they are playing in saving, income generating activities, the social cohesion among the VSLA members³.

3. Baseline versus end line analysis

There is a slight variation in the indicators used in the baseline and end-line report of the Berchi-project in the analysis of the expected results. The comparison of the two documents is made using the expected results.

3.1. Expected Result 1: Women have equitable access and control over productive assets to ensure their livelihood security

In the case of ER1, the baseline report has used detailed indicators with regard to women's access and control over productive assets, but in the end-line report all indicators of the baseline are not included. Berchi-project has made intervention for women to get access and control over assets; Simada Woreda⁶ has reported that sheep were bought for 600 women among these two women have been given 1 male and 5 female sheep respectively. The sheep were 1465 and 300 local and "*Wasbera*" breeding respectively. In the baseline women has got good access to agricultural and health extension services, but limited access to microfinance and common property land. In the end-line with Berchi-project intervention women are able to improve their agricultural productivity through the support they received in technical training (row planting), input (chemical fertilizer and seedling)³. Landless honey producing training was also given at Ebinat Woreda. Berchi-project has worked a lot in the establishment of VSLAs groups, the number of VSLAs groups and women membership has increased from one quarter to the next period. In terms of women's participation in IGAs, in the baseline it was found that women were engaged in more diversified IGAs, but they receive low income as the activities are small scale and less profitable. But, the intervention of the Berchi-project has helped women to improve their income through participation in IGAs by taking loan from VSLAs⁶.

3.2. Expected Result 2: Meaningful representation and participation of women at all levels

In the end-line the Berchi-project has ensured fair and equitable representation of women in the entire project sensitization and planning activities. The project contributed for awareness creation on the role of women in the development arena during the celebration of 103th International Women Day at Debretabor and Ebinat towns in collaboration with the zone Women Children and Youth Affairs office. In the baseline report, there are different indicators presented with respect to women representation and participation. Based on the end-line report, though it is not as such adequate to comprehensively indicate women's representation and participation, there are indicators that shows progress with Berchi-project intervention in Simada and Ebinat woredas. For example, 56% of the Berchi beneficiaries were women and they have got good representation in which 50% of the facilitators in VSLAs and SAA group discussion were women.

The baseline survey indicated that both men and women have favorable perception that women should be given leadership opportunity; this view has provided a good baseline during the implementation of the Berchi-project that enhances women's participation in facilitating group discussions. On the other hand in the baseline survey large proportion of the respondents perceived that women have low supervisory skills for analyzing and making hard decisions and knowledge on community issues. The implementation of Berchi-project targeting women has improved women's supervisory and decision making skills through creating conducive environment for the participation of women in VSLAs and SAA groups even by making women group leaders and facilitators during discussion session. During the baseline survey among 74 community leaders interviewed, only 5 were female. The intervention of the Berchi project has contributed a lot through the formation of VSLAs and PMAs to establish a cadre of role models, almost half of them were women, the baseline value for these indicators was 0%. Women's participation in discussions was getting improved from time to time due to their participation at VSLAs and SAA.

3.3. Expected Result 3: Transform key institutional and socio-cultural norms, relations and attitudes for gender equality

The baseline survey indicated that the implementation of Berchi-project has to work much to change the perception of the community regarding women's freedom of movement as the data shows that only 35% to 40% of the female respondent reporting having freedom of movement without their husbands' permission. In the case of FGM there are 14% of community leaders who still believe on the necessity of FGM. Majority of the respondent believe that it is acceptable for a wife to be beaten by her husband. In the case of social connectedness, 30% of women reported that they are living in isolation having no friend at all. The baseline data also shows that large number of people in rural areas still believe in many of the reproductive myths.

In the end-line, Berchi-project has undertaken many activities towards the success of ER 3. In the implementation of the Berchi-project, SAA training manual were developed and adopted to fit to food security programme context and translated in to local language by Berchi-project team. The project has provided a TOT training for 34 (12 Female) key government sector experts and project staff. A total of 96 SAA groups were organized in 24 Kebeles with a 50% proportion of male and female members in Simada and Ebinat Woredas. A total of 2,482 people are undertaking a monthly SAA discussion session through the support of 192 trained SAA group facilitators, each group has one male and one female facilitator. A psychosocial training was carried out to 26 (14 female) project staff and experts from government offices. Score card activities are implemented. A total of 500 bundles of picture codes on different socio-cultural norms, relations and practices are provided to the SAA groups by Berchi-project³. ER3 is well achieved in the end-line report as the perception of the community is changed with respect to their attitude, norms and values positively toward the role of women in development in general and the HHs level. Women has got good representation in SAA groups and served as a facilitator in SAA discussions.

In the baseline report at ER3 there was no indicator concerning gender and climate vulnerability and capacity assessment, but the end-line report has presented the activities taken in this issue. Berchi-project as one of its activities has organized gender and climate vulnerability and capacity assessment training for DAs in FSF woredas to build the capacity of agricultural Das and to enable them use the tools used to manage climate change related problems in their Woreda³. In collaboration with the South Gondar zone Environmental protection and land administration and use office, Berchi-project has also delivered training to its workers at Ebinat and Simada Woredas on sustainable agriculture, improving livelihood, climate change influence and mitigation measures, reducing the spread of desertification and implement land use planning based on land capability classification. 50 development agents, including 7 women have attended the training³.

3.4 Expected Result 4: Promote key Learning and Impact Measurement for women's empowerment

At the baseline level the FSF/Berchi-project management team supported by CARE Austria and CARE Ethiopia country office is considered as a source of new ideas and technologies to the Berchi-project. The team also works on documenting and disseminating best practices and lessons learned out of the Berchi-project through project report systems at mid-term and final evaluation. The Berchi-project has a certain impact in influencing government strategies for women empowerment mainly through PSNP and HABP.

In the case of ER4, the end-line report showed that Woreda level review meetings and field visits at the grass root (kebele) level at Simada and Ebinat Woreda were used as an instrument to promote key learning and impact measurement for women empowerment. The zonal steering committee and project staffs visited VSLAs and SAA groups at kebele levels. At the baseline CARE Ethiopia prepares project implementation plans using workshops involving project stakeholders, reports on problems and/or success stories and field visits using checklists. There is to some extent a consistency between the baseline report and end-line report in the case of ER4 in the Berchi project.

4. Concluding remarks on baseline and end-line reports

- The intervention of the Berch-project has a significant contribution for improving the income gap between MHHs and FHHs due the increased participation of women in VSLAs and the material and technical supports offered for female by CARE Ethiopia through Berch-project.
- There is a good consistency in the baseline and end-line report of the Berchi-project in the achievement of ER4 regarding promoting key learning and impact measurements for women empowerment.

5. Overall Summary on Berchi-project

Monitoring (difficulties encountered, management measures)

The project implementation has been started a bit late due to project agreement and compliance procedures with government and recruitment of staff. The data inconsistency on PSNP active members has been a challenge to target the *Berchi* project target beneficiaries as data on graduated members of the PSNP beneficiaries are not constantly updated. The 'PSNP graduated beneficiaries' are requesting to be targeted and organized in the VSLA groups¹. They expressed that the measurement for 'graduation' is so subjective that it doesn't qualify them not to be supported by *Berchi* project and even be excluded from receiving support from PSNP and HABP schemes. The project will further discuss with the local governments and partners on addressing the issue and further define the targeting criterion if necessary¹. Most of the capacity building and training programme have been delayed due to the late start up of the project, in general and developing training materials and manuals. As the manuals are ready, the project will catch up and accelerate implementation of those activities in the coming quarters³.

Evaluation

Since the project implementation started a bit late, the project management has proposed to postpone the mid-term evaluation which was planned to be carried out in 1st or 2nd quarter of the year 3. Likewise, it was proposed to reschedule the final evaluation around the 1st quarter of year four while the project conducts its regular quarterly and semi-annual review and reflection exercise with stakeholders.

Sustainability/Capacity Building

In order to enhance program effectiveness and sustainability, the project is implemented with full participation and ownership feeling by the local government and communities. Enabling factors such as effective linkages with the relevant government sector offices, capacity building activities to sectors and community institutions and on-the-job training are being carried out to facilitate sustainability and smooth phase out³. Strong foundation for sustainability such as participatory project launching, sensitization, joint planning is undertaken with the zonal and wereda level Government, kebele level administrations, community leaders and the communities, at large in previous quarters¹. The project and partner staffs are provided VSLA approach and methodology training. The project has shown improvement for the establishment of VSLAs groups for mobilizing savings and disbursing loans from members' saving. The cohesiveness of the group members is getting stronger and the mutual support and social network are emerging in a new form as additional social capital². The project has continued incrementally building both the institutional and individual capacity of beneficiaries towards achieving sustainable food security³.

Perspectives

The project has further build the foundation for scaling up its initiatives and significantly increasing its outreach in the coming period¹. The following period will make substantially progress in the delivery of major project activities such as formation and capacity building of VSLA groups, linking VSLA groups with financial and marketing institutions, providing SAA and psychosocial training to project and partner staff, institutionalizing the SAA approach and strengthening of VSLA leadership committees. The following table

depicts the year two work plan and project priority activities². In the reporting period³, Berchi-project has further build the foundation for scaling up and increasing its outreach.

Cooperation with local partner organisations and other relevant actors

The ADA project is implemented with the identified partners, the Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development; youth, children and women and cooperative promotion and existing food security taskforce and community structures across all levels, regional to community level. Joint planning and review with partners and the aforementioned sector representatives has been initiated and will soon take a shape of formal structure as project steering committee (PSC). The empowerment tool, Social Analysis and Action (SAA), for engaging the impact as well as the target groups has been reviewed and enriched to respond and address to the specific food insecurity challenges².

Visibility and Public Awareness Raising

The project organized project familiarization workshops at the zonal and woreda levels where government sector officials and experts from the zone, woreda and kebele to aware them on project objectives, activities and operational area as well as to engage them in project implementation. One workshop was organized at the zone level and two workshops at the woreda level. On top of that the project also organized community orientation events at Kebele level where community at large were oriented on project objectives and importance of the project. The project organized these community level orientation sessions in collaboration with the kebele level government partners (DAs and chair persons and kebele managers). The project is also organizing regular Social Analysis and Action (SAA) sessions with community elders, gatekeepers, and others (in-laws, husband, and health workers)².

Allowance of ADC cross-cutting themes

The following are the cross-cutting issues of the Berchi-project.

- Poverty reduction
- Democracy and human rights
- Inclusion of disadvantages groups such as children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities
- Gender and environment

Through project interventions Berchi facilitating diversified economic opportunities to the project participants so that they can come out poverty. As a food security project the project is contributing to the poverty reduction efforts of the country. Berchi is working both at demand and supply side so that the project participants can access services from the service providers. As part of that the project is raising awareness of the project participants on their rights as well as closely working with the key institutions to make them responsive to the people's rights. VSLA is an entry point for the project and Berchi has introduced democratic way of selecting the VSLA group members and leaders so that they can understand, respect and promote democracy. The project strategy is to target the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of the community that includes poorest of the poor, people with special quality, elders, etc.

Under food security programming domain CARE is specially focusing on chronically food insecure women and mainstreaming gender equity framework to empower women and men. As part of this process the project is deliberately promoting women leadership, facilitating life skills, and linking project participants with local institutions and market to access services. The project is also working closely with the relevant institutions, gate keepers, and religious leaders to sensitize them on gender issues. The project has also integrated Disaster Risk Mitigation (DRM) and Climate change as a cross-cutting theme. As part of that the project is in process of forming school club to educate them on DRM strategy².

6. Document review

6.1 Review on government policies and strategies

6.1.1. FDREG rural development strategy and policy

The FDRE rural development policy and strategy aims to build a market economy in which a broad spectrum of the Ethiopian people are beneficiaries on equity basis, eliminating poverty, dependence on food aid is eliminated; and rapid economic growth is assured. The basic approach of FDRE in this strategy is to enhance the productive capacity of the working population and to direct this capacity for development by improving health status, work initiative and improve skill levels through education and training (MoFED, 2003¹). The policy follows an integrated approach as it is closely linked to other sectors such as education, health, infrastructural projects, trade, finance and industry and sustainable resource utilization.

i. Strategies designed to alleviate food insecurity problem

FDRE government aims to eliminate food insecurity problem based on regional and agro-ecological consideration. Food insecurity and poverty are as pervasive and deep in pastoral communities. Therefore, rapid and sustainable economic growth that will ensure food security is strongly linked to livestock development and natural resources protection. Resettling a certain number of people living in some drought prone regions in areas where there is enough land and rainfall is a strategy that we will implement to expeditiously realize the objective of food security. The government has a definite role in building the capacity of organizations including the unions to enhance the agricultural productivity. The role cooperative unions, dissemination of reliable information and creating commodity exchange centers are emphasized in the policy document.

ii. Improving rural banks and financial system

The Agricultural Development Strategy in Ethiopia is based on the building of the productive capacity of the people, making the maximum use of the enhanced capacity, and innovative application of the country's inadequate financial resources. Shortage of finance is particularly acute among the millions of farmers. They need to buy improved agricultural inputs and implements to increase their income and break the perpetuity of the poverty cycle they are entangled with. The major financial institutions, which can contribute significantly to rural and agricultural development, are the existing commercial and development banks, rural banks and cooperatives. Banks can extend loans to cooperatives to on-lend to members.

iii. Women empowerment and rural development

The FDRE government's rural development strategy and policy document put emphasis on gender equity in the agricultural sector. The document gave special attention on the multiple benefits of the provision of primary education to women. Providing primary education to women will help them reduce child and early marriage, practice family planning, support children's education, improves family hygiene and health care. Harmful and backward traditions militating against equality of women in education should be eliminated, and women's educational levels should progressively be lifted towards those of men. Unless women's productive capacity is enhanced, and unless they are employed in production and development activities, the desired development outcome cannot be attained. Hence, great effort should be exerted to make the work burden on women lighter.

The disease prevention and primary health care programs should be oriented more towards women because women care for more people than just for themselves, and as such, their contribution to the health of the nation in general carries more weight. In the case of land use, right women are legally ensured to have equal

access to land with men. The FDRE government rural development policy also gives stress on the importance of organizing women's associations at kebele level to enable women to obtain technical and credit services as well as exchange of views and experiences. Thus, policy document give stress on the role women empowerment for the attainment of rural development and food security program in Ethiopia.

6.2 Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP)

Sustaining rapid and equitable growth is central to GTP that will help expand employment and income, eventually eradicating poverty. During the plan period, agriculture will be transformed to high growth path in order to ensure the food security challenge of the country and to curb inflationary pressure as well as broadening the export base of the country. Therefore, in order to promote multiple cropping and better cope with climate variability and insure food security, GTP will enhance the uses of country's water resources through the expansion of small-scale irrigation. Telecommunication, railway, road, energy, and irrigation development will receive sustained support during the plan period for enhancing and sustaining pro-poor growth by way of job creation, initiating domestic industrial development. The main ingredients of the pillars of GTP are higher education and adult education, better primary health care, better and closer access to safe water and sanitation facilities, halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, better food security and nutrition, and housing conditions.

6.2.1. Building capacity and deepen good governance

Implementation capacity is a key instrument to steer the development process. Besides, the prevailing structural and institutional problem, the economy has been faced with implementation capacity challenges. The Government has designed national programs, policies, and strategies to strengthen and sustain the country's implementation capacity. The implementation of Civil Service Reform Program and Good Governance packages will be further enhanced ensuring efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability at all level. In order to enhance smallholders' agriculture growth continues capacity building efforts will be made to improve the skills, work initiation, and implementation performance of the government extension system that is used to enhance farmers' knowledge and skills, as well as promote and expand improved technologies. Efficient agricultural marketing system that involves farmers' cooperatives, modern output market centers, and private sector will be established and strengthened starting at kebele level all the way up to country level.

6.2.2. Improve capacity and leadership of top management

In the coming five years' various activities will be carried out to build the capacity of top leaders both at federal and regional level, at all levels of government structure to bring effective and efficient leadership.

6.2.3. Build the capacity of government institutions

Human Resource Development, institutional set up and working systems and procedures are the three pillars of capacity building. Transforming government institutions to improve service delivery; improve their efficiency and effectiveness in providing public services; enhancing implementing capacities through improved working systems and procedures as well as establishing appropriate institutions are some of focus of this goal. The focus areas of during the planning period is strengthening of the implementation capacity of both urban and rural *woreda* and *Kebele* councils through institutionalize and improved working system as well as through enhancing the capabilities of councilors.

6.2.4. Promote gender and youth empowerment and equitable benefits

The objectives of the development plan can be achieved only when the multidimensional problems faced by women and youth are concurrently addressed and resolved. Hence, the Government will scale up its efforts

to implement the Women's and youth Policy, which is necessary to release the untapped potential of Ethiopian of these population segments, in a holistic and integrated manner. Unleashing the power of girls and women will have profound effect on the speed, equity, and sustainability of Ethiopia growth and development. The government is committed to increase the participation of women in education, public life and to strengthen their membership-based organization. Providing affirmative action for women and enhanced popular participation are also the major targets in the GTP. In the next five years priority objectives are ensuring women's active participation in the country's economic development and equal benefit from the economic growth; increasing participation in the social sector and empowerment of women by abolishing Harmful Traditional Practices, and asserting women's participation in politics. The gender sensitive implementation strategies of GTP include the following strategies.

- Ensuring the economic sector programs and extension packages consider women participation.
- Assist women to form cooperatives and advance the beneficiaries.
- Encourage women to increase their income by participating in other income generating activities other than agriculture.
- Promote women's use of saving and credit services.
- Increase women participation in all educational levels.
- Providing better health care and combat women related health problems
- Extend programs that help decrease the work burden of rural women
- Create conducive environment to enable women association operate effectively.
- Increase decision making role of women²

6.3 The Food Security Programs

By targeting those safety net beneficiaries who are involved in the household asset building component and by giving them support for business plan preparation, training, technology supply, credit and extension they will be able to ensure them food security. In the household asset-building component, packages that are based on the food security strategy will be formulated. The packages will be inclusive of those which are suitable for moisture deficit areas, water harvesting, and that can lead to result in low moisture and small area in order to ensure food security. The other component of the FSP, which was designed to bring food security rapidly, has been the settlement program that is carried out on voluntary basis. In addition, those who have very small plots and landless youth and women will be encouraged to engage in non-farm income generating activities with adequate support in terms of preparing packages, provision of skill and business management trainings, provision of credit and facilitating markets, so that they can ensure their food security. Further, early warning for disaster prevalence and response capacity building, will be one of the keys tasks over the next five years. In terms of preparedness, there will be enhanced increase in food and non-food reserves. Storage capacity will be built in line with the expected increase, particularly food security reserves. In pastoralist areas improved livestock resources development, natural resource management and establishment of modern agricultural system like the marketing practiced through Ethiopian commodity exchange (ECX) will be made to continue with strength.

Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP)

The objective of the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) is: "To assure food consumption and prevent asset depletion for food insecure households in chronically food insecure Weredas, while stimulating markets, improving access to services and natural resources, and rehabilitating and enhancing the natural environment. The PSNP provides a safety net to protect people falling further into trouble, while also providing a secure

food and asset platform from which they may be able to improve their household status and become food secure. To ensure that the PSNP is effective in achieving its objectives it needs to be implemented with the principle of fair and transparent client selection, timely, predictable and appropriate transfers, primacy of transfers, productive safety net, integrated into local systems, scalable safety net, cash first principle, and gender equity.

PSNP Coverage and Clients

The Productive Safety Net Programme is implemented in Weredas and Kebeles defined by the Government as chronically food insecure. Their eligibility for the PSNP was defined by the frequency with which they required food assistance in the ten years preceding the design of the PSNP (the ten years up to 2004). The clients of the PSNP are the food insecure populations living in the chronically food insecure Weredas. The vast majority of PSNP clients are resource poor male- and female headed households who fail to produce or purchase enough food even in times of normal rains. Households with these characteristics are considered chronically food insecure, numbering around 8.3 million people. Households that are identified for graduation will remain in the PSNP for one additional year to promote stability in their livelihoods and the building of resilience.

Capacity building

There will be renewed attention to capacity building at all levels in the PSNP. For this, the administrative and management budgets will continue to finance additional staff and the running costs of the PSNP. A capacity building budget will finance equipment that is needed for the effective implementation of the PSNP. In addition, the CIDA financed Capacity Building Facility will support capacity building activities at Regional and woreda levels.

Gender sensitivity

Public works are designed to enable women to participate in Public Works sub-projects, and priority is given to works that reduce women's regular work burden to ensure that they benefit from investments in Public Works. Public works sub-projects must be organized in such a way that adapts to women's activities (e.g. late arrival and early leaving for home, activities that are less physically demanding). Both men and women who are able bodied, participate in public works. Women may be asked to work fewer hours each day and less days overall, than men, to adapt to their responsibilities for reproductive tasks, such as cooking and caring for children. Women of child-bearing age, who are pregnant or already have children, may be asked to participate in nutritional classes, or other types of activities, that are identified within the PSNP public works plan that are particularly beneficial to them and their children.

Strengthening the effectiveness of PSNP implementation

There are four main areas to consider for enhancing the effectiveness of PSNP implementation. These are PSNP management systems, PSNP staffing, PSNP Human Resource Development, and PSNP equipment. The PSNP has resources to build institutional capacity over time and a key function of management is to identify and fill capacity gaps that hamper programme implementation. The key principle behind decisions to invest resources in additional capacity is that these decisions must be evidence-based, driven by specific assessments that provide a specific justification for capacity-building expenditures. Capacity is assessed each year to ensure that adequate capacity is maintained. However, it is critical that these capacities – human, physical or educational – be managed correctly and used efficiently. This includes maintenance of vehicles, offices and computers, among others, and providing staff with the support, they need to carry out their job efficiently. These are all elements of sound programme management, which is critical to ensuring the success of the PSNP.

Coordination between programme implementers and with other development efforts

The PSNP is a complex programme implemented by multiple Government ministries and departments at Federal, Regional, Zonal and woreda levels. The PSNP is also supported by NGOs and WFP in some areas. To achieve its objectives, efficient coordination is required between these institutions at all levels. In addition,

the wider economic, social and climatic context can impact significantly on whether or not the PSNP achieves its outcome of protecting food insecure households and promoting graduation from food insecurity. Integration of the PSNP with the Government's Food Security Programme and broader development initiatives will maximize the impact of the PSNP on households and the likelihood that households graduate from food insecurity, while effective coordination with the emergency systems required to protect all food insecure households from shocks, such as droughts.

7. Review on CARE Documents

7.1 Rural development and livelihood improvement strategies

Care Ethiopia leading the Consortium that includes Save-UK, CRS, REST, SNV and Tuft University initiate PSNP PLUS project to facilitate graduation of PSNP beneficiaries through linking PSNP-Plus beneficiaries to micro finance and market. At the beginning, the task is planned to provide livelihood skills training, business skill training, and business development service to beneficiaries in the selected target area. The beneficiaries are expected to benefit from enhanced self-reliance, self-confidence and improved status in the family and community. It is also assumed that due to the program intervention, the livelihood and the poverty situation of PSNP PLUS beneficiaries and their households are improved and their vulnerability reduced (Afework, 2009³).

Moreover, the capacity to plan, participate or undertake and manage development interventions at community levels are expected to be strengthened. The PSNP-PLUS program mainly aims at developing and testing a new integrated approach for sustainable livelihood of beneficiaries as well as for adult education at national level. Hence, the emphasis lies on developing models of good practice or appropriate well working solutions for one of the prominent problems in Ethiopia. In the context of PSNP PLUS skills training is considered as a component to enhance quick graduation by helping the community to engage in various income generation activities. The planning process in the Business development plan facilitation includes understanding of the overall socio-cultural, economical, and political context, gender relations and entrepreneurship environment in a particular town, district, and country with giving special focus to IGA operators (Afework, 2009). FSF compliments government effort to improve the livelihood of land less farmers and facilitate the provision of land to landless groups (CARE, 2014⁴). Targeted PSNP households have increased their financial asset because of access to financial products and services. Membership of PSNP HHs in VSLAs increased. Targeted PSNP households become members of village saving and loan associations (VSLAs).

7.2 Coordination strategies at lower administrative level

The coordination task is crucial for the implementation of CARE projects at the grass root level. Thus, in all projects CARE is working with Wereda, kebele, schools and community institutions in the implementation of projects and in the selection of the target beneficiaries in the program intervention. In the FSF+ program, Kebele Food Security Task Force, actively involved in beneficiary selection criteria development, beneficiary selection, and verification process and closely monitor the proper implementation of the group activities (CARE, 2014).

PNSP PLUS: Linking Poor Rural Households to Microfinance and marketing in Ethiopia

Lateral Relationship is common among communities to show collective action in the implementation of projects. In this regard, undertaking VSLA group member exchange visit has been one of the main project priority areas to enable newly organized VSLA groups share experience and lessons from relatively good

performing VSLA groups within or across their kebeles. At the time of the cross visit participants have got the opportunity to observe the saving amount and frequency of saving period, level of members' commitment to obey group bi-law, credit disbursement procedures, importance of VSLA for resource poor rural HHs to access microfinance, and members have shared their success stories. The participants of the cross visit were 361 (i.e. 53 male & 308 female) VSLA members, who are the management Committees, some active members & elders from both sex, drawn from 40 VSLAs from twelve targeted Kebeles (USAID and CARE, 2011⁵). In the BDS training in order to promote the saving concept the overall CARE project interventions were presented by the kebele Chair person/manager and the community themselves. Some VSLA members who have better asset and achievements thoroughly involving in good IGA have shared their success stories to the participants. The participants at the graduation event date in the BDS training include Kebele Officials, DAs, HEWs, PA managers, Teachers, CARE CFs, promoters and the community themselves including the non-project beneficiaries (USAID and CARE, 2011). All this shows how lateral relationships are important in the implementation of the projects that CARE undertake in Ethiopia.

Partnerships

CARE believes in working with partnership among governmental and Non-governmental organization for the success of its projects. Thus, Memorandum of understanding has developed for the facilitation of farmer-managed colony multiplication schemes. The signatories of the MoU are CARE PSNP PLUS, Doba Woreda Livestock Resources, and Health & Market Development Agency & Model Farmer. The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate the colony multiplication at farmers' level to enable PSNP households' access colony in their locality & support model farmers to generate income from the sale of the colony to the PSNP PLUS beneficiaries (USAID and CARE, 2011). The procedures employed to facilitate access of land to landless groups include making discussions with officials of woreda MSE, Rural Land Administration, and Land Use office on how landless groups can access enough and suitable land for specific intervention. Assigned experts from MSE and Rural Land Administration and Land Use Offices discuss with KFSTF and CARE Kebele representatives (community facilitators) on the issue in detail (CARE Ethiopia, 2014).

Resource Transfer and Repayment

Landless groups are the most financially excluded part of community. They mainly depend on off-farm activities to make their livelihood. CARE Ethiopia in undertaking the FSF+ program targeting the case Creating Livelihood Strategy for the Landless Group focuses in building the financial capacity of the land less group of the community. Thus, FSF implements revolving fund scheme to work in harmony with the government policy and credit system currently carried out by government packages. The project commits itself to link landless groups to microfinance institutions. According to the revolving fund process guidelines developed by CARE, the most commonly used revolving funds are revolving loan funds (RLFs). RLFs are the amount loaned out come back to the fund and will be used to lend again. Informal mutual finance groups run community managed revolving loan funds (CMRLF). The central aim of CMRLF is to fill a gap in financial needs of the community where there are credit demands that are not filled by conventional financial institutions (CARE Ethiopia, 2014). This financial linkage of the community with financial institutions and among the community themselves is an important source for farmers to get financial access to secure their livelihoods.

Linkage and sustainability were also considered in the FSF the landless groups will be linked with other FSF activities similar initiatives run by other governmental, non-governmental, and private initiations. The landless livelihood activities shall be combined and sequenced with VC, VSLA activities, IGAs of FSF. Landless livelihood activities will be linked to microfinance. Link with government food security programs such as with HABP activities to share experiences from HABP run landless farmers. Link with other NGOs/private institutions engaged in similar activities with that of landless group formed by FSF (CARE Ethiopia, 2014).

7.3 Local capacity development

Capacity building is the core component of land less groups. The capacity shall be given to group members. The main interventions are awareness raising, trainings and other capacity building services. The major actions in the capacity building include technical trainings on soil and water conservation including utilization of hillside, VSLA formation, trainings on apiculture, oxen fattening, highland fruits and poultry, book keeping and business management and leadership skills. The target clients' capacity will also be raised through Experience sharing to other areas where landless groups effectively implemented (CARE Ethiopia, 2014).

Primary beneficiaries targeted by the FSF project are 42,887 PSNP households who will receive extension services and tailored capacity building. Technical extension services and access to productive opportunities including value chains will be supported in order to facilitate meaningful and sustainable economic diversification. Essentially market and value chain approach gives centre stage to development; the intervention is based on the principle as participatory as possible; and targeted towards the active value chain participants who are limited by critical resources as leverage points (CARE Ethiopia, 2014).

Some of HAB intervention modalities are capacity development, extension of financial services and packages, development of market and value chain of commodities. In line with this, donors and partners are assisting such government initiatives of addressing food security challenges as the root causes of poverty in Ethiopia (Gizachew, 2014⁶).

7.4 Gender Sensitivity and Inclusiveness

CARE Ethiopia working with other Consortium initiate PSNP PLUS project to facilitate graduation of PSNP beneficiaries through linking PSNP-Plus beneficiaries to micro finance and market. In line with this, PSNP PLUS consortium has planned to provide training on business skills and Business Development Service (BDS) within its skills training component. The Business Development Service guide has a clear feature of gender sensitization. The document highlights that Business Development Service (BDS) facilitation needs to be gender inclusive stressing on the significance women's participation in MSEs (Afework, 2009). The document also highlights that women have their own special needs, which cannot be obviously addressed by a general BDS package. Most resources are usually accessible to men than women due to which the bargaining power of the businesses of women IGA are limited compared to that of men is of the same level. Hence, neglecting women is neglecting 50% of the economically active population and 70% of the poor who could make a difference in economic development (Afework, 2009). Therefore, making the BDS gender sensitive is crucial. Moreover, the BDS guide also stress that the BDS facilitator needs to include a balanced mix of gender to have a complete observation of the situation. Women can simply identify women's need and are more open to one another than opposite sex especially in countries like Ethiopia. USAID and CARE (2011)⁷ undertake the PSNP PLUS: linking poor rural households to microfinance and markets in Ethiopia in Doba woreda of west Hararghe zone. In this project activities performed in the 2nd quarter (January –March 2011) revealed that under microfinance component the majority of the beneficiaries were found to be women.

- A total number of 935 people are organized under 57 VSLA, out of them 667 (71%) and 268 (29%) are women and men respectively.
- Business skill training provided for a total number of 124 VSLA members of which 76 % being women selected from 4 Kebeles.
- A total number of 414 VSLA members have been participating on adult education program, out of which 87% are being women.
- 36 Community Conversation Sessions were carried in nine project targeted Kebeles and a total of 474 people were participated out of these 340 (72%) were women.
- A total of 118 ASLAs, having 1280 members, out of which 263(21%) and 1017(79%) are men and women respectively, were completed the required training package successfully during this reporting period (USAID and CARE 2011).

The project also provided women with financial literacy and women entrepreneurship development to enable the training participates to understand the following major areas.

- Women specific barriers to initiate and run an enterprise
- Appreciate the time poverty of women
- The need for developing women's entrepreneurial attitude and behavior
- Identify competencies and relate appropriate local examples
- Facilitation skills to increase their awareness and self confidence
- How to support the women to work towards cooperation and networking among different actors (USAID and CARE, 2011).

VSLAs have served as an excellent vehicle to enhance the economic, social empowerment and decision making of disadvantaged community groups especially for women (USAID and CARE, 2011). The Food Sufficiency for Farmers (FSF) is a five years' program that is being implemented by CARE Canada and CARE Ethiopia in partnership with the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (GFDRE). CARE International in Ethiopia complements the project with other development initiatives in the area of women's empowerment, economic development and climate change/resilience sectors. The FSF project is being implemented in three zones of Ethiopia, West Hararghe, East Hararghe and South Gondar (Gizachew, 2014). The primary beneficiaries targeted by the FSF project are 42,887 PSNP households who will receive extension services and tailored capacity building. Of these, 34,310 PSNP households are expected to achieve sustained graduation from the PSNP out of which 5,000 will be female-headed. In the FSF project: Gender Sensitive Market Survey and Value Chain Analysis, there is gender sensitivity in the ranking of commodities, including, the impact on gender, the potential to increase income sources for women, potential to increase participation of women beneficiaries and Potential to ensure sustainable livelihood sources for women. In the selection of enterprises emphasizes is given to the livelihood of women and other marginal groups; comparative advantage; availability of local knowledge and the like (Gizachew, 2014). CARE recognizes that working with Chronically Food Insecure Women and their family members will attain sustainable food security. Due focus is given to women as they are most vulnerable (CARE Ethiopia, 2014). FSF+ plans to work with very poor, food insecure families; eligible beneficiaries of the project are those who are beneficiaries of the national PSNP with specific emphasis to female headed households.

The different strategies, plans, and approaches that CARE participate in working for the improvement of the livelihood and food security of people in Ethiopia are gender inclusive and sensitive. However, more investigation needs to be undertaken to clearly understand the challenges and opportunities of women to be real beneficiaries in the improvement of their livelihood and improved food security.

The Government of Ethiopia's revamped Food Security Programme 2010–2014 increased the emphasis on PSNP and HABP as tools to address both relief and development objectives supported by a multi-donor consortium including USAID.

8. Research Finding on PSNP and HABP (Taken from Alemayehu Seyoum⁸ and others work)

PSNP originated in 2005 as part of a new approach to address chronic food security through transfers to chronically food insecure populations. These transfers were designed to prevent household asset depletion and create community assets. Transfers occurred via either public-works-project (PW) wage payments or direct support (DS) to food insecure households that were unable to provide labor to public works projects. In 2009, PSNP+ was launched to complement PSNP; it connects smallholders to financial services and markets, including labor markets, to enable these households to be financially self-sustainable. HABP originated as the Other Food Security Program (OFSP), morphing into the HABP in 2009. Both OFSP and HABP provide multifaceted activities to support agricultural production, food security, and household asset accumulation. HABP also has income diversification as a specific objective. HABP emphasizes contact with extensions agents, facilitates access to credit that is not necessarily linked to extension, and provides assistance in developing household business plans.

The PSNP analysis generates the following results for public works wage payments. Public works payments for five years improve household food security by 1.05 months. This impact is statistically significant. Public works payments increased the number of children's meals consumed, per recipient household, during the lean season between 2006 and 2010 by 0.152. This increase is statistically significant. Five years' participation in the public works programs raises livestock holdings by 0.38 tropical livestock units (TLU) relative to receipt of payments. The public works payments have a positive effect on the value of household productive assets, but the effect is small economically and not statistically significant. Public works payments have a positive but not statistically significant effect on the probability that the household starts a nonfarm business.

Direct support payments improve food security as measured by the number of months that the household reports that it can meet its food needs. In the very few cases where average direct support transfers have been large (2,500 birr), this effect is two months, which is a substantial livelihood impact. This impact is statistically significant. Direct support payments do not have a statistically significant effect on the number of lean-season child meals. The level of direct support payments has positive and statistically significant effects on accumulation of productive assets. Direct payments have mixed and not statistically significant effects on the probability that a household will start a nonfarm business. Participants in HABP are usually also participants in PW. Hence, there are two types of comparisons: the effect of the combined PW and HABP relative to not having any program, and the effect of the combined PW and HABP relative to just PW.

Relative to having no program benefits, having PW and HABP increases food security by 1.53 months. This impact is statistically significant. For households receiving PW, HABP provides an increase in food security of 0.61 months. This impact is statistically significant. The joint receipt of PW and HABP leads to the accumulation of 1.001 TLU more than households that received neither PW nor HABP. This effect is statistically significant. The PW and HABP combination does not have a statistically significant effect on livestock relative to PW alone. The joint receipt of PW and HABP leads to asset accumulation valued at 134 birr more than households that received neither PW nor HABP. This effect is statistically significant. The additional effect of HABP and PW relative to PW alone is positive but not statistically significant. The PW and HABP combination does not have a statistically significant effect on the probability of starting a nonfarm business relative to either no program or to PSNP alone. The three sets of results (PW, DS, and PW plus HABP) are similar and thus interpreted similarly. Coupled with evidence on the timing of PW (not shown),

the first two results in each set are interpreted as evidence supporting the hypothesis that the programs reduce hunger during the lean season. The third and fourth results are interpreted as evidence that the programs mitigate distress sales of assets and facilitate retention and accumulation of livestock and productive assets. The fifth result is interpreted as evidence that programs do not reduce private entrepreneurship.

Documents reviewed

- 1-CARE Ethiopia quarter report- Berchi project, January-March, 2014
- 2-Bureau of Finance Economic Development-Berchi, Bahir Dar (Progress Report, 15 February 2014)
- 3- CARE Ethiopia-Berchi Project Progress Report: Quarter 3 Report July – Sept. 2014
- 4- CARE International in Ethiopia the Food Sufficiency for Farmers (FSF)-*Mebkat* Project & The *Berchi* - Be Strong! Project Baseline Exercise Summary Report, 2 January 2014 (Final).
5. CARE Ethiopia Food Security Projects: 4th Quarter Report from April-June 2015, Simada Woreda.
6. የሰሜን ጎንደር ዞን ጽ/ቤት- በኮር ኢትዮጵያ በርች ፕሮግራም የተከናወኑ ተግባራት

¹ Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) (2003). Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Rural Development Policy and Strategies: Ministry of Finance and Economic Development Economic Policy and Planning Department Addis Ababa, April 2003.

² Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.2010. Productive Safety Net Programme Programme Implementation Manual (Revised) DRAFT v3 25 May 2010 Addis Ababa, May 2010.

³ Afework Yohannes. 2009. Gender Sensitive BDS Guide: Business Development Services for PSNP PLUS Beneficiaries PSNP PLUS Project. CARE Ethiopia and USAID

⁴ CARE Ethiopia .2014. FSF+: Food Sufficiency for Farmers. Guide: Creating Livelihood Strategy for the Landless Group

⁵USAID & CARE. 2011. PSNP PLUS: LINKING POOR RURAL HOUSEHOLDS TO MICROFINANCE AND MARKETS IN ETHIOPIA: PSNP PLUS project activities performed in the 2nd quarter (January –March, 2011) on the core components of the project – Microfinance, Market (Value Chain), and WASH in Doba Woreda of West Hararghe Zone.

⁶ Gizachew Getaneh .2014. CARE ETHIOPIA: Farmers Food Sufficiency (FSF) PROJECT: Gender Sensitive Market Survey and Value Chain Analysis (in selected Weredas of West and East Hararghe and South Gondar zones).

⁸ Ethiopia’s Productive Safety Net and Household Asset Building Programs (2006–10) A Synthesis of Findings. Based on studies written by Guush Berhane, John Hoddinott, Neha Kumar, and Alemayehu Seyoum Tafesse. JANUARY 2012.

Annex D: Terms of Reference for the end line evaluation of Berchi project in South Gondar

A. Background

CARE Ethiopia is a humanitarian non-governmental organization committed to work with poor women , men, boys and girls, communities and institutions, to have a significant impact on the underlying causes of poverty ;aimed at contributing to economic and social transformation, unleashing the power of the most vulnerable women and girls, honoring their dignity, with its mutual supportive alliances.

The program intervention “*Berchi – be strong!*” in Ethiopia is part of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and CARE Austria- financed multi-country program “Claiming Rights - Promoting Gender Equality: Women’s Empowerment and male engagement for gender transformation in post-conflict and chronically food-insecure settings. Berchi project is a three-year initiative that is being implemented by CARE Ethiopia in partnership with the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (GFDRE). The project is being implemented in Amhara Region, in two Woredas of South Gondar zone namely Ebinat and Simada. The project aims to reach 11,000 chronically food insecure Women and their households.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute towards social transformation that supports gender equality and women’s empowerment in Amhara region.

The following Expected results and intermediate results will contribute to the achievement of the strategic objective:

ER 1: “AGENCY”- Women have equitable access and control over productive assets to ensure their livelihood security
ER 1.1: Equitable access by women over productive assets and resources
ER 1.2: Increased women’s control over assets and resources
ER 2: "RELATIONS"- Transforming key socio-cultural norms, relations, attitudes of women, men, girls and boys for gender equality
ER 2.1: Formal and informal institutions are supportive to women’s empowerment
ER 2.2: Social and cultural norms encourage equality of women and men
ER 3: “STRUCTURE”- Meaningful representation & Participation of women at all levels
ER 3.1: Women meaningfully participate in household and community level decision-making
ER 3.2: Women assume increased leadership roles (meaningful representation)
ER 4: Promote key Learning and Impact Measurement for women’s empowerment
ER 4.1: Key good practices and learning for women’s empowerment captured and shared
ER 4.2: Key research questions contributing to women’s empowerment answered

A fourth result area is related to research and learning around aspects of the project. A baseline was conducted in 2013, after which targets were set for the indicators set out in the project logframe.

The project attempts a new approach to integrate psychosocial activities as well as build upon CARE 's past experience on changing gender norms, with a particular focus on sharpening the strategy for men and boys for gender equality. Part of key learning goals of the project relate to how such approaches may increase women's economic empowerment and food security, and how to measure such an impact.

B. Purpose and Objectives of the End Line Evaluation

The overall purpose of the evaluation is to assess the project as per OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. For example, in terms of relevance, the evaluation shall aim to address the extent to which such a women's empowerment project in food insecure PSNP context has relevance for project participants and stakeholders. For effectiveness the evaluation should, amongst other issues, determine the extent to which the objectives, outcomes and outputs defined in the project document have been met and to capture the learning during implementation process. Moreover, to carry out a detailed and critical analysis of the present situation, as compared to baseline, to generate evidence of change that the project has delivered. The evaluation should also provide input into answering some of the key learning questions. Finally, it should identify potential options for better implementation to inform ongoing programming and future project design,

To achieve these results, an evaluation will be conducted in two phases: qualitative aspects in the first phase (April-May) and quantitative aspects on the 2nd phase (Sep-Oct). Objectives of the survey are:-

1. Assess the project as per OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability
2. Assess progress on the project's indicators as established in baseline
3. Evaluate the changes (economic, social, agricultural practices, gender equality, etc...) observed in the lives of the target beneficiaries, as a result of the project intervention;
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of SAA in the program implementation
5. Assess how the psychosocial activities, as well as the activities towards changing gender norms (including strategic focus on engaging men) such as SAA, VSLA discussions, Role Models, contribute to women's access and control over resources and to women's meaningful participation.
6. Evaluate project implementation towards ultimate goal, with particular focus on increasing income, women decision making role, and the identify factors that influenced the changes both from the project and outside the project.
7. Assess the social, economical and cultural changes of target beneficiaries;

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8. Analyze the sustainability of the project initiatives (project impact and activities) from the point of view of target beneficiaries, and local institutions;
 9. Draw lessons and give respective recommendations that will have strategic significance for improvement in the coming phase of the project

More specifically, the End line evaluation will address the following specific issues

- Evaluate the extent of demonstrated increased ability and confidence of target beneficiaries to enact a variety of valued livelihood strategies;
- Evaluate the extent of progress of target beneficiaries in up taking of family planning services;
- Evaluate the proportion of women and men reporting women having access and control over productive assets;
- Assess the proportion of women reporting control over decisions affecting their lives;
- Evaluate the proportion of women reporting access to basic social services and public resources;
- Evaluate the extent of change that women and men reporting changes in attitudes towards GBV;
- *Evaluate the extent of change* in men and women reporting changes in gender roles and norms;
- Assess the degree and proportion of change in enhanced self-esteem and confidence of target beneficiaries;
- Assess changes in social connectedness of the target beneficiaries;
- Assess women and men reporting women's meaningful participation in decision making across HH, community and local government levels;
- Assess the responsiveness of institutions towards women issues and interest;
- Evaluate the social connectedness of the target beneficiaries, especially women's solidarity;
- Assess the coherence and complementarities of the project with other ongoing initiatives, and evaluate progress/achievements made within a changing operational context, cross-cutting issues and innovation will also be applied. Specifically, assess the extent, if any, to which the project and learning from the project have contributed to other projects within CARE's Chronically Food Insecure Rural Women Program, especially the FSF project and the NAC project, and the extent, if any, to which learning from Berchi has contributed to the PSNP program.
- Assess the involvement of women at home and out of home decision making process
- Evaluate the progress of SAA on encouraging gender equality and food security at large community

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- Assess the value added of VSLA members' discussions by comparing endline results of those participants who have engaged in such discussions, with those participants who have not yet engaged in such discussions
 - Identify how psychosocial supports reduce women vulnerability
 - Assess the extent to which learning has taken place in the project, including
 1. Challenges and opportunities learned related to women's progress towards empowerment
 2. Extent to which Government food security programs have increased investment in women's empowerment initiatives
 3. Extent to which there is an Impact measurement system established and generating evidence
 4. Extent to which the Theory of Change for CFIRW Program has been tested
 - To what extent, if any, did project and stakeholder staff members' participation in cross-country research and learning activities contribute to project learning?

C. Scope of the Consultancy Services

- In order to achieve the above objectives, the study will focus on but not limited to the following:
 - Identify the intended and unintended results/outcomes/impacts of the project from the gender lens (including decision making, participation, access and control over productive assets and change in gender norms);
 - Assess the sustainability of the positive impacts achieved;
 - Determine the relevance of the interventions and impacts in improving women's lives and their position in the HH and community as well as improvements in the HH's overall wellbeing (reduced gender violence, equitable distribution of workload, etc.);
 - Identify factors that contributed to the success and/or failure of the project's implementation in terms of its impact on gender; factors contributing to why some women may have benefited more than others;

In doing this, in addition to the review of project interventions and strategies, the consultant should look at:

- Alignment of the project interventions with other relevant stakeholders;
- Project's impact on different kinds of households conditions (FHHs, Female in MHHs, married adolescent girls)
- The consultant will explore the above mentioned areas across the components of the project (women capacity to demand their rights, equitable norms and socio- economic equality) mainly through qualitative methods supported by case studies.

D. Methodology

This assessment will be conducted in two phases combining qualitative followed by quantitative data collection and analysis methods and methodologies. Furthermore, it will be complemented by review of project documents, reports and other relevant secondary documents, particularly the baseline report.

- Prepare an inception report which indicates purpose, objectives, research design, scope, methodology, reporting format, key deliverables, and timeline and resources of the study. Inception report should specify which tasks are to take place during Phase I (qualitative) and which to take place during Phase II (quantitative)
- The inception report will propose a solid sampling framework (purpose, universe, sampling criteria, proposed sample size and sample analysis). Sampling will be undertaken taking into account the baseline sample as well as CARE's desire to gather additional responses from certain areas to respond to learning questions. Sampling will be approved with input from CARE Ethiopia and CARE Austria technical teams.
- Stakeholder consultation should be an integral component of the report. The plan for information collection, analysis, development of findings/recommendations, and reporting should be elaborated.
- Describe/explain and justify the methodology to ensure the reliability and validity of findings. Detail the methods and techniques used for information collection and processing as well as justify choices (tools and methods) and explain potential limitations and shortcoming. Limitations must be identified and appropriately mitigated. The methodology must include a solid narrative explanation.
- Review project documents as well as external resources and literature on the subject, interview implementing agencies at all levels, interview project participants, and hold discussions with key stakeholders.
- Disaggregate participants/interviewees of the assessment by sex, age and occupational/social status (if applicable) to explore the impact of the project across these differences.
- The data gathered from this process will contribute to project learning as well as cross-country learning. Therefore, it must be discussed, commented upon and a final draft approved by the CARE Ethiopia and CARE Austria technical teams.

E. Expected Deliverables

The End line survey reports must match quality standards. The text of the report should be illustrated, as appropriate, with maps, graphs and tables, photos, etc. This study has two phases: (1) Qualitative Assessment; and (2) Quantitative Assessment. The consultant will submit the following reports and documents in English language:

Inception report will be produced and presented to the employer within **7days** of the signing of the contract. In the report, the consultant shall include among other things, the detailed methodology, desk review, sampling methods, data collection checklists, realistic Gantt chart, outline of the report, focus group

discussion guides or other qualitative tools proposed, the foreseen degree of difficulties in collecting data, others encountered and/or foreseen difficulties in addition to his programme of work and staff mobilization.

First Qualitative Assessment Draft Report: This report describes the initial findings of qualitative studies beefed up desk review findings. It should focus on answering the core areas of assessment and key questions and expected to be submitted in **30 days after** completion and approval of the inception report. These initial findings need to be presented to the local stakeholders in the form of validation. The report will be presented to CARE staff and relevant actors for their feedback.

Final Qualitative Assessment Report: The consultants will enrich the report based on the contributions during project level validation workshop and feedback from CARE's and partners' staff and submit in the final high quality refined report in 7 days after receiving feedback.

Detailed inception report for Quantitative Portion, including summary of any changes to be made to the baseline survey format based upon baseline survey experiences and lessons learned, and any other changes based upon data gathered during the qualitative assessment

Final Comprehensive Draft Report: This report analyzes findings generated from qualitative, quantitative and desk review methodologies in more coherent and analytical fashion. The final comprehensive draft report should answer the survey questions and also synthesis all findings and conclusions into an overall assessment of the project/programme. Additional information on overall context, programme or aspects of methodology and analysis should be highlighted in brief and details will be confined to annexes. This report will be presented to the stakeholders in the presence of representatives from project target groups, local government, CARE staff and all other relevant stakeholders at project level as part of validation exercise. Besides, the project international partners CARE Austria will also provide their feedback and comment on the report. All the validation and feedback collections are expected to be completed in 2 weeks' time after submission of an acceptable final comprehensive draft report. Expected to be using the standard structure and taking due account of comments received from the CARE Ethiopia, CARE Austria and partners at various levels. Besides

Final Report with the same specifications as mentioned above, incorporating any comments received from the concerned parties on the final comprehensive draft report, to be presented within 7 days of the receipt of these comments. Comments by CARE Ethiopia and its international partners and CARE Austria and shall be forwarded to the consultant within two weeks of submission of the final comprehensive draft report.

In addition to the above analyzed end line survey reports, the consultant/s or firm will provide the following data:

- Completed data sets (filled out questionnaires or surveys)
- Dissemination materials such as one pager newsletter article, two-page summaries, and presentation materials,
- The sampling frame
- Completed and translated quantitative survey data collection tools

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- Report on piloting of the draft data collection tools
 - Revised data collection tools after pilot
 - Preliminary report of frequencies for all data collected
 - A report on study methodology detailing the process, challenges and limitations
 - Raw quantitative data sets in the software formats, hard copies, translations needed and structure of the survey report.

F. Submission of Expression of Interest

Consultants/firm who meet the requirements should submit expression of interest, which should include the following:

- Cover letter: That describes how the candidate's previous experience matches the consultancy objectives as well as its interest for the consultancy. This letter should not be longer than one page.
- The Technical Proposal which contains the interest and motivation of the firm, clear framework, methodology and approach, timeline/work plan, composition of the team, comments on the ToR, brief experience and profile of the firm, and any other relevant information regarding the specific assignment. A work plan for this assignment should be developed in relation to the methodology suggested by the consultant/firm and the number of days set for this assignment. This should include a one-day briefing on the findings to get input from project and programme staff, as well as build consensus around the outcome of the assessment. This technical proposal should not be longer than 20 pages;
- CVs of all senior/professional experts, including detailed work experience and education;
- A sample of recently written document for a similar assignment;
- Clearly indicate the overall roles and responsibilities of the lead consultant and other members of the team with attachment of their CVs.
- Financial Proposal. The consultant should estimate the cost and prepare a detailed budget to the key activities or phases in the work plan. Cost estimates may cover items including Travel, Team member cost/professional fees, per diem and other expenses, payments for translators, interviewers, data processors, and secretarial services, applicable tax etc. This should be presented in a separate envelop and should indicate the breakdown of the proposed cost.

G. Knowledge and Experience

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- Good knowledge and experience in survey design, implementation of surveys and statistical data analysis is required;
 - Experience in exploring community knowledge, attitude and practice
 - Experience in undertaking study and producing standard report,
 - Knowledge and experience in Ethiopian rural livelihoods
 - Previous experience in the empowerment of women and gender equality will be an asset.
 - Adequate knowledge about the Ethiopian government food security programs
 - Extensive experience in collecting and integrating gender disaggregated data, needs and views, including gender approaches and knowledge with respect to national policy and development.
 - Experience with participatory monitoring and evaluation tools

H. Skill and Qualifications

- Minimum of Post graduate degree in development studies, social studies or related fields, preferably including gender studies, with demonstrated professional practice in gender development and poverty analysis during the last five years;
- At least seven years of hands on experience in conducting capacity analysis and assessments;
- Must have profound knowledge in undertaking evaluations and surveys analysis of development projects;
- Must be experienced in developing and implementing gender sensitive evaluation methodologies;
- Experience in the use of participatory appraisal techniques in data collection;
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate and work well with diverse people.

I. Selection/Evaluation Criterion

The selection committee will review all applications after the submission deadline. All applicants must meet the minimum requirements that described above. The following are evaluation/selection criterion of the technical proposal:

SN	Criteria	Points (100%)
1	Understanding of ToR	20
2	Analytical and conceptual framework	20
3	Methodology	25

4	Presentation and report writing	15
5	Team composition and unique (extra) qualities	20
	Overall assessment	100%

Applicants should submit their technical proposal and financial proposal separately. The technical and financial proposals constitute 70% and 30% of the total evaluation score. Only applicants who score 75% and above in their technical proposal evaluation will be considered for the financial evaluation and any other further evaluation or discussion. CARE Ethiopia has the right to contact short listed and potential candidates to present their proposal to the team and negotiate on terms and conditions if required.

Deadline to submit the expression of interest is **April 17, 2015**. All applications clearly marked as ‘Consultant for Endline survey’ should be submitted to Procurement Unit, CARE Ethiopia, Yeka Sub City, Woreda 07, house number 671: P.O .Box 4710 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia through postal or hand-delivered.