**Midterm Evaluation Report for**

**Women Empowerment through Food Security**Project (WE-RISE) in **Dale,Loka Abaya and ShebedinoWoredas of SidamaZone,SNNPRS**

**SOS Sahel - Ethiopia**

**February, 2014**

## Acronyms

AusAID Australian Agency for International Development

CFIRW: Chronically Food Insecure Rural Women

CPC Cooperative Processing Centers

CSA Civil Society Associations

HH: Household

IGA: Income Generating Activity

IWSM Integrated Watershed Management

NGO: Non-Governmental Organization

RUSACO Rural Saving & Credit Cooperatives

SNNPR Southern Nations, Nationalities and People’s Region

VSLA Village Savings and Loans Associations

WE-RISE: Women Empowerment: Improving Resilience, Income & Food Security

SPGMs Seed planting and multiplication groups

SMFI Sidama Micro Finance Institute

OWCA Office of Women, Children and Affairs

GED Gender Equity & Diversity

ToT Training of Trainers

GBV Gender-Based Violence

SAA Social Action and Analysis

ETB Ethiopian Birr

PSNP Productive Safety Net Program

TBH Transitional Bee Hives

GIS Geographic Information System

FGD Focus Group Discussions

USD United States Dollar

SHOAT Sheep & Goat

DAs Development Agents

KG Kilogram

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**Chapter One**

* 1. Executive Summary

The evaluation was conducted according to the request and schedule of the organization. The evaluation team was selected from Finance & Economic Development Bureau, Agriculture Bureau, Marketing & Cooperative Bureau, Environmental Protection Authority, Women, Children & Youth Affairs Bureau and zone line department &Woredas line offices accordingly. The evaluation passed through distinct steps in process of planning, managing & preparing terms of references, checklists were thoroughly developed and finally carried out the intended evaluation perfectly.

Women Empowerment through Food Security project was designed with the overall objective to contribute to improving food security and women’s empowerment in Sidama Zone of SNNPR, Ethiopia. Towards this major objective the specific objective is,toreduce food insecurity and increase income and resilience for chronically food insecure rural women and vulnerable groups. Women Empowerment through Food Security Project (WE-RISE) is financed by the Australian Aid (AusAID) channeled through Care Australia and Care Ethiopia. The total project budget is Etb birr 28,562,718.

The project works with men, women, boys and girls in the target communities to achieve the following outcomes.

The four expected outcomes of the project are:

1. Chronically food insecure rural women and vulnerable households have increased productive assets and resources and control over these.
2. Cultural and social norms and attitudes better support the individual & collective aspirations and improve opportunities for chronically food insecure rural women.
3. Formal and Informal local-level institutions are more responsive to women’s priorities & accountable to upholding their claims & interests.
4. Vulnerable households particularly women, are more resilient, to climate crisis and other external shocks.

The project is primarily addresses the Ethiopian government priority sector of food security through: Creating conducive working environment (Institutionalization of community groups (VSLA, RUSACCOs, farmers’ groups/coops); Action research so as the respective bodies to take measures on issues related to women empowerment. Creating better access to inputs, services, technology & information (Agricultural input, improved technology, Market linkage &financial services), Capacity building of community structures through technical support and training. The target areas for intervention are 26 Kebeles located in Dale, Loka Abaya, and ShebedinoWoredas in Sidama Zone of Southern Nations, Nationalities and People’s Region (SNNPR). The project will target a total of 15,441 households in the three Woredas (Dale, Loka Abaya, and Shebedino) of Sidama Zone. Out of the total, 4,057 will be chronically food insecure households who are registered as beneficiaries for public works under the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) where 27% are female headed households. The remaining 11,384 households are those who are not targeted through the PSNP. Non-PSNP beneficiaries are included in order to reach more women (up to 91% female).

# Project Identification

***Title of the project: Women Empowerment through food security project***

***Project location: Dale,Loka Abaya and Shebedinoworedas* ofSidama Zone**

**SNNPR, Ethiopia**

**Total Beneficiary Population; 15,441HHs**

**Duration of the project: November 2011 – October 2015**

**Funding Agency: Australian Aid, Care Australia, Care Ethiopia**

**Executing Agencies: Bureau of Finance and Economic Development**

**Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development**

**Environmental protection Authority**

**Bureau of Marketing and Cooperative**

**Bureau of Women, Children and Youth Affairs**

**Implementing Agency: SOS Sahel Ethiopia**

***Project budget: Birr 28,562,718.00***

**1.3 Project Description**

1.3.1 Overall Goal & Objective

The goal of the project is to: contribute to improving food security, gender equity and women’s empowerment in Sidama Zone of SNNPR,Ethiopia. The specific objective is, to reduce food insecure rural women and vulnerable groups.

Women Empowerment through Food Security project was designed with the overall objective to contribute to improving food security and women’s empowerment in Sidama Zone of SNNPR, Ethiopia. Towards this major objective the specific objective is,toreduce food insecurity and increase income and resilience for chronically food insecure rural women and vulnerable groups. Chronically Food Insecure Rural Women (CFIRW) is the expected results that the project is intended to achieve by the end of the project. With this respect, for the last two and half years the project has implemented and accomplished number of activities that lead towards, the above mentioned objective.

The four expected outcomes of the project are:

1. Chronically food insecure rural women and vulnerable households have increased productive assets and resources and control over these.
2. Cultural and social norms and attitudes better support the individual & collective aspirations and improve opportunities for chronically food insecure rural women.
3. Formal and Informal local-level institutions are more responsive to women’s priorities & accountable to upholding their claims & interests.
4. Vulnerable households particularly women, are more resilient, to climate crisis and other external shocks.

**1.3.2 Major Achievements of the Project in its midterm period.**

**1.3.2.1 Bee Keeping**

* 24 local TBH producers (all male) trained on TBH construction and business development plan preparation so as to supply TBH for WE-RISE beekeeping beneficiaries
* 2 Honey & Beeswax Producing and Marketing Cooperatives are organized in Dale &Loka Abaya Woredas where as one existing cooperative in ShebedinoWoreda has been strengthened.
* WE-RISE has conducted training on bee keeping management (bee colony seasonal management, forage development, harvesting and handling) for 1,000 bee keepers from Dale, Loka Abaya and ShebedinoWoredas in 1st and 2nd years of the project period. After the training 2,000 Transitional Bee Hives (TBHs) were distributed to 1,000(834F, 166M) bee keepers.
* Due to the re-targeting of the beneficiaries to make the beneficiaries are more women, the same training is delivered to 104 model women bee keepers from three project weredas to enhance the knowledge on bee keeping and handling forage development and to strengthen basic skills on management of bee hives.
* Two CPC buildings were constructed in Dale and Loka Abaya and ShebedinoWoreda’s CPC has been strengthened.
* Honey processing and handling materials for the three Woreda cooperatives are purchased and distribution is on process
* 45 participants from 3 Honey Cooperatives received practical training on processing, post-harvest handling, packing, labeling and grading.
* 48 Beekeepers cooperative management committee (13Female & 35Male) have received training on topics of cooperatives business management, leadership, marketing, and book-keeping & accounting.
* Training given on colony seasonal management, forage development and harvesting 9 government staff

**1.3.2.2 Poultry production**

* 35 Private pullet supply scheme women entrepreneurs supported by training and provision of hay-box brooder and 2,500 day old chicks distributed & engaged on poultry production for beneficiaries of the three Woredas in the first round.
* Additional 2,500 chicks were distributed to 25 out of 35 women beneficiaries in the 2nd round of Dale and LokaAbayaWoreda. Each beneficiary had 100 chicks. The project has also supported the women with starter feed and vaccine.
* **40** hay box brooder distributed for the identified women entrepreneurs (two per women) in Shebedino and Loka Abaya Woredas
* During the 2 year period, 550 women beneficiaries and 9 Development Agents (DAs) were trained and empowered on poultry production & management (rearing, feeding and veterinary) and out of these 289 women supplied with 10 grown out pullets and cockerels each, the remaining will receive in the next round.

**1.3.2.3 Sheep and Goat in kind Credit for Rearing**

* WE-RISE planned to reach 1,200 resource poor women with shoats provision, however, due to inflation, the project managed and supported a total of 1,119 women with 2,238 sheep and goat from the three project Woredas. Prior to distribution, the shoats receivedvaccine and treatments. This activity has created an opportunity for the women to engage in shoats rearing business and to build their own assets. WE-RISE planned to reach the remaining 81 women in the coming six months.
* In order to increase the access of forage materials for Shoat rearing beneficiaries, the project has supported 1,200 resource poor women from the three Woredas with cuttings of nutritious forages of desho*, phalaris and Elephant*.
* Training on forage production and livestock husbandry and veterinary has given to 104 women beneficiaries.

**1.3.2.4 Sheep and goat fattening**

* The project has created credit access of ETB 225,000.00 for 240 resource poor women in the three Woreda through RUSACCOs for the women to involve in sheep and goat fattening business. Prior to dispatching the shoats, WE-RISE trained the women on shoat fattening and management. Currently the 225 women are engaged in fattening program.
* To enhance the women’s business in shoats fattening, the project has provided 163 women from Dale and LokaabayaWoredas with forage materials who received shoats in the previous six months. Women from Shebedino will receive the forage materials in the next quarter of the project.

**1.3.2.5 Organize and strengthen VSLA /RUSSACOs**

* Community general meetings were conducted in ShebedinoWoreda to introduce VSLA methodology; 60 new Village Level Saving & loan Associations (VSLAs) established, elected their group leaders and provided TOT training for the elected 300 VSLA’s management committees (Chairperson, Secretary, Cashier, 2 Key lockers) on book keeping/financial literacy, saving and loan procedures, social fund & small business management. The training has enhanced the management skill of the VSLAs leaders.
* The 60 VSLA groups supplied with VSLAs kit (Saving box with 2 different key lockers, Account book, Members pass book, 4 different colored bowls for payments collection, pen, ruler & the copy of training manual for each group).
* The project has provided refreshment training quarterly to 152 (63Female, 89 Male) promoters and animators of the three Woreda on financial literacy & VSLA methodology.
* During this reporting period 18 RUSACCOs (9 from Dale and 9 from Loka Abaya Woredas) are established and legally registered. In addition start-up materials (standard books of accounts, calculator, seal/rubber stamp, locally made wooden table and chair) distributed.
* In order to improve the performance of the RUSACCOs the project has trained 180 (85F& 95M) Management committee members of 18 RUSACCOs from Dale &Loka Abaya Woredas on Saving, Credit, Business planning and management.
* During the mid-term evaluation period 63 participants visited2 RUSACCOs(Gera SACCO&SewgamChalele SACCO) in Konso Special Woredaout of this(36 Female, 18Male) are from the 18 RUSACCOs of Loka Abaya and Dale Woreda and the remaining are staffs of the project.

**1.3.2.6 Introduce and Promote Appropriate Technologies**

* Training given to 405 beneficiaries and 10 government staffs (2F &8M) on improved practices and technologies; such as irrigation water utilization, irrigation efficiency, crop agronomy, scheduling of irrigation water, utilization of water pumps, maintenance of pumps)
* 43 watershed committee received training on watershed development ,participatory land use planning and implementation of watershed management
* WE-RISE has purchased and distributed 18 robin diesel water pumps for selected 103 (100F, 3M), beneficiaries of project Woreda (6 for Dale, 12 for Loka Abaya) in year two. The project provided the robin pumps with 50% subsidy by making agreement. WithSidama micro-finance for loan disbursement to cover the 50% down payment.
* The project has planned to purchase and distribute 25 water pumps for 100 resource poor women organized in group in ShabadinoWoreda. However, due to price inflation the project managed to purchase only 16 Robin water pumps.

**1.3.2.7 Sustained Increase in Agricultural Productivity**

* In the last two years of the project a total of 1,450 beneficiaries have received improved seeds (teff, haricot bean, wheat, horse bean) in two rounds
* TOT has been given on crop, Agronomy, marketing and Coops for 18 (5F&13M) government staff on Improved agricultural practices, Post-harvest handling, Marketing Coop organization and management.
* The project has established 26 SPGMs groups with 761 members (143M & 618F) of which 5 forage seeds and planting materials producer and provided the members with training, Basic Seed, planting materials and fertilizer in the three Woredas.
* To improve the skills of the project SPMGs, WE-RISE gave refreshment training for 285 individuals, Out of which 234 (150F & 84 M) were SPMGs leader and members. The remaining 51 individuals were government representatives, DAs and promoters. The training focused on production, storage and handling, marketing and overall business management.
* To strengthen the SPMG groups the project has also linked the groups with Sidama Microfinance to access credit for the purchase of fertilizer from the revolving fund of the project deposited in SMFI. Birr 1,584,683/USD 94,326 loan able revolving grant fund is transferred to the account of the SMFI to be utilized by beneficiaries through different groups to finance their on-farm and/or off-farm activities.
* 3 motor bikes provided for OWCA of the three Woredas in order to build the monitoring and supervisory capacity of sub branches.

**1.3.2.8 Integrated Watershed Management (IWSM)**

* 6 Watershed points were identified for Watershed development, community action plans prepared with the communities and responsible government offices. Prior to implementation the project trained 24 government sector office’s staff on IWSM. Currently various physical and biological soil & water conservation measures practiced such as soil bunds, check-dams and cut-off drains, area closure.
* In order to rehabilitate degraded lands in the project sites, the project has trained twice 43 watershed management committees (11F, 32M) on watershed development, participatory land use planning and implementation of watershed managements. Fully to equip the watershed participants, the project has purchased four types of agricultural tools (spades, sickle, flat hoe and hoes) distributed to 800 beneficiaries in the six sub-watersheds in all intervention Woredas.

**Soil and water conservation measures constructed in three sub-watersheds**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Types of SWC** | **Woreda** | | | | |
| **Unit** | **Shebedino** | **Dale** | **Loka Abaya** | **Total** |
| Soil bund | Km | 59 | 14 | 8 | 81 |
| Half moon | No | 87 | 57 | 0 | 144 |
| Cutoff drain | Km | 1 | 6 | 0.1 | 7.1 |
| Fynajuu | Km | 27 | 2 | 4 | 33 |
| Check dam | M | 0 | 837 | 0 | 837 |
| Waterway | Km | 1 | 2 | 0.1 | 3.1 |
| Small pond | No | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Trench | No | 0 | 644 | 395 | 1,039 |
| Micro-basin | No | 430 | 1816 | 852 | 3,098 |
| Plantation | No | 120,000 | 45,479 | 14,988 | 180,467 |
| Pitting | No | 0 | 42,054 | 29,677 | 71,731 |
| Eyebrow | No | 0 | 0 | 498 | 498 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**1.3.2.9 Studies and Analysis**

* The project has conducted a study on Subsector Selection and Pro-Poor Integrated Value Chain Development in the 3 Project Woredas. The study report recommended that the most marketable farmer’s products in the project areas are production of Avocadoes, Enset, Haricot bean and Honey production through collectives as well as individuals based. In addition, the study conducted market strategy design and market value chain analysis.
* Within this reporting period the project has also conducted study in the three project Woredas on Identification of the most viable IGAs (On-farm and/or Off-farm) focusing on chronically food insecure rural women. The most viable IGAs identified by the study review that petty trade of (maize flour, coffee & butter) ranked as 1st, (shoats fattening, heifer, calf breeding) & (cattle fattening) ranked as, 2nd and 3rd respectively.
* Based on the study findings, after conducting need assessments, the project has facilitated credit access for 55 resource poor women to involve in petty trade of maize floor and butter business. Prior to distributing the loan to the women, the project has trained them on basic business skills and assist them in preparing viable simple business plans.

**1.3.2.10 Establishment of Paralegals**

* 26 women paralegals groups established and trained to support the voiceless groups and serve as champion of change.
* Within the jurisdiction of the Woreda Women Affairs Office, the Project facilitates ongoing paralegal meetings and solves the reported issues pertaining to the three Woredas.
* The project has conducted monthly Stakeholder’s platform meetings which is comprising 52 participants from elders’ community leaders, religious leaders, opinion makers and various community members in each kebeles of the intervention Woredas in every month
* With close collaboration with Woreda Women Affairs Offfice the project has conducted Refreshment trainings for 78 women paralegal groups on various women’s mistreatment issues.
* With the lead of Sidama zone women and children affairs, the project has facilitated Public awareness raising conducted on negative impacts of women’s mistreatments on the celebration of (White ribbon day celebration)
* Public awareness raising workshop on negative impact of GBV is conducted in 1st and 2nd year of the project comprising of Community elders, religious leaders, school girls, club representatives), More than 500 participants attend the workshop in the two years.
* In order to increase the community awareness, with the lead of Woreda women affairs office the project has held various discussion topics on women empowerment and women mistreatments with influential community members such as religious leaders with 27 active couples who can pass the knowledge they have acquired to other community members.
* Study on cultural, social norms, attitudes, policies, structures, systems that cause and sustain women mistreatment and social exclusions conducted.
* In close collaboration with Woreda women affairs offices the project has held various discussions with 400 community members (218Male & 182Female) women’s empowerment issues.
* Capacity building needs assessment of formal and informal institutions conducted on GED related issues; 98 people participated on the FGD organized for the assessment
* The project has supported 25 orphan girls with starter scholastic materials (exercise books, pens, pencils, rubbers and sharpeners).With the intention of ensuring the sustainability of their education, the project has involved their guardians in income generating activities by providing credit access of ETB 50,000.00 through RUSACCOs.
* 52 disabled poor individuals were identified from WE-RISE beneficiary households, and activities which fit the types of disabilities and their interests are under assessment so as to engage them in income generating activities. The project is closely working with Handicap National Hawassa branch to achieve this goal.
* Training given on climate change impact assessment and adaptation, and GIS technology for 9 (6Female&3Male) government staff
* Social analysis and action (SAA) training conducted for Woreda officers (staff) and Community facilitators in which 25 participants were trained.

**1.4. Evaluation Information**

**1.4.1 Type of Evaluation**

**Midterm**Evaluation

**1.4.2 The process of the Evaluation: -**

The process of this midterm evaluation has been passed through the following stages:

1. **Pre-planning:-** This was already accomplished and handled by BoFED.
2. **Planning: -** Immediately after arrival of the project office, the evaluation team held discussion on the tentative evaluation plan prepared by BoFED. Accordingly, the team arrived at consensus on the methodology of the evaluation, data gathering instruments, the time schedule, etc.
3. **Data Collection and Analysis: -**As per the approved procedure of the evaluation, the team first heard the midterm report presented by the implementing agency, and then held general discussion on the report. Then, the relevant data is collected through focus group discussion with the beneficiaries, and visiting selected physical works on field.

**iv. Taking Action: -**This was started by holding concluding session on what was observed by the team. This was aimed at providing all the necessary feedback to the implementing agency and government partners. Based on this report, some corrective actions will also be taken by all concerned bodies as per the recommendations forwarded.

**1.5. Objective of the evaluation**

* To assess detailed information on overall project design, project objectives & activities.
* To realize the performances and achievement of the project
* To assess project management and relationship among stakeholders
* To assess government bodies involvement , communities participation in planning , implementation and monitoring of various activities of the project
* To assess the cost effectiveness , replicable and sustainability of the project also being top issue during evaluation
* To observe the output gained from the project , impact , change brought & tendencies to change about the target communities
* To assess whether the target communities were addressed or not
* To assess the project strength , weakness, treat & opportunity
* To assess the problems encountered during the implementation & to draw measures taken to overcome challenges for future intervention
* To grasp lesson learned

**1.6. Methodology**

**1.6.1 Methodologies Deployed: -**

The methodologies deployed for this midterm evaluation is mainly being based up on primary and secondary data. The primary and secondary data were obtained from different sources. Thus, the primary data were mainly gathered through fieldwork using a wide range of data capturing mechanisms while secondary data (information) was obtained from document reviews. These are included the following points.

* **Review of documents**means project agreement document and progress performance reports were reviewed as a source of information for the purposes of this evaluation. These documents have been carefully reviewed and information that is relevant to the present evaluation has been included in the report.
* **Short briefing**by the project staffs on overall project planned against performed activities and utilized project costs.
* **Discussions** made on briefing that could be presented by the project staffs.
* **Observing performed activities** and made discussion with key informants that include project beneficiaries and government representatives at the intervention areas of the project sites.
* **Focus group discussion** means a joint focus group discussion was made with the stakeholders i.e. government partners at all level, target beneficiariesand project staffs in order to know the overall performance status of the project.
* **Debriefing or wrap up session.**Upon the completion of field visits, a debriefing session has been organized in which the project staffs andevaluation team members, woreda, zonal and regional sector representatives were attended. The evaluation team presented the preliminary findings of the evaluation that included the major project achievements, the gaps identified and the way forward. The participants agreed on what has been reported by the evaluation team and promised to take appropriate measures on the identified gaps that need prompt responses if any.
* **Writing up** and sending the midterm evaluation report to concerned partners.

**1.7. Team composition:**

**Region:**

* BOFED
* Bureaus of Marketing & Cooperatives
* Bureaus of Agriculture
* Bureaus of Women, Children & Youth Affairs
* Environmental Protection Authority
* Bureau of Water Resources

**Zone and Woreda**

* Sidama Zone DOFED
* Sidama Zone Environmental Protection Authority
* Sidama Zone Marketing & Cooperative
* Sidama Zone Women, Children & Youth Affairs
* Sidama Zone Agriculture
* DaleWoreda OFED
* DaleWoredaAgriculture
* DaleWoreda Marketing & Cooperatives
* DaleWoreda Women, Children & Youth Affairs
* ShebedinoWoreda OFED
* ShebedinoWoredaAgriculture
* ShebedinoWoreda Marketing & Cooperatives
* ShebedinoWoreda Women, Children & Youth Affairs
* Loka AbayaWoreda OFED
* Loka AbayaWoredaAgriculture
* Loka AbayaWoreda Marketing & Cooperatives
* Loka AbayaWoreda Women, Children & Youth Affairs

**Chapter Two**

**Physical and Financial Accomplishment**

**2.1 Physical Accomplishment:**

**2.2 Physical Accomplishment Vs plan:**

The project planned to perform a number of activities in its project life. The achievement of the project in its project mid time in comparison with the planned activities listed in the following table:

| Result No. | List of Results/ major activities | Unit | Physical Plan | | Physical Achievement | |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| This year | Plan Until this mid-term evaluation period | Till mid-term evaluation period | % Accomplished | Remark |
| 1 | **Results Under objective One** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Outputs under Change Outcome 1: CFIRW have increased household productive assets & resources and control over them; resilience to climate shocks** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Output 1.1 Households productive assets created through on-farm and off-farm business enterprises; New income generation opportunities promoted** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Beekeeping sub-sector** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Beekeeping: introduce and promote transitional BH for both women and men who are PSNP and non PSNP (risk takers) target groups | Beekeeper | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 100% |  |
|  | Support private TBH and protective materials local suppliers | Supplier | 15 | 30 | 24 |  |  |
|  | Training on Beekeeping management (bee colony seasonal management, forage development, harvesting and handling) | Trainee |  | 1000 | 1000 | 100% |  |
|  | Train beekeepers Cooperatives leaders on Cooperative marketing ,Cooperative management and leadership , Bookkeeping and Accounting | Trainees |  | 48 | 48 | 100% | The training was given 2 times  Leadership improved  Increased production of honey |  |  |
|  | Training colony seasonal management, forage development and harvesting to retargeted women | trainees |  | 113 | 113 | 100% | 104 retargeted women and 9 (3F&6M) are government staff.The rest are model beekeepers |  |  |
|  | Organize farmers in to beekeepers processors and marketing cooperatives (one in each Woreda) | Woreda |  | 3 | 3 | 100% |  |
|  | Practical training on Processing, post harvest handling, packing, labeling and grading | Trainee | 20 | 30 | 45 | 150% |  |
|  | Construct and equip Bees products CPC with processing & handling facilities and office equipments | CPC | 3 | 3 | 3 | 100% |  |
|  | **Poultry Sub-Section** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Support private pullet supply scheme for women entrepreneur | Supplier | 30 | 30 | 35 | 117% |  |
|  | Supply poor women with pullet and cockney | Women | 150 | 450 | 289 | 64% |  |
|  | Support Hay Box brooders to private pullet supply scheme women entrepreneur | Brooder | 55 | 55 | 55 | 100% |  |
|  | Support Day Old Chicks to private pullet supply scheme women entrepreneur | Day Old Chicks |  | 3000 | 2500 | 83.3 |  |
|  | Poultry management training (rearing, feeding and veterinary) | Suppliers | 30 | 30 | 35 | 117% |  |
|  | Poultry management training (rearing, feeding and veterinary) | Session | 4 | 6 | 4 | 66.67% | 550 direct beneficiaries & 35 private pullet supply scheme women entrepreneur |
|  | Support the livestock and Veterinary section of ARD to provide extension services (TOT training, vaccine, logistics) | lump sum | 3 | 6 | 6 | 100% |  |
|  | **1.1.3 Sheep & goat in kind credit for breeding** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Goat and sheep in kind credit for women headed HH | Goat and sheep | 600 | 1,200 | 1,119 | 93.25% |  |
|  | Forage development (backyard, farm boundary, intercropping, over sowing on degraded lands etc) | HHs | 600 | 1200 | 1200 | 100% |  |
|  | Training on forage production and livestock husbandry and veterinary | Trainee | 38 | 96 | 162 | 168.75% |  |
|  | **1.1.4. Organize VSLA and support the graduation to SACCOs and SACCOs to union** | Saving & Credit |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Organize VSLA and support the graduation to SACCOs and SACCOs to union | VSLAs |  | 30 | 60 | 200% |  |
|  | Promote VSLAs to SACCOs | SACCOs | 4 | 18 | 18 | 100% |  |
|  | Train new VSLAs Leaders on Financial literacy &VSLAs methodology | Trainee |  | 150 | 300 | 200% |  |
|  | Train Promoters and Animators on  ,Financial literacy & VSLAs methodology quarterly | Trainee |  | 152 | 152 | 100% |  |
|  | Train RUSACCOs Management committees on financial management , cooperative management and leadership | Session |  | 2 | 2 | 100% |  |
|  | **1.1.6 Create sustainable access to agricultural inputs, technologies and services** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1.1.6.1 Create private input supply chains (appropriate technologies, improved seeds, pesticide and chemicals, chemical sprayers, agricultural tools, etc) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1. Identification of potential dealer in each Woreda | Dealer | 3 | 3 | 3 | 100% |  |
|  | **1.1.8 Create access to credit for agricultural inputs linking them with selected MFI** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **a) Identification & group formation** | Group | 15 | 27 | 26 | 96% |  |
|  | **b) Training on production, storage, handling, marketing and overall business management** | Session | 1 | 1 | 2 | 200% |  |
|  | **d) Startup finance for initial seed and planting materials purchase** | Group |  | 27 | 26 | 96% |  |
|  | a) Loan guarantee &/or loan-able capital | Birr | 1,584,863 | 1,584,863 | 1,584,863 | 100% |  |
|  | b) Build the monitoring and supervisory capacity of sub branches (motor bikes) | Motorbikes | 3 | 3 | 3 | 100% |  |
|  | **Output 1.2: Sustained increase in agricultural production and productivity** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **1.2.2 Introduce and promote appropriate technologies (water lifting micro-irrigation, post-harvest handling, and others)** | Farmer | 400 | 800 | 103 | 13% |  |
|  | 1.2.3 Training on improved agricultural practices & technologies | Session | 2 | 5 | 4 | 80% |  |
|  | 1.2.1.Selection of appropriate technology (water lifting micro-irrigation, post-harvest handling, and others) | Farmer | 400 | 400 | 400 | 100% |  |
|  | 1.2.2 Farmers receiving Micro irrigation (diesel) pump in group | Farmer | 400 | 400 | 103 | 25% |  |
|  | TOT on crop, Agronomy, marketing and Coops (Gov' staff) ,Improved agricultural practices ,Post-harvest handling & Marketing | session | 1 | 2 | 1 | 50% |  |
|  | 1.2.4 Introduce and promote high yielding and adaptable crop seed varieties, planting materials and fodder species | Farmer | 700 | 1,400 | 1450 | 103.57% |  |
|  | 1.3.5 Introduce, promote and scale-up successful farmer-led integrated watershed management |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | a) Carryout participatory land use planning and develop community action plan | watershed | 3 | 6 | 6 | 100% |  |
|  | b) Training for relevant government staffs on PLUP and IWSM | Session | 3 | 3 | 3 | 100% |  |
|  | c) Training for water shade committee, farmers technicians and target farmers | watershed | 3 | 6 | 6 | 100% |  |
|  | d)Farm tools purchase to target farmers for soil and water conservation at 75% subsidy | Farmers | 400 | 400 | 800 | 100% |  |
|  | 1.3 Secured access to rewarding markets for high value on-farm and off-farm products |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1.3.1 Sub-sector selection and detail value chain analysis | Study | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100% |  |
|  | 1.3.2 Conduct market research, marketing strategy development for selected commodities | Study | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100% |  |
|  | 1.3.4 Training on marketing, leadership and financial management | session | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100% |  |
| 2 | **Results Under Objective Two** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Outputs under Change Outcome 2: Formal & informal local-level institutions are more responsive to women’s priorities & accountable to upholding their rights** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.1 | **Output 2.1: Formal and informal institutions have better understanding of gender equality and institutional capacity to respond to women’s needs and priorities effectively** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2.1 Capacity building needs assessment | assessment | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100% |  |
|  | GED training and cascading to lower community | trainees |  | 60 | 60 | 100% |  |
| 3 | **Results Under Objective Three** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Outputs under Change Outcome 3: Cultural & social norms & attitudes better support the individual and collective aspirations and improved opportunities for chronically |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.1 | Study on cultural, social norms, attitudes, policies, structures, systems that cause and sustain women discrimination, gender inequality and social exclusions. | study | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100% |  |
| 3.2 | Transform attitudes and discriminatory practices against women and enhance their equal participation in decision making |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3.2.1 Create key stakeholders platform (elders community leaders, religious leaders and opinion makers, etc) to advocate gender equality | meeting | 12 | 24 | 24 | 100% |  |
|  | 3.2.2 Establish and train women paralegal groups to give voice for the voiceless women | trainee | 120 | 240 | 215 | 90% |  |
|  | 3.2.3 Public awareness raising on negative impacts of gender based violence (workshops, seminars, conferences for religious leaders, elders, women affaires, teachers, lawyers, etc) | conference | 1 | 2 | 2 | 100% |  |
|  | Piloting and scaling up (with innovation fund) | innovation fund | 175,000ETB | 175,000ETB | 60,000ETB | 34.28% |  |
|  | 3.2.8 Improve primary school enrolment & retention of orphan girls and those from poor families | student | 25 | 25 | 25 | 100% |  |
| 4 | Monitoring & Evaluation | quarterly | 4 | 8 | 6 | 75% |  |
| 5 | Baseline Survey | Doc | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100% |  |

**2.3 Financial Unitization of the Project till mid Period**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | |
|  | |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |
|  | | **Budget** | **Expenditure** | **Project Life Remaining Balance** |
|  |  | **Project Life Budget (June,2011-June, 2016)** | **Cumulative Expenditure To date UP to December 2013** |
|  | **Line Item** |
|  |  | **1** | **10=(5+6+9)** | **11=1-10** |
| **1** | **Personnel** |  |  |  |
| 1.1 | Team Leader | 939,256 | 323,925.17 | 615,330.59 |
| 1.2 | Marketing/Business Dev't officer | 692,011 | 230,795.44 | 461,215.85 |
| 1.3 | Social Worker/Gender officer | 689,404 | 215,438.60 | 473,965.69 |
| 1.4 | Natural Resource Management officer | 689,405 | 232,589.81 | 456,814.96 |
| 1.5 | Field facilitators | 1,265,651 | 418,260.69 | 847,390.31 |
| 1.6 | Admin and Finance | 647,698 | 155,750.34 | 491,947.36 |
| 1.7 | Secretary/cashier | 233,033 | 43,854.13 | 189,179.27 |
| 1.8 | Driver | 431,003 | 67,417.04 | 363,585.49 |
| 1.9 | Guards | 357,441 | 92,597.47 | 264,843.43 |
| 1.10 | Office Helper | 118,072 | 23,880.51 | 94,191.45 |
| 1.11 | Monitoring & Evaluation Officer |  | 69,632.80 | (69,632.80) |
|  | **Sub Total** | **6,062,974** | **1,874,142.00** | **4,188,832** |
| 1.11 | Executive Director (12%) | 647,306 | 278,471.51 | 368,834.49 |
| 1.12 | Finance Director (12%) | 183,824 | 88,745.12 | 95,078.88 |
| 1.13 | Program Manager (15%) | 155,900 | 81,224.10 | 74,675.90 |
| 1.14 | Program Accountant (15%) | 109,648 | 69,897.83 | 39,750.34 |
| 1.15 | HR& OD Officer (15%) | 164,725 | 79,375.19 | 85,349.49 |
|  | **Sub Total** | **1,261,403** | **597,713.75** | **663,689** |
|  | **Total Personnel Cost** | **7,324,376** | **2,471,855.75** | **4,852,521** |
| **2** | **Personnel travel and accommodation costs** |  | - |  |
| 2.1 | Petrol cost | 240,000 | 167,027.11 | 72,972.89 |
| 2.2 | Repaire and Maintenance | 185,220 | 102,413.95 | 82,805.65 |
| 2.3 | DSA | 180,000 | 118,040.69 | 61,959.31 |
|  | **Total ersonnel travel and accommodation costs** | **605,220** | **387,481.75** | **217,738** |
| **3** | **Procurement** |  | - |  |
| 3.1 | Vehicle | 680,000 | 911,324.59 | (231,324.59) |
| 3.2 | Computers | 48,000 | 52,695.69 | (4,695.69) |
| 3.3 | Printer | 10,400 | 11,564.40 | (1,164.40) |
| 3.4 | Motor bike | 135,000 | 155,260.00 | (20,260.00) |
| 3.5 | Office table | 30,000 | 39,133.76 | (9,133.76) |
| 3.6 | Office Chairs | 15,000 | 21,838.61 | (6,838.61) |
| 3.7 | Digital Cameras |  | - | - |
| 3.8 | Other Office Equipments | 10,000 | 9,294.99 | 705.01 |
|  | **Total Procurement** | **928,400** | **1,201,112.04** | **(272,712.04)** |
| **4** | **Activity Cost (Training/Workshops)** |  | - |  |
|  | **Objective 1** |  | - |  |
| 4.1 | **Outcome 1: Chronically Food Insecure Rural Women (CFIW)have increased household productive assets & resources and control over them; resilience to climate shocks** |  | - |  |
| 4 | Training on Beekeeping management (bee colony seasonal management, forage development, harvesting and handling) | 272,600 | 347,578.55 | (74,978.55) |
| 4.1.1 | Organize farmers in to beekeepers processors and marketing cooperatives (one in each woreda) | 120,000 | 198,814.22 | (78,814.22) |
| 4.1.2 | Practical training on Processing, post harvest handling, packing, labeling and grading | 13,400 | 59,137.88 | (45,737.88) |
| 4.1.3 | Poultry management training (rearing, feeding and veterinary) | 87,000 | 69,970.84 | 17,029.16 |
| 4.1.4 | Training on forage production and livestock husbandry and veterinary | 33,600 | 67,159.96 | (33,559.96) |
| 4.1.5 | Identification & group formation | 72,000 | 32,866.42 | 39,133.13 |
| 4.1.6 | Training in production, storage, handling, marketing and overall business management | 150,000 | 104,002.36 | 45,997.64 |
| 4.1.7 | Build the technical capacity in value chain financing by MEDA | 203,900 | - | 203,900.00 |
| 4.1.8 | TOT training on crop agronomy, cooperative development, marketing | 105,000 | 106,128.46 | (1,128.46) |
| 4.1.9 | Training on improved agricultural practices & technologies | 225,000 | 171,287.87 | 53,712.13 |
| 4.1.10 | Carryout participatory land use planning and develop community action plan | 100,000 | 100,118.87 | (118.87) |
| 4.1.11 | Training for relevant government staffs on PLUP and IWSM | 19,500 | 49,110.29 | (29,610.29) |
| 4.1.12 | Training for water shade committee, farmers technicians and target farmers | 73,920 | 45,044.99 | 28,875.16 |
| 4.1.13 | Sub-sector selection and detail value chain analysis | 160,000 | 149,999.99 | 10,000.01 |
| 4.1.14 | Training on marketing, leadership and financial management | 72,750 | - | 72,750.15 |
| 4.1.15 | Farmers Business Organizations’ products promotion (exhibitions, bazaars, trade fairs, publishing promotion materials, media adverts) | 215,000 | 7,980.00 | 207,020.00 |
| 4.1.16 | Assess climate change impact and identify feasible adaptation and mitigation strategies/options. | 110,000 | 49,607.90 | 60,392.10 |
| 4.1.17 | Support other appropriate mitigation and adaptation strategies (based on outcome of 4.1) | 150,000 | - | 150,000.00 |
| 4.1.19 | support the implmentation& monitoring of watershed activities |  | - | - |
| 4.1.20 | Design/identify & implement IGAs which engage disabled members of beneficiary HH |  | - | - |
| 4.1.21 | Staffing & equipping the market outlet |  | - | - |
| 4.2 | **Outcome 2: Formal & informal local-level institutions are more responsive to women’s priorities & accountable to upholding their rights** |  | - | - |
| 4.2.1 | Enhancing dialogue with religious leaders on equitable gender attitudes and couples’ support; | 75,000 | 29,944.04 | 45,055.96 |
| 4.2.1 | Exposure visit for key representatives of formal & informal institutions to ‘Awuramba’ and other progressive community. |  | - | - |
| 4.2.3 | Device mechanism that motivates local institutions to promote gender equality (awards for best performed institutions) |  | - | - |
| 4.3 | **Outcome 3: Cultural and social norms and attitudes better support the individual and collective aspirations and improve opportunities for CFIW.** |  | - | - |
| 4.3.1 | Create key stakeholders platform (elders community leaders, religious leaders and opinion makers, etc) to advocate gender equality | 120,000 | 84,338.02 | 35,661.98 |
| 4.3.2 | Establish and train women paralegal groups to give voice for the voiceless women | 112,425 | 114,387.48 | (1,962.48) |
| 4.3.3 | Public awareness raising on negative impacts of gender based violence (workshops, seminars, conferences for religious leaders, elders, women affaires, teachers, lawyers, etc) | 202,500 | 106,969.65 | 95,530.35 |
| 4.3.4 | Carryout evidence based research on gender based violence and document field experiences to produce policy briefs, technical papers, brochures, posters, leaflets to influence policy & practices | 100,000 | 100,000.00 | - |
| 4.3.5 | Assist relevant government stakeholders to raise awareness on women constitutional and human right (role play, drama, TV and radio transmissions) | 225,000 | 30,865.77 | 194,134.23 |
| 4.3.6 | Invest in future women leaders through young girls internship scheme | 360,000 | - | 360,000.00 |
| 4.3.7 | Improve primary school enrolment & retention of orphan girls and those from poor families | 150,000 | 88,643.96 | 61,356.04 |
| 4.3.8 | Cascading Gender Equity Diversity (GED) training to community volunteers, beneficiaries and local government stakeholders |  | 73,597.36 | (73,597.36) |
| 4.3.9 | Dialogue between idirs and equbs on women workloand in the HH and community for positive change |  | 22,507.31 | (22,507.31) |
| 4.3.10 | Train police officers, community level legal officers, women in the local government offices |  | - | - |
|  | **Total Activity Cost (Training/Workshops)** | **3,528,595** | **2,210,062.19** | **1,318,533** |
| 5 | **Other (please specify)- including research, grant and CB activities** |  |  |  |
| 5.1 | **Other - Activity part II** |  |  |  |
| 5.1.1 | **Outcome 1: Chronically Food Insecure Rural Women (CFIW)have increased household productive assets & resources and control over them; resilience to climate shocks** |  | - |  |
| 5.1.1.1 | Beekeeping: introduce and promote transitional BH for both women and men who are PSNP and non PSNP (risk takers) target groups | 550,000 | 1,138,770.83 | (588,770.83) |
| 5.1.1.2 | Support private TBH and protective materials local suppliers | 50,000 | 67,349.47 | (17,349.49) |
| 5.1.1.3 | Construct and equip Bees products CPC with processing & handling facilities and office equipments | 990,000 | 654,763.40 | 335,236.60 |
| 5.1.1.4 | Supply poor women with pullet and cockney | 600,000 | 230,907.40 | 369,092.60 |
|  | Support private pullet supply scheme for women entrepreneur | 128,900 | 121,531.39 | 7,368.61 |
| 5.1.1.5 | Support the livestock and Veterinary section of ARD to provide extension services (TOT training, vaccine, logistics) | 167,500 | 134,748.00 | 32,752.00 |
| 5.1.1.6 | Goat and sheep in kind credit for women headed HHs | 1,200,000 | 1,322,613.69 | (122,613.69) |
| 5.1.1.7 | Injecting starter money for oxen (heifer), sheep and/or goat fattening through VSLAs | 225,000 | 333,336.28 | (108,336.28) |
| 5.1.1.8 | Forage development (backyard, farm boundary, intercropping, over sawing on degraded lands etc) | 250,000 | 181,936.59 | 68,063.41 |
| 5.1.1.9 | Organize VSLA and support the graduation to SACCOs and SACCOs to union | 356,000 | 505,962.99 | (149,962.99) |
| 5.1.1.10 | Identification of the most viable IGA and design business intervention | 100,000 | 100,000.00 | - |
| 5.1.1.11 | Piloting and scaling up (with innovation fund) | 500,000 | 64,288.44 | 435,711.56 |
| 5.1.1.12 | Identification of potential dealer in each target wordas, | 5,000 | - | 5,000.00 |
| 5.1.1.13 | Build the technical and management capacity of private dealers | 30,000 | - | 30,000.00 |
|  | Link them with credit providers and genuine importers | 50,000 | - | 50,000.00 |
| 5.1.1.14 | Startup finance for initial seed and planting materials purchase | 270,000 | 268,820.00 | 1,180.00 |
| 5.1.1.15 | Support the construction of storage facility at woreda level | 600,000 | - | 600,000.00 |
| 5.1.1.16 | Loan guarantee and/or Loanable capital | 1,584,863 | 1,584,863.00 | - |
| 5.1.1.17 | Conduct action research for selected food and cash crops in collaboration with appropriate research institutions | 250,000 | - | 250,000.00 |
| 5.1.1.18 | Introduce and promote appropriate technologies (water lifting micro-irrigation, post harvest handling, and others) | 750,000 | 475,571.68 | 274,428.32 |
| 5.1.1.19 | Introduce and promote high yielding and adaptable crop seed varieties, planting materials and fodder species | 367,500 | 161,189.00 | 206,311.00 |
| 5.1.1.20 | Conduct market research, marketing strategy development for selected commodities | 100,000 | 8,012.05 | 91,987.95 |
| 5.1.1.21 | Strengthen market linkages | 80,000 | - | 80,000.00 |
| 5.1.1.22 | Construction of women farmers product display and market outlet center in Hawassa town (bees products, pottery, textile, enset and other products) | 200,000 | 191,335.33 | 8,664.67 |
| 5.1.1.23 | Pilot *Carbon Value Chain Development* for the voluntary market | 250,000 | - | 250,000.00 |
| 5.1.1.24 | Introduce crop insurance scheme to mitigate climatic risk, | 180,000 | - | 180,000.00 |
|  | Link with sources and suppliers | 240,000 | 46,501.95 | 193,498.05 |
|  | Organize experience sharing visits to successful RUSACOs in the region/SNNPR |  | 118,354.62 | (118,354.62) |
|  | Link local producers and their business institutions with new market outlets and promote farmers business institution and private sector partnership | 45,000 | - | 45,000.00 |
| 5.1.2 | **Outcome 2: Formal & informal local-level institutions are more responsive to women’s priorities & accountable to upholding their rights** |  | - | - |
| 5.1.2.1 | Capacity building needs assessment | 10,500 | 9,030.53 | 1,469.47 |
| 5.1.2.2 | Enhances the capacity (technical, physical, management) of formal and informal institutions to better support the individual and collective aspiration of rural women. | 150,000 | - | 150,000.00 |
|  | Farm tools distribution to target farmers for soil and water conservation at 75% subsidy | 200,000 | 273,856.17 | (73,856.17) |
| 5.1.3 | **Outcome 3: Cultural and social norms and attitudes better support the individual and collective aspirations and improve opportunities for CFIW.** |  | - | - |
| 5.1.3.1 | Study on cultural, social norms, attitudes, policies, structures, systems that cause and sustain women discrimination, gender inequality and social exclusions. | 110,000 | 110,000.00 | - |
| 5.1.3.2 | Design strategy for gender mainstreaming in to development programs | 160,000 | 40,178.33 | 119,821.67 |
|  | **Total- Other I - Activity part II** | **10,750,263** | **8,143,921.14** | **2,606,342** |
| 5.2 | **Other - Running costs** |  |  |  |
| 5.2.1 | Insurance | 67,156 | 24,581.80 | 42,574.30 |
| 5.2.2 | Office rent | 300,000 | 209,928.02 | 90,071.98 |
| 5.2.3 | Office supplies (including stationary) | 180,000 | 130,235.46 | 49,764.54 |
| 5.2.4 | Telephone, fax, E-Mail | 210,000 | 90,417.66 | 119,582.34 |
| 5.2.5 | Utilities (light, water) | 36,000 | 2,702.13 | 33,297.87 |
| 5.2.6 | Bank service | 36,000 | 292.40 | 35,707.60 |
| 5.2.7 | Audit | 60,000 | - | 60,000.00 |
| 5.2.8 | Legal service | 22,500 | 960.31 | 21,539.69 |
| 5.2.9 | General maintenance | 22,500 | 13,162.72 | 9,337.28 |
|  | **Total- Other II- Running costs** | **934,156** | **472,280.50** | **461,876** |
|  | **Total -Other (please specify)- including research, grant and CB activities** | **11,684,419** | **8,616,201.64** | **3,068,217** |
| 6 | **Monitoring and Evaluation** |  | - |  |
| 6.1 | Support business plan development | 75,000 | - | 75,000.00 |
| 6.2 | Establish voucher system development | 20,000 | - | 20,000.00 |
| 6.3 | Build the monitoring and supervisory capacity of sub branches (motor bikes) | 135,000 | 86,030.48 | 48,969.52 |
| 6.4 | Build the monitoring and supervisory capacity of woreda women office (motor bikes) | 135,000 | 91,376.25 | 43,623.75 |
| 6.5 | Ongoing Monitoring and Evaluation including field costs | 550,812 | 195,577.49 | 355,234.68 |
| 6.6 | Organize quarterly project reflection and review meeting for woreda stakeholders, Woreda technical team(WTT), SoS field staff and CARE) - 15 from each woreda | 807,438 | 113,156.18 | 694,281.90 |
| 6.7 | Annual Review Meeting with key government stakeholders and target beneficiaries followed by 1 day joint monitoring visit | 322,800 | 205,614.88 | 117,185.12 |
| 6.8 | Video documentation of WE-RISE project activities | 680,400 | 73,442.24 | 606,957.76 |
| 6.9 | Community score card training and application |  | - | - |
| 6.1 | Undertaking Digital Community Storytelling |  | - | - |
| 6.11 | Undertaking Cohort Monitoring |  | 2,053.13 | (2,053.13) |
| 6.13 | Mid Term Evaluation |  | - | - |
|  | **Total - Monitoring and Evaluation** | **2,726,450** | **767,250.65** | **1,959,200** |
| 7 | **Field costs** |  | - |  |
| 7.2 | Adminstraion Cost of SOS -Sahel (6.0%) | 1,616,758 | 615,796.50 | 1,000,961.11 |
|  | **Total- Field costs** | **1,616,758** | **615,797** | **1,000,961** |
|  | **Total Project Cost - (1+ 2+ 3+4+5+6+7)** | **28,414,218** | **16,269,761** | **12,144,457** |

**Chapter 3**

**3.1 Project Achievements Vs Key Evaluation Indicators**

* **Timeliness of the project intervention**

It was found that the project was effective in timely implementing the project activities as per the project schedule initially designed and agreed. The assessment of the evaluation result revealed that, the project has been good in timely executed the project activities.

* **Relevancy**

The evaluation team assured that all the performed project activities are responsive to the needs of the targeted beneficiaries as well as to the whole peoples of the intervention areas. This is mainly due to the fact that the targeted beneficiaries have been primarily engaged in identifying, problems and solutions for the said project and related activities. Moreover, at this particular juncture, the evaluation team has found that the overall goal and purpose of the project is quite valid in bringingchange and promote sustainable development among target communities.

The relevance of this project has been analyzed in terms of the extent to which the project is consistent with:-

* The current challenges and concerns of target beneficiaries,
* The existing government policies and strategies
* The appropriateness of the implementation strategies in achieving the intended project objectives.
* **Efficiency**

The evaluation team has been looked into the allocated financial resources, logistic support and human power and investigated to what extent these resources have been utilized to bring required change among societies. Hence, human power, financial and logistic supports are the main inputs required to attain project objectives. The integration and communication of the staffs of SOS Sahel project were in a position or in line with accomplishing the planned tasks as per articulated in the agreed document.

* **Effectiveness**

The evaluation teamhas also been assessed the project implementation strategies and activities effectiveness in the attainment of the intended objectives. In order to examine the effectiveness of the project, the organization and management system of the project was reviewed.

Most of project activities targeted for the midterm period are completed effectively due in time. We, the evaluation team, also observed that the implementing organization is in a position to meet fully the project's purpose effectively as per the agreement made and concerned stakeholders should be committed to focus on supporting the project holder.

* **Relationship with partners**

All relevant stakeholders, those may directly or indirectly affect the project should be identified, as long as the intended outcome is designed. The communication via availing quarter progress reports and reviewing project progress at intervention woreda by concerned partners was an indicator that SOS Sahel had established smooth relationship with concerned stakeholders found at all levels.

There had been also created conducive working environment and strong relationship with target beneficiaries to the effectiveness of the project implementation and there was good support from targeted woredaconcerned government sectors.

The planning and implementation approach executed bythe Organizationis highly participatory. On the other side, the staffs of project holder have a good relationship with communities and government partners during implementation stage of the said project.

* **Sustainability**

The sustainability of a project like SOS Sahel project is ensured by its relevance to the local situation and target communities’ needs, its social acceptance and institutional appropriateness.

The project from the outset of the project inception involved community members and government partners. It is also in a position of complete alignment with government policies and strategies. On top of this, key government partners considered the project components as part of their regular activities and they planned to integrate them with other government development programs.

The evaluation team has also been investigated whether sustainability strategies are in place and to what extent the sustainability strategies deployed in effective and appropriate to bring planned objective for the community. The level of participation and practice of the target beneficiaries and other stakeholders in project implementation, follow up/monitoring, evaluation, etc has been contributed as part of the sustainability strategies of the project.

At this midterm Evaluation life span of the project period, it is also encouraging to hear from target communities that they are very happy in what is going on and are committed to run the project by them after the completion of the project. We, the evaluation team, have also realized that what the target community has been gaining is more valuable and it is quite enoughto last long. The sustainability of this project is ensured by its relevance to the local situation and communities’ needs, its social acceptance and government strategies appropriateness.

One of the strategies designed to attain the sustainability of the project is establishing strong collaboration and relationship with government partners and right holders of the project at community levels

## Measures taken to ensure sustainability

* The strategies adopted by SOS Sahel to ensure sustainability is: (i) the entire project is integrated and community based (ii) training based and (iii) use of participatory approaches at all levels. There is high level of participation by Organization and stakeholders including government community service providers and local community groups.

**3.2. Organization and Management of the Project**

As per the project agreement is concerned, the present evaluation attempts to assess whether appropriate system of organization and management is in place to plan, implement and coordinate the said project. One of the strategies designed to attain the set objectives of the project is establishing strong collaboration and relationship with government partners and right holders at community levels. As discussed during our evaluation, the project has effectively deployed this strategy and has been working closely with relevant stake holders in an integrated and coordinated manner.

This section of the report discusses the existing institutional arrangement, the collaboration and relationship with relevant partners. As stipulated in the project document, SOS Sahel in collaboration with project coordination office at Hawassa is held responsible for the overall supportive coordination of the project and project site staffs stationed at all intervention areas is a responsible body to oversee the day to day activities of the project.

In this regard, the organizational management of the projectwe can say it is being successfully performed its project.

The institutional arrangement set out prior to the implementation of the project has been working well and helps to create well established system of project coordination and management. As a result, the project has gained the support of government offices, local administrationsand targeted communities.

At the time of field visit, the evaluation team observed that almost all staffs of the project is committed, working efficiently and participating the target community to meet the overall objectives of the project. The evaluation team has also expressed its appreciation to project staff`s for the active support of the project materially as well as technically to strengthen the sustainability of the project system and linked to government systems in the intervention areas.

**Chapter Four**

**4.1 Strengthens and Limitations**

This section of the report discusses the major strengthens andlimitations encounteredof the said project and was assessed by the evaluation team.

**a) Strengthens**

The major strengthens reviewed and discussed during this midterm evaluation of the project are mentioned here below as follows.

* The evaluation team was observed that selection of the intervention kebele as well as beneficiaries was fair.
* The integration of the project with stakeholders was good.
* The commitment taken by the project staff towards accomplishing their duty was admired.
* Strong attachment/collaboration/ with the concerned sectors at Woreda level.
* Good collaboration between project staffs and community.
* Their intervention addressed the community problems.
* As the evaluation team was verified that from field observation and written documents, most of the planned activities of the project were accomplished effectively in accordance with the agreed document.
* Joint planning of the project with relevant sector offices at all levels particularly with woreda enhanced the effectiveness of the project and thereby contributed to the sustainability of the Project.
* The site selection is really focused marginalized community.
* Their relation with community and stake holders was very good & we observed community participationConsidering the most disadvantaged group (i.e. women) of the community in the watershed management
* Provision of farm tools with cost sharing strategy to develop sense of ownership among beneficiaries
* Applying appropriate and effective project strategies (for instance, income generating activities, cost sharing)
* The project intervention on creation of access to input credit is relevant to agricultural policy and significantly contributes to increased smallholders production and productivity.
* The provision of sheep/goat has a great roll in household asset creation and improves the saving culture of women.
* The project implementation was participatory that involving local government structure and the community which is important for its sustainability.
* The project objective is strongly link with government policy on filling of the development gap of the communities.
* The intervention activities are highly integrated each other – such as sheep/goat rearing/fattening with forage development and soil & water conservation.
* The project staffs are highly committed for the success of project objectives.

**b) Limitations**

The following registered points were found to be the major bottlenecks on the course of the project implementation.

* Less attention has been given for biological conservation like establishing nursery sites with the intention of producing and distributing multipurpose seedlings to strengthen the agro forestry practices of farmers in Shebedinoworeda in Erero watershed catchment
* Constructing a number of soil and water conservation structures on farmers private land where agro forestry practices are dominant, and land scarcity are their major problem
* Producing more of output centered report instead of measuring the outcomes of plantation i.e. the survival rate of seedlings
* Lack of maintenance on the already constructed physical structures of soil and water conservation.
* Lack of regular monitoring from the CSO and local government sides
* Missing strengthening of the crucial agro forestry practices in the project area like promoting compost / manure application to enhance their production and productivity (the case of Shebedinoworeda)
* Unfair budget allocation for environmental protection i.e. 1,463,420 (5% of the total project cost)
* Dalliance of quarterly reports to the signatory bodies
* The data and recording system of the goat creditand the revolving fund (in kind credit) committeeat kebele level is not well organized.
* The irrigation water users are not utilizing the farm land fully and uniformly.

**Chapter 5**

**5.1. Major Findings and Lessons Learnt**

This section of the report discusses the **majorfindings** encountered and **lessons learnt** from overall process of the project implementationand consensuses have been reached after discussions have been made with evaluation team.

**5.2 Major Findings**

* Provision of relevant documents (agreed project document, periodical progress reports, annual action plan and other relevant information) to all partners is essential and supportive to enhance the performance of the said project through feedback provision.

**5.3Lessons Learnt**

* Strong communication, integration, collaboration and conduct review meeting with partners could create sense of ownership towards the realization of project objectives.
* Working in partnership with the government and targeted community is more effective and achievable than working in isolation.
* As to refer project document of the said project and evaluation findings, the capacity of the project holder to accomplish its project activities with limited man power were taught full and scaled up to needy areas.
* The project office has been completely transparent about its motives and has also created close partnership with the community and the government. This has been key element for the project’s sustainability, social acceptance, popularity and the relentless support it obtained from all level.

**Chapter 6**

**6.1 Conclusions and Recommendations**

**6.2 Conclusions**

SOS Sahel had planned to perform its project from (***November 2011- October 2015)***Sidama Zone, in SNNPR. The project which is entitled as **“women empowerment through food security”** was funded by Australian Aid, Care Australia & Care Ethiopia and planned to provide for five years a total amount of birr **28,562,718.00** and until this evaluation time it has been utilized birr **16,269,761** of which it accounts57.25 % accomplishment in its midterm period of life span.

As we, the evaluation team, understood from our investigation, the organization planned and agreed to implement its project in the specified intervention areas. Hence, the reviewed documents and field observed facts have been indicated that the organization has implemented its project activities as per the agreement made initially. And hopefully keeping the integration with signatories at all levels, the committed, transparent and professionally competent project management has spent up and tried to implement the project activities in order to address the needy beneficiariesfound inthe intervention areas.

This midterm evaluation has been conducted with the participation of key government partners and project staff and pertinent data has been obtained from different sources. These include, document review, project staffs, key informants’ interview and focus group discussions with local authorities, SOS Sahel owning community groups and direct project beneficiaries via project site to site visit..

In general, the initiative taken bySOS Sahel and its government partners including the community and thoroughly discussions made with different stakeholders on strengthens andlimitations of the project as well as interviewed direct right holders on importance, benefits and sustainability of the project havebeen undertaken and the evaluation team finally forwarded the following constructive recommendations.

**6.3 Recommendations**

Based on documents reviewed, observations undertaken and discussions made, the evaluation team had come up with suggestions and recommendations. Therefore, for better achievements of the project in the future of its implementation, we, the evaluating team, provide advice the project holder and all stake holders to take the following suggested and recommended points in to consideration.

The project implementation strategies and approaches stipulated in the project document have been well deployed and found to be effective and relevant to attain the very objectives of the project. Hence,

* Give high attention to scale-up the good experiences with best and reputable practices of the project in to other Key government partners.
* Design strong follow up strategies and reinforce concerned government sectors at each intervention areas level to own and continue the outputs/results of the project.
* Attention should be given to promote and strengthen the existing working relationships with government partners at all levels.
* The evaluation team has recommended that all concerned government sectors should frequently follow-up, periodically supervise and provide feedback to implementing organization and even to concerned government sectors.
* The evaluation team concluded that the effort made by the project holder indicated that almost all staffs of the project are committed and working to address the targeted objectives. So, high attention should be given to project staffs to keep such commitment.
* Being an integrated type of project, budget should have been fairly allocated for each project component. Therefore, you had better amend the cost part of the project and add some more activities that address the economic and social aspect of watershed management and the needs of beneficiaries.
* Physical structures are more applicable in areas where slope is between 3% and 30% annual crops are dominant, less land scarcity
* It is better to establish nursery sites to produce and distribute seedling for the beneficiaries( in all woreda)
* More emphases should be given for biological conservation in the Erero watershed catchment compare with the physical structures
* Based on the regional GO-CSO guideline, the Organization is obliged to send quarterly reports& annual plans to all signatory bodies.
* Making a report a result or outcome based report is very important.
* You had better incorporate some additional activities from the agro forestry practices like promoting compost / manure, bee keeping, livestock rearing and poultry for the beneficiaries found in the watershed catchment.
* To boost up the production and productivity of irrigation users, woreda agriculture office should give intensive agricultural extension on the aspects of irrigation agronomic activities.
* In order to insure the sustainability of in-kind credit (goat) scheme, the project and Woreda Agriculture Office should strengthen revolving fund management committee at kebele level.
* Market linkage for input (feed & vaccine) supply of the day-old chicken rearing activity is very important to insure its sustainability.
* The agricultural IGA activities such as sheep/goat, fattening, beekeeping and seed multiplication should implemented on a package approach.