

**AN ASSESSMENT ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE
IN SOUTHERN NATION NATIONALITY PEOPLE'S REGION: THE
CASE OF HALABA SPECIAL WOREDA, ETHIOPIA**

A DISSERTATION

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the Dissertation entitled THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURAL IN SOUTHERN NATION NATIONALITY PEOPLE'S REGION; THE CASE OF HALABA SPECIAL WOREDA, ETHIOPIA submitted by me for the partial fulfillment of M.A. in rural development to Indira Gandhi National University, (IGNOU) New Delhi, is my original work and has not been submitted earlier to IGNO or to any other institution for the fulfillment of the requirement for any course of the study. I also declare that no chapter of this manuscript in whole or in part is lifted and incorporated in this report from earlier work done by me or others.

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.

“ACRONYMS”

NABW: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BUSSINESS WOMEN

IGNOU: INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERISTY

ILO: INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION

FAO: FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION

ADB: AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

UNDP: UNITED NATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

MDG: MILLINIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL

SNNPR: SOUTHERN NATION NATIONALITY PEOPLE’S REGION

FDRE: FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPOPULIC OF ETHIOPIA

FHH: FARMING HOUSE HOLDS

ARDO: AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

IRDP: INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

NPOE; NATIONAL POPULATION OFFICE IN ETHIOPIA

LVIA: LAY VOLUNTER INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted with the aim of analyzing the role of women in agriculture in Halaba Woreda. Based on the output of this study, the contribution levels of women were identified. The study result showed that women contribute 46% of labor to agricultural activities. Men, boys and girls also participate in agricultural activities. However, women's work in the agricultural activities is documented as marginal and they have been considered more as consumers than as producers. More than 89% of the Halaba population is residing in the rural parts of the Woreda and half of the population is women. According to the study analyzed that rural women spend their time in productive activities, which directly benefit their families and society in economic terms. The study showed that the average day for a rural woman in Halaba involves food processing, water and fuel wood collection, assisting family farm, marketing and labor exchange for community services. Also the level of participation as women's labor is more participating in agricultural activities, community services and contributing more in securing their household members food demand than other household members do. But women receive no remuneration for their labor, no monetary or maternal gains and no benefits in leisure time and improved living conditions. Women suffer from discriminatory practices that prevent them from accessing land in the same way and extent as men. As such, men control land and women gain access to land mainly through either inheritance, their male relatives or in that of their husband.

. In general the contributing factors that influence women's role in agriculture depend upon the women's dependence on their husband. The other one is illiteracy, ignorance, low socio-economic status and traditional religious and cultural dominance and low political participation in the community. Also, in the study area there were few supporting organizations to promote women in agricultural activities and empower them. However, those that do not have a specific gender focus, but undertake some single or combined gender-related activities which are generally mother and child care, nutrition, water, girls' education, women savings and credit facilities. The study analyzed that those few NGOs and government organizations that have attempted to tackle gender issues have encountered serious problems of resource availability, limited technical capacity, poor organization and lack of coordination, which have made it impossible to streamline their gender concerns in a concrete way into effective programmed interventions.

CHAPTER ONE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Agriculture is the back bone of many developing countries. Women account for more than half of the work force by participating in different activities, either directly or indirectly. The gender division of labor varies from one society and culture to another, and within each culture external circumstances influence the level of activity (Nigist, 2004). However, except in few most developed countries, women's efforts are not yet realized by society. Rural development in Africa can not be imagined without the active participation of women. Women are, of course form an integral part of farming Household. They are involved in over half of the farm activities in many developing countries, bear most of responsibilities for household food security and contribute to household well being through their income generating activities (Etenesh, 2005). In order to improve the capacity of African countries to meet their food demand, women's roles have to be recognized and they should be given equitable access to and control over the land, credit facilities, extension services and improved tools as well as membership in cooperatives and other rural benefits (Winrock, 2001)

Ethiopia is one of the poor countries in the world with high illiterate rates. Illiteracy affects women to a higher extent due to heavy household work loads, cultural influence, and lack of

Know-how. However, it is impossible to think of development while neglecting the women work force, as women represent the major force for rural changes, largely as an un-tapped resource that could boost rural development and lead to higher growth rates and increased food production (Nigist, 2004).

According to National Population Office (NPOE) the population of Ethiopia is estimated to be 75 million of which women make up half of the total population. Around 85% of the populations live in rural areas where social services such as education and health are poor and rural women's participation in different economic activities such as agricultural work in the community is low. Though there is lack of gender data in the country some studies show that women in rural areas work over 15 hours a day but they receive little economic benefit in return. They also have less access to education than men do (NOPE, 1999). Moreover, very few women assume leadership and decision making position at all levels in the country. Given this reality the development policies, programs and projects fail to address the situation of women..

In many cases, there is social bias that supports the men's role by ignoring the females' in a given society (John and Bennet, 1989 (can you also include recent publication here???)). Rural women particularly in the developing countries exercise hardship by undertaking triple roles, that is, productive role, reproductive role and community participation role in their day to day life. They also live in an environment where less or no social services, lack of infrastructural facilities and with no exposure to information and technologies (Coontz, 1986).

Rural women have less right on the use of common wealth they made along with their husband, and have limited role and responsibilities in decision making on key resources. As reported on the National Association of Business Women (NABW) in December 1999, the Center for International Private Enterprise Evaluation report is a multi-faceted non-governmental organization (NGO) that strives to encourage and promote women business owners through advocacy, business and technical skills training, micro-credit loans, and access to information. The association mission is to promote business headed by women and to assist many more women to pursue entrepreneurship.

On the other hand, Ethiopia is the home where different nations, nationalities and ethnic groups live, who perform and follow their own culture, traditions, values and norms. Under these circumstances women have to follow the norms and values of the societies regarding their position in political, economic and socio-cultural spheres. In addition to this marginalization, women are victims of harmful traditional Practices; in general women tend to be involved in a wide range of activities and enterprises. They are engaged in productive activities in crop and livestock management. On the other hand, they have high responsibility in domestic affair. Traditionally, division of labor between the religion, culture and sexes has been linked to the reproductive process. As a consequence, the women were not allowed to do certain types of jobs. The function of child bearing or the social function of maternity need not deprive women from opportunities for engagement in economic development.

As more and more women's entering the work force, the predicament of combining satisfactorily their role as income earners with their role as mothers, leaving her vulnerable to discrimination and even dismissal from employment. By and large, employers, being insensitive to the specific needs of women, would either terminate employment in the events of pregnancy or force them to take earned leave at the time of delivery, or even to take leave without pay. To prevent unfair employment practices and exploitation of women in the labor market, and to safeguard the health and well being of the woman, it is essential to provide material protection to working women. The recognition of the role of women in social and economic activities has been legalized the objective of protecting and empowering women as workers, and protecting the dignity of motherhood (IGNO, 2009).

For development to take root in our country women's role should be recognized and they have to be given their share over all the properties. These days' government and non government organizations are trying to help women get recognition from society which they are part of what is more surprising is that most women themselves do not realize that they are prevented from owning what they deserve recognition and appreciation (Overholt, 1991).s other parts of Ethiopia, the study area, has the same problem as it gives less attention to women role in their every day activities. The reason is that culturally, women are assumed to carry most of This study, there fore, evaluates the role of women in agriculture in order to elucidate how women participate and contribute to agricultural production at Halaba special district.

1.2. Statement of the problem

Women usually have limited accesses to resources and opportunities and their productivity remains low relative to their potential. Due to lack of awareness in our society women's role has not been recognized (Lynda, 1991) noted that we live in a society in which there is substantial level of gender inequality. The inequality in the provision of education reflects the deep rooted tradition and values within the ideological, political, economical and socio-cultural structure of societies (Kasente, cited in Takele, 2008). In terms of ownership of property, the women in this country have no equal right as men. In addition, the dominance of men in various income generating activities affects highly the economic empowerment of women. The purpose of this study was therefore to evaluate the activities of rural women and their participation in agricultural production to fulfill the food security of their family. More specifically to answer the question's "what is the role of women in agriculture?" in Halaba Special District

1.3. Terminologies

Agriculture

The English term 'agriculture' is derived from Latin words 'ager' or 'agri' meaning soil' and 'cultura' meaning cultivation i.e. agriculture is cultivation of soil in it narrow sense. Agriculture, however, is a very broad term and it includes crop cultivation, soil management, farm tools and

agricultural engineering, animal husbandry, veterinary and dairy science, poultry, and piggery, horticulture, fisheries, home science and forestry.

Agriculture can be termed as science, art, business all together. Science because it employs scientific skill to develop new strains of crops trees, animals, fish, and birds and develops innovative techniques to manage them under varying soil and environmental conditions. Art, because it is the management whether it is the management of crops, animals, birds, fishes or any other branch of agriculture that brings about desired results. Business because the entire produce and inputs of agriculture are linked with marketing which brings in the question of profit and loss. As such agriculture is a very comprehensive applied science dealing with all aspects of life. (Subramaniam, c,1979).

Gender

Gender refers to the socially determined differences between women and men, such as roles, attitudes, behaviors, and varies across gender roles are learned and vary across cultures and overtime. They are, thus amenable to change. Gender is a relational term that includes both women and men. Gender equality focuses on changes for both women and men.

1.4 Objectives of the study

General objectives:

The general objective of this study is to identify the role of women in agricultural activities and to suggest the possible practical gender projects, and to raise awareness of top officials

And decision makers of the Woreda to address the problem so that they may include strategies in the rural development planning the Specific objectives are:-

- Asses the extent and level of participation of women in agriculture
- Study the factors influencing the rural women in agriculture
- Identify the kind and level of support women get from government and non-government organization
- Asses the role of grassroots level of leadership in agriculture and non- agricultural activities.

1.5. Research questions

The research questions were:-

- 1/. What do men and women do in agricultural activities, and where and when do these activities take place?
- 2/. Who has access to and control over resources, and decision making in agricultural activities?
- 3/. What are the socio-economic factors that hinder the role of women in agricultural activities?

1.6. Hypothesis

- In most low income households “women’s work” includes not only reproductive work required to guarantee the maintenance and reproduction of the labor force but also productive work, often as secondary income earners. Women’s contribution, in terms of the number of tasks performed mainly the hypotheses framed for the study is:

Women spend their time in productive activities, which directly benefit their families and society in economic terms,

- Women engage in wide variety of agricultural activities to overcome family food security,
- Women’s role in agriculture faces institutional barriers due to inappropriate strategies.
- The community level leaders do not involve in promoting the role of women in agriculture and in decision making processes.

1.7. Scope of the study

The study was conducted at Halaba special Woreda Southern Nation Nationality People’s Region. The study was carried out in 6 peasant associations and three agricultural development projects run by three voluntary agencies such as Farm Africa, Food for Hunger Ethiopia and

LVIA (lay volunteers international association). Out of the selected 6 peasant associations three peasant associations were stratified for this study. The peasant associations are selected among 79 peasant associations of the Woreda. The study was conducted in two strata, from lower and upper parts of the Woreda. The Lower part of the Woreda including Kulito area's up to 1st Konich peasant association and the upper part including from Kobo Geto peasant association up to Mito areas. Three peasant associations were stratified in each stratum. The classification depended on land size, agro climate, population density, farming system of the Woreda, location, elevation range and homogeneity of the living condition of population. In each stratum three peasant associations were selected and a total of 6 peasant associations were involved for this study. In the selection of these peasant associations some important features were taken into consideration. Only those projects initiated at least three years back were considered for this study. Moreover, transportation facilities, availability of the concerned voluntary agencies, and type of developmental activities undertaken in respective village communities would also be taken into consideration to ensure that the selected integrated community development projects possessed certain common characteristics.

1.8. Significance of the study

Women account more than half of the total community and their contribution in securing their family food demand is of great importance. But the society gave them less attention. Therefore,

this study aimed at uncovering the role of women in agriculture and how they fill the gap of food production in the family. The out put of the study could be significant for decision makers in providing valuable information with regard to the role of women in agriculture, other activities and work load, and hence formulate gender sensitive development projects. And finally it creates awareness among the society and outsiders on the role played by women and give due respect to their contribution.

CHAPTER TWO

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1. Women's Agricultural Activities

In most societies men's roles in agricultural activities is understood to be directed and clear. However women's role in agriculture is not clearly recognized. Hence a clear picture of women's of participation in agriculture is needed. Although these is increasing that women are involved in the world agriculture until recently have been difficult to gain a clear picture of where, and under what circumstance women particular in the farm work (Annable,1986). Although the micro studies documenting the importance of women's roles have arisen steadily national statistics have to undercount women's agricultural labor, due to their definition of agricultural activities in their intervening producer.

Women play important roles to help their family in particular and their community in general in sewing their food demand, in the world. But the most surprising thing is that the community has not significantly under stood the effort that they exert in the last several years. Woman are involved in agricultural and rural development representing more than half of the labor required to produce food consumed in developing countries (Etenesh, 2005). One problem here is reaching at common understanding as to how female farmers are perceived in society; observations indicate that a female farmer is commonly perceived as a co-farmer as marginal players in agricultural development particularly by those individuals with significant influence is research, extension and development positions (Tsehai, 1991).

Women are often farming with out benefit of the improved inputs and services and required for a more productive and remunerative agriculture. The paradox is most obvious in the African shifting where it is estimated the female do 60-80% of all agricultural work. Yet some females are rarely systematically targeted for training, extension, research technology or improved access to resource and there by to increase productivity in the agricultural sector will need be better directed to the female population goals for growth are to be achieved (Over halt, 1991). The following sections show the different activities of women.

The international labor organization/ILO/labor force estimate and 1950-2000 of Food and Agricultural Organization's FAO (1970) agricultural censuses' data for the 82 developing countries shows, women's proportion in the agricultural labor force to be 42% for sub-Saharan Africa, the regional average was 46% for north Africa for middle east 31% and for micro data set is not a complete description of women's agricultural work. Nevertheless, some description of women's agricultural work can also be made as inference. In addition to the substantial number of women documented national agricultural labor force data, many women and girls work as unpaid female laborers. Many are primary involved in production of family food supply and domestic work, many work intensively in the fields only during the peak labor seasons (Duggan, 1991).Rural women play multiple roles in agricultural systems They may be brothers for those who have no brothers, housekeepers, wage labor, agricultural processes, market women and as well as agricultural producers (Beneria, 1991).

Most rural women make constant trade off in allocating labor time and productive resources among their roles and obligation. Most farming systems display mixed pattern of women's agricultural responsibilities in the production cycle where one sex is primarily responsible for livestock, vegetables and tree crops and care for their dwellings.

2.2. Gender Relation in Ethiopia

Ethiopia women have played a traditional role of motherhood and home maker in both rural and areas. However, their work has never been limited to the household and the family. Ethiopia women are actively involved in all aspects of there social life. Women are both producers and procreators and they are active participant in the social and cultural activities of the community. However, the important roles they play have not always been recognized. With out, equal opportunities, they have legged behind men in all fields of self-advancement. Economic development is unthinkable with out women participation; however, because their participation in the economy has not been valued Ethiopian women have not received even their share of the nation wealth (The Ethiopian Herald, 2004). Woman's productivity is predominated in the processing and marketing of food in rearing, and food processing and industries.

In rural areas, women are engaged in a wide variety of economic activities including the constriction of houses, land cultivating and harvesting, and food storage and marketing (Amarech, 2004). However, women's work in the agricultural sector has often been erroneously

documented as marginal and they have been considered more as consumer than producers. Women have secondary status within the family and in the society, which is why they get little credit for their productivity. Hence, women continue to be regarded as an appendage to the family and as consumer but not as producers. It is important to understand how conditions for women have changed

In what ways has the country mobilized the labor of women to optimize human resource in the overall economic development of a nation? Important changes have taken place with the introduction of the socialist ideology, which advocates equal rights for all, irrespective of sex, religious, racial or social origin. Ethiopia's women seem to have gained somewhat better experience since the 1974 socio-economic and political transformation. They have expanded their horizons with educational advancement and increased economic activity (Amarech, 2004). Since 90% of the Ethiopia inhabit in the countryside, our focus is on rural women because women in urban a small comparison. Under changes such as the rise in the literacy an increase in school enrolment and growing competition in the employment market, have not directly affected the lives of rural women.

Many women in developing countries have a direct contact with the natural environment as they collect essential items for everyday needs. There are also women consumers or purchasers whose link with the environment is less direct, but the action can have a bearing in the future (Rahmeto, 1989). Therefore it could be important to include women on both the planning process of the different organizational institution as to safeguard the alarming rate of environmental

degradation though involving all the members of the country in which half of them have previously been ignored from direct participation due to cultural influence that sees women as consumers only. Though, it is understood that women have triple role in society only one of the roles was recognized until recently, the productive role, but not given reasonable remuneration as that of men's. The average day for a rural y farm, marketing, cottage production and labor exchange for different kinds of community service.

In all these activities, women receive no remuneration for their labor, no monetary or material gains and no benefit in luxury time and improving their living condition (Mokonen, 1996). The point is not that women should place themselves above the need of their family, or that their need and wants are similar to those of urban women with higher income. Rural women spend their time in productive activities, which directly benefits their families and society in economic term. There should be some terms (measurable means) of remunerating their productive services and of providing incentives for them to produce efficiently and use their energies meaningfully (Mokonen, 1996)

2.3. Property Ownership, Income Generation and Purchasing Power

In the past, women were not owners of the means of production except when they inherited out in to employment areas. In the last one and half decades, urban women have had got access of employment which do not require formal education Women now fill jobs in the construction industry and in factories as well as in sales and marketing services.

In contrast, most rural women have no independent budget, but depend on their husbands, income even though they participate in different income generating activities. After the husband gives them the monthly budget of the family, they exchange this little amount of money to fulfill others family needs that could not be covered with what they are given by their husbands. Mostly this portion is for the women to purchase household goods necessary to sustain the family. A women may be allowed to use some cash for her own personal use if she considers it necessary, however, conditions are such that there is scarcely enough food to get the household through the season until the coming harvest.

Therefore, women rarely spend on themselves or their children with out the approval of the pattern, and even then only for especial occasions such as holy days (Pausewang, et al 1990). What is surprising from this is that though women are doing a great job in both the triple role (Production, reproduction and community management) yet they do not have the right to make a decision and even their husbands do not consult them on the allocation of the produce. The United Nation statistically shows that women do $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the available job in the world and earn $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of the income. On other hand, they constitute $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the illiterate people of the world and earn less than $1/100^{\text{th}}$ of the world's wealth (Ruth, 1994)

2.4. Women and Population

Women are noted to have great contribution on the reduction of poverty through population reduction in addition to the other contribution they produce. Women through family planning can contribute to reduction in the rate population growth. Moreover, as population pressure is a key

factor in environmental degradation which in turns a leading factor for poverty. Therefore it is assumed that a reduction in population would benefit the environment from being degraded as the result of population growth (Annabel, 1986).

On the other hand the reduction in population comes by applying method, which will benefit women's individual health and will help the women to be actively involved in income earning Areas instead of spending their time doing domestic work only. Fewer births will benefit the women enabling them to be more efficient in their role as environmental mangers (Annabel, 1986). What is most surprising is that women do not even have the right to control the number of children they should bear because it is culturally accepted that women are there to bear children. In most of our society children are considered as wealth. Therefore having more children indirectly means wealthy.

Due to this reason women are not allowed to use their right to limit the number of children they wanted to bear. The other most probable explanation is that the women themselves have deeply accepted the norm of having more children, so they do not even think of themselves to be of the solution to improve their health so that they may produce more products to sustain their livelihood (Ashford, 1997).

The other reason could be due to the lake of awareness on the pregnancy and delivery related risks on their life. Therefore, alleviating all the above mentioned problems could be one way of improving the household food security in particular and the whole community in general.

2.5. Gender and poverty

Although there is an overall agreement on the notion that men and women experience poverty differently, linking gender and poverty is a complex matter that has increasingly become the focus of analysis. The growing literature on poverty has helped to broaden the definition of poverty and generated greater recognition on the multi- dimensionality of poverty. It called for better understanding of poverty not only in terms of income and expenditure, but in the broader sense of human poverty- a state of deprivation in capabilities (education, health, nutrition, etc) (Cagatay,1998). Experts (Klassen, 2005, Cagatay 1998,Auisumbing et al. 1995 and others) argue that the household income/ expenditure based measures, while they are important and provide comparative analysis of incidences of poverty between male headed and female headed households, they do not show the level of poverty experienced by women and men within the households. The gender dimension of poverty emerge more clearly through approaches of social indicators and those that capture the intra- Household processes underlying resource allocation (DAI, 2005). The challenge of measurements methodology aside, there is ample empirical evidence that establishes the linkage between gender inequality and poverty. (Cagatay, 1998) argues that from a human poverty or capabilities (education and health) perspective, women are poorer in most societies. There are fundamental gender inequalities in access to and control over productive assets such as land, labor and credits, earned income as well as gender biases in the labor market that form the ground for women's enhanced vulnerability to poverty. Women's high illiteracy rate, lack of decision making power over their fertility and early marriage of girls limit their chances of coming

out of poverty. In addition, due to the disproportionate gender division of labor in the household and their increased responsibilities for domestic and productive work, women tend to be poor. Other argues that poverty is also related to the type of employment in which people are engaged, and the majority of the poor are in informal employment.

2.6. Women's Access to key economic resources

In Africa, the first shifting cultivation where hoe was the main tool for plowing the land. The contribution of women was much greater than men. In this system women were the dominant figures of the practice of farming whereas men's roles were only confined to clearing the land. Women prepare the soil, sowing, weeding, harvesting, threshing and transporting farm products (Boserups , 1970).

In undertaking different economic activities more than men, rural women in developing countries have less property right, have no role in the economic input and they have remained economically insecure. Rural women have played significant role in livestock production in developing countries and they are active participants in the livestock management such as supply of fodder, milking, protecting animals (Boserups, 1970).

Land and property right for women require urgent attention by policy makers and land reform practitioners in Africa during the last three decades (UNDP, 2006). The increased focus on a Global Realization of Women empowerment in Africa generally gets little attention. These situations are also true to Ethiopia.

In Ethiopia women's right on land emerged in 1974 during the Derg Regime. At the time, women were actively involved in the political arena. They had their own mass organization, known as the Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association (REWA). Their rights on land holdings were also recognized in the rural land proclamation promulgation by the dergue regime (Mamo, 2006).

According to Mamo (2006), the rural land proclamation of 1975 has given women accesses to organize themselves in peasant association as head of household if they have independent residence. The current government regarding to land right in general has similar position to that of Dargue regime. Women have the right to acquire, administer, control, use and transfer property. Women have equal right with men with respect to use, transfer, and control of property. They also receive equal treatment in the inheritance of property right (Walta Information Center, 2007). There are several articles, included in the government constitution and also legal provision that should be exercised and implemented at different levels of government organization, private sector and civil society. However, the ground reality dose not match with the blueprint of the policy in the traditionally and culturally blessed society about women's Right

In Ethiopia in general and in S.N.N.P.R. state in particular, the accessibility of women to key Economic resources such as land and other economic and income generating activities remain far behind. Even though, the government tried to empower women by promoting the right of women on owning properties and the right to make decision on the economic and income

generating activities equal to men, at local level, social courts and community elders had not been aware to bring the necessary change in attitude towards the reality. Similarly, the local level political leaders and other officials do not have enough information and have less knowledge to implement and interpret laws that have been promulgated by the government. But Women's were not utilizing these opportunities because of their illiteracy and each of exposure to information to resist men's dominance, social bias and traditional norms.

At National level, the government of Ethiopia under the Ministry of Agriculture and development formulated a policy of rural land administration and utilization, with the objective to increase economic growth through increasing of production in order to ensure food Security and poverty reduction. To implement this policy the government launches the program of rural land registration and certification that can treat both men and women equally. But practically the implementation of land registration and certification in the study area is low as the number of women who were registered and certified for ownership of rural land was negligible. Among the total of 45,560 households in the Woreda only 7,000 women were registered and obtained certificate of ownership of land in the district (Halaba District of Agricultural Office, 2011).The low participation may be due to traditional and cultural values of the society, low educational level of local leaders in effective implementation of policy, inadequate training, and lack of enough information about the policy that promote women empowerment, etc.

The place of women in the society is complex that involves many interrelated problems which

made women's livelihood difficult in relation to men. The problems most rural women face can be described as UN attractive life style, low income, low employment opportunity, high illiteracy rate, low health facilities (Amanyu , 2007).The role-played by women both in the productive and reproductive sphere is very high. However, the position (place) given to women in the society it is very little. The contribution of women in the improvement of the socio-economy, the well being of human life is more significant than has been traditionally acknowledged (Boserups Ester, 1970). This means that women productive and reproductive role were not getting sufficient consideration and less attention were given to their role in sustainable development of human well-being. The contribution of women in reducing poverty and hunger in Africa is more important than that of men.

According to the estimation of United Nation Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA, 1996) shows that African women are responsible for production of 60-80% food. According to (UNECA, 1996), the solution to overcome poverty, hunger and chronic food shortage in Africa should be focused on economic empowerment of women, especially on the rural women.

In developing countries like Ethiopia there are traditional perceptions and ill-attitudes among the society toward the women's right on Properties. These perceptions were deep rooted in the society and greatly affect the women's role in the economy. A deep-rooted negative perception of the society towards the empowerment of women, directly or indirectly, has been reflected in the government sector in employment and remuneration schemes.

Considering Agriculture, which is the backbone of economy in the developing countries like Ethiopia, the contribution of women in the agricultural practices from plowing of farm land up to transporting of products to homestead is extremely important. Besides, the contribution of Ethiopian women in general by assisting of their husband in many economical activities is very high. However, all those roles they play had not been recognized, because traditionally the society provides them low status (World Bank, 1995).

2.7. Women's land rights and customary systems

In many communities access to land is governed by both statutory and customary laws. Customary laws emerge from unwritten social rules derived from shared community values and traditions. Customary laws limit women's rights on land to secondary level, mainly derived from patriarchal households. This law underpins patriarchal system of traditional authority to reinforce patriarchal values which disadvantage women and place them to subordinate role in society (WLSA, et al, 2001).

Marriage has been primary means of getting access to land under customary system of tenure is in sub-Saharan Africa. Unmarried women have little access to land because, they are not allowed to inherit property in most matrilineal societies while wives have better access to their husbands' land through marriage, thus security of marriage thus becomes major requirement for security of tenure (Davison,1988; Nizioki,2002). On the other hand, studies revealed that

marriage as an institution and family structures are becoming more and more unstable especially by impacts of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa (Nizioki, 2002).

Some customary laws give sons exclusive right to inherit land and other property whereas wives and unmarried daughters have the right to be supported. Pre-existing customary norms in some matrilineal societies in Africa used to allow widows continued lifetime rights on their martial land which passes on to male heirs after their death (Sebina Zzwa, 1981; Davison, 1988 WLSA, 1998; Nizioki, 2002). But, this practice is not necessarily adhered to as land gained value. Widows are becoming vulnerable, and some times forced off their deceased husbands' land by their in –laws or by their sons. Customary laws generally sanction male authority over women, (community customs and traditions support land allocation to male). Under customary laws all property acquired by the spouses except, personal goods belong to the husband.

2.8. Agriculture and rural development:

Land is basic resource for agriculture production in Ethiopia. Agriculture accounts for almost 41% of the GDP. 80% of exports and 80% of the labor force (CSA, 2005). Eighty five percent of the Ethiopia population is rural and agricultural based. Major agricultural development issues underlie on the existing land tenure system.

Women are affected by many issues relate to land and agriculture. Women's right to land is affected by land scarcity. Women are marginalized from accessing land whenever land is scarce (Hadera, 2002; Tesfaye, 2003). Rural women do not have equitable access to land and

agricultural resources. They have low involvement in development activities and have low decision-making power. Their labor contribution to the agricultural sector is invisible because of the gender division of labor in communities.

Ox plough farming system and cultural taboos on women ploughing and showing had affected women's right on land particularly that of FHHS (Desalegn 1994; Zenebework 2000; Hadera, 2002). These households mostly end up in poverty because of lack of adult male labor which, the farming system requires. A study on FHHs in Highland Wollo and Waghamra reflected FHHs are poorer and more food insecure than male headed households (Deverux, et al, 2003).

2.9. Women's Access to financial services

In sub- Sahara Africa about 84% of women were employed in the informal business sectors. Rural women are usually employed in the informal sector that provide very low income (USAID, 2005) when considered the time wasted, efforts and labor utilization. The income gained from such informal employment is insignificant and unbalanced. Women who were involved in the informal employment sector usually start business with little capital and little asset that is not sufficient to run their business. On the other hand, at rural area of developing countries in general and in Ethiopia in particular the micro credit support and micro-Enterprise has not expanded to reach most rural women. The number of banks that support rural women for credit support is limited. These conditions discourage rural women to engage in self- employment. Among informal employment in which rural women engaged is the domestic works (house hold

activities). Since rural women are responsible for household management such as cooking, collection of fuel, feeding of large families and caring and supporting of children's, etc. they have no time to engage in other businesses.

The income earned and profit gained from informal employment of women were not only to support the family in the feeding and other consumption but also contributes for poverty reduction. Women engaged in the informal employment contribute three-Fourth (75%) of the household consumption (UNDP, 2006). Under Ethiopian condition women engaged in the informal employment not only contribute for household consumption but also to meet the medical cost, clothing, and etc, for the family. The income gained from these economic activities were used for household consumption and family support rather than re-investing it to expand their business. Similarly, being rural women, most are illiterate and have no proper skill for full employment opportunity (Linda, 2005).

According to Linda (2005) men have more power to control on the income made by women and often decide to finance their own personal interest instead of the households. This is because; women have less power /right/ to make decision on the household income independently. Provisions of credit support and micro-finance facilities for rural women were one of the most important strategies for empowering rural women in the economic aspect. Credit and micro-finance support for rural women are not only for economic empowerment of rural women but also for poverty reduction and for enhancing of better living condition of poor rural women.,

This means that when credit facilities and micro-finance support reach large number of poor and disadvantaged rural women for borrowing, they increase women's ability to earn income that can support the well-being of women and their families. Even though credit support and micro-finance facilities are very important for poverty reduction and economic empowerment of rural women, most of rural women do not have access to credit and micro-finance support. In the developing countries in general and in Ethiopia in particular, majority of rural women are not benefited from micro-finance and credit support launched by government and non-governmental organizations for poverty reduction and for increasing earning capacity of the poor women.

Like many of the African countries, in Ethiopia rural women have very less access to financial services such as banking and micro-credit. To tackle the inaccessibility of rural women to financial services, the political leaders and policy makers have to focus on enhancing the opportunity of women for financial and banking facilities, integrate the issues of economic empowerment of rural women in the national development strategies. Establishing small enterprise, expansion of small scale saving and credit services, provision of credit support and micro-finance for women etc, help women to be economically secure. And it also ensures gender equality, poverty reduction, health improvement and to reduce HIV/AIDS spreading rate. Expansions of financial institutions that provides credit and micro-finance support with affordable interest rate, promote rural poor women to be engaged in different self-employment activities.

The problem of women to access for micro-credit was: lack of awareness and importance of women's productivity role both for national economic and women's right. Women are better managers and serve to increase their income and to escape from poverty when they get credit support and micro-finance facilities (Linda Mayoux, 2005).

According to Linda (2005), micro-finance and credit support are part of an integrated program for poverty reduction for the poorest people, creation of accessibility for credit and micro-finance is an entry point for women's economic, social and political empowering. On the other hands because of their illiteracy, absence of business management capacity, lack of exposure to information about the importance of credit and micro-finance for income generation, lack of confidence and fear to risk taking to borrow loan etc, affect the economic empowering of rural women.

Appropriate training on the proper managing and disseminations of information about importance of credit and micro-finance for empowering and income generation to poor rural women has to be undertaking by development agencies and government to Ensure poverty reduction. It is recognized that one of the most promising means for women empowering are supporting women to have their own source of income. However, many constrains prevent women's involvement in the male-dominated world of business and commerce. These range from dominance that creates pressure on women to loss of economic independence and confidence.

CHAPTER THREE

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Description of the study area

3.1.1. Location

Halaba special Woreda is found in Southern Nation Nationalities, and Peoples Region. Geographically it lies between 7 17'- 12 latitude north and 38 04-'47' longitude east, The Woreda is bordered by Shala and Aris Negele Woreda of Oromiya region to Eastern part, Kedida Gamela, Silte and Hadya Zone to Western part, Silte zone and Adami Tullu Woreda of oromiya region to the Northern part, Eastern Badewacho Woreda and Siraro Woreda of oromiya region in the Southern parts.

3.1.2. Population

Total population of the Woreda is according to the Woreda finance and economic development office statistical data shows that 271,054. Among them 136,838 are males and 134,216 are females. There are 45,423 Households in the Woreda. The total rural dwellers are 89% and urban dwellers are 11%. Population Density of the Woreda is 270 person square kilometers

3.1.3. Climate

The total area of the Woreda is 91,230 hectare of land, among that 70% flat, 27% slope and 3% mountainous. The Elevation ranges of the Woreda from 1554-2149m.a.s.l, the mean annual

Rain falls of the area ranges from 857-1085 mm and mean annual average temperature ranges from 17 – 20 degree centigrade. Climatic condition of the area is 97% dry intermediate high land and 3% moist intermediate high land. The rain fall pattern is erratic and irregular in the area. Due to the severe and heavy rains, soil erosion and flooding are very common in low-lying of the study area. In times of extreme rainfall, mudslides damage roads, Small bridges and other infrastructure and localized flooding are common (ARDO, 2011).

3.1.4. Soil

The dominant soil type of the study area is fine to medium textured sandy loam underlie with ancient Precambrian basement rocks in the plains and calcareous soil at the hills. Over-clearing has led to significant soil erosion problems, with mudslides occurring on the area (ARDO, 2011).

3.1.5. Farming systems

The Woreda considered as “Woina Degas” having two major seasons, namely Belg and Meher and irrigation is practiced in some areas. In terms of total consumption and for other purposes, normally, Belg season crop harvested contributes about 67.5% of the average Crop production and the remaining 32.5% is from the Maher season (ARDO, 2011). Cereal Crop production is the dominant means of livelihood, but livestock production is a source of food and income.

3.2. Method of the study conducted in Halaba selected peasant associations

Descriptive method was used for this study. The research utilizes both quantitative and qualitative methods to clarify concepts, characteristics, descriptions, counts and measures to demonstrate implications of the issue under question. Data presented in the study are obtained from primary and secondary sources. Primary data is collected directly from respondents using questionnaires and interviews and group discussion with focus groups. Secondary data was collected through review of related literatures.

3.2.1. Quantitative method

The quantitative research relies on field data collected using structured questionnaire that included questions on different issues in practice and the role of women in agriculture. Basic information was collected on demographic and socio-economic situation of survey respondents. The questionnaire was coded by peasant association's to distinguish the six peasant associations.

3.2.2. Qualitative method

The qualitative research mainly focused on the role of women in agriculture in the study area. Information is attained through interviews and focus group discussions by using interview and discussion guides. Secondary data are collected from Woreda Agriculture office, Land administration office, Women's Affairs, Healthy office and Cooperative and Marketing office and education office. The discussion was undertaken to collect information from relevant bodies involved on actual implementation of the role of women

in agricultural practice by using open and close-ended questions. Focus group discussion was conducted with rural women in the study area. The focus group discussion was unstructured, thus allowing participants to open up and discuss freely. Useful information was gathered as a number of issues were raised from participants. The focus group discussion offered opportunity to capture case stories and to direct observations.

3.2.3. Sampling Techniques and Sample Size

3.2.3.1. Sampling Techniques

The study was conducted at Halaba special Woreda Southern Nation Nationality People's Region. The study was carried out in 6 peasant associations and three agricultural development projects run by three voluntary agencies such as Farm Africa, Food for Hunger Ethiopia and LVIA (lay volunteers international association). Out of the selected 6 peasant association's three peasant associations were stratified random sampling for this study. The peasant associations are selected among 79 peasant associations of the Woreda. The study was conducted in two strata, from lower and upper parts of the Woreda. The Lower part of the Woreda including Kulito area's up to 1st Konich peasant association and the upper part including from Kobo Geto peasant association up to Mito areas. Three peasant associations were stratified in each stratum. So, in lower stratum 2nd choroko, West Gortancho and Yeye peasant associations and in upper stratum Kobo Geto, Besheno and Boko tebam peasant associations were selected in stratified random sampling.

In each peasant associations household represented by a men or a woman. Thus household's represented 479, 629,350, 372,830 and 396 from 2nd Chorko, West Gortanecho, Yeye, Kobogeto, Besheno and boko tebama peasant association's respectively. Thus, a total of 3074 household's were selected on random basis from the six peasant associations in the Woreda. From each peasant association two village or village hamlets were selected on purposive sampling techniques basis for qualitative and focus group discussion, ensuring that transportation facilities are available to reach to the selected village household's The classification depended on land size, agro climate, population density, farming system of the Woreda, location, elevation range and homogeneity of the living condition of population. In each stratum three peasant associations were selected and a total of 6 peasant associations were involved for this study. In the selection of these peasant associations some important features were taken into consideration. Only those projects initiated at least three years back were considered for this study. Moreover, transportation facilities, availability of the concerned voluntary agencies, and type of developmental activities undertaken in respective village communities would also be taken into consideration to ensure that the selected integrated community development projects possessed certain common characteristics.

.3.2.3.2.Sample Size

The sample size for collecting quantitative data for this research is determined by using (Cochran, 1977) formula as indicated on Bartlett Kortlett and Higgins (Bartlett and Higgins, 2001). The study used the following formula to calculate sample size

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

$$1 + N(e)^2$$

The following steps used to determine sample size derived from the above formula to collect quantitative data using questionnaire

Where;

n =designates the sample size the research uses;

N= designates total number of households in six blocks

e =designates maximum variability or margin or error 5 %(0.05);

l=designates the probability of the event occurring.

There fore;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

$$= \frac{3074}{1 + 3074(0.05)^2}$$

$$= \frac{3074}{1 + 3074(0.05)^2}$$

$$= \frac{3074}{1 + 3074(0.05)^2}$$

$$= 354$$

Therefore the sample size was 72 for West Gortancho, 43 for Kobo Geto, 46 for Buko Tebame, 57 for 2nd Choroko, 96 for Besheno and 40 for Yaya.

On these bases, from each peasant association respondents were selected on random basis who are in the age group of 20 years and above. It was include both male and female respondents; a total of 354 households were interviewed in the six peasant associations, four key Informants were also interviewed with a total of 24 Key Informants in the 6 peasant associations. In order to assess the opinion of the project staff, two staff members from each PA, with a total of 12 project staff members shall be interviewed. A grand total of 390 people were interviewed, which includes 354 household heads, 24 key Informants and 12 project members. The researcher feels that the result obtained from the intensive a representative view for the over all situation as it prevails now in the selected village communities.

The sampling design for the interview is given below in table 1

Table3.1. Sample of respondents for the interview

PA	No.of villagers	Any one of projects	No. of respondents			
			Number of H/H	Key Informants	Project staff	Total
Choroko	One	One	57	4	2	63
W/gortancho	One	One	72	4	2	78
Yeya	One	One	40	4	2	46
Kobogeto	One	One	43	4	2	49
Besheno	One	One	96	4	2	102
Buko Tibame	One	One	46	4	2	52
Total			354	24	12	390

3.3 .Data collection tools and procedures

The main tool for data collections were the interview schedule from the villagers, and the grass root leaders. The interview schedules contained mostly close ended questions, though some open ended and structured questions also administered. A pre-coded questionnaire to collect data from the project staff especially on their opinions on the role of women in agriculture was also prepared. The questions for the interview schedule was formulated keeping in mind that the objectives and hypothesis of the study. Questions were, therefore, be composed by including personal data, familial information, work, qualification, role of women in agriculture etc In addition to the interview schedule and pre- coded questionnaire, case studies were also used as a tool for data collection. The case studies were conducted on one individual household and of one from non governmental organization. Personal observation was also used as a reliable data collection method. as information was difficult to obtain by way of interview.

3.4. Data processing and analysis

Quantitative raw data collected using questionnaires was organized and pre-processing test was carried out right after the field data collection was completed, and data was arranged categorically. Questionnaires were coded by each peasant association to facilitate analysis of questions on which respondents require to specify their opinions and to facilitate analysis of the open-ended questionnaire. Responses on these questions were carefully collected and summarized. Outputs were categorized into different components relating to relevant variables for convenience in analyzing the findings.

Qualitative data collected through interviews, focus group discussions and observations were put into different categorical variables. Major themes were identified and analyzed in line with research questions and were summarized for use in descriptive analysis. Identified themes of the qualitative survey were exposed to categorical arrangements of the quantitative survey outputs. Issues intended to be addressed by the research were analyzed using findings from both quantitative and qualitative surveys applying triangulation method. Survey findings were used to draw arguments on relevant issues and data from secondary sources and to draw conclusions and recommendations.

The completed interview schedules was scrutinized, verified, edited and arranged serially for coding, in three master code sheets was prepared one for data collected from the households,, another for data collected at the grass root level, leaders and the third for data collected from the project staff. The data was processed by using SPSS software. Data is presented using statistical techniques such as, frequency distributions, tables, pie chart and simple measures of dispersion specifically ranges using percentiles and/or counts. Explanation is provided to clarify information on observed data.

3.5. Quality and ethical consideration

The researcher received official permit from Halaba Special Woreda administration Bureau to conduct this study on Halaba special Woreda. Halaba special Woreda agriculture and rural Development office was willing to assist the researcher. Quantitative survey respondents and qualitative survey informants were provided detail explanation on

the overall objective of the study ahead of time. Interview is administered on free will of interviewees. Respondents were informed that they can decline if they don't want to be interviewed. Information provided by interviewees will not transfer to a third party or will not be used for any other purpose.

CHAPTER FOUR

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1 DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION

4.1.1. Characteristics of survey respondents

Quantitative data is collected and analyzed on demographic and social characteristics of survey respondents. Respondents are asked about their age, sex, marital status, and type of family, size family, religious affiliation, educational background, and family annual income, possession of land, occupation and period of stay in the village.

4.1.1.1 Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents

The age range distribution of the respondents showed that, 5.08% of the respondents are in 20-25 age groups, 40.11% are in 26-35 age groups, 29.94% are in 36-45 age groups and 24.85% are above 45 age group (Table4.1). The average age of the respondents was within the range of 26-45 years (Table4.1). This implies that majority (70%) of the respondents were at their highest productive and reproductive age group, which indicates that they practice high work load due to either having high number of children or fully participating in different agricultural and non agricultural activities. With regards to marital status, 91.53% of respondents were married, 8.47% were divorced. The sex of the respondents was 35% Male and 65% Females. With regards to marital status, 91.53% married and 8.47% divorced. (Table4.1). Hence the majority of the respondents were women, this high number of female

respondents enabled to get more information regarding women's participating and work load within the house hold.

Table4.1.Distribution of household respondents by age, sex and marital status in sample peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May 2011

Age respondents	Frequency	Percent
Demographic characteristics		
20-25	18	5.08
26-35	142	40.11
35-45	106	29.94
Above 45	88	24.85
Sex of respondents		
Male	124	35.02
Female	230	64.97
Marital status of respondents		
Married	324	91.52
Divorced	30	8.47
Unmarried	-	0

4.1.1.2 Family type, Size of family and religious status of survey respondent's

Nuclear family was 26.55% while joint family was 73.44%. The family size of respondents are small size (1-4 members) 43.78%, medium (5-9 members) 41.81% and large (above 9 members) was 14.97%. With regards to religious status of the respondents, 98.3% were Muslims and 1.69% was protestant Christians (Table4.2).

Table4.2 Family type, Family size and Religious status of Respondents in sample peasant associations (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

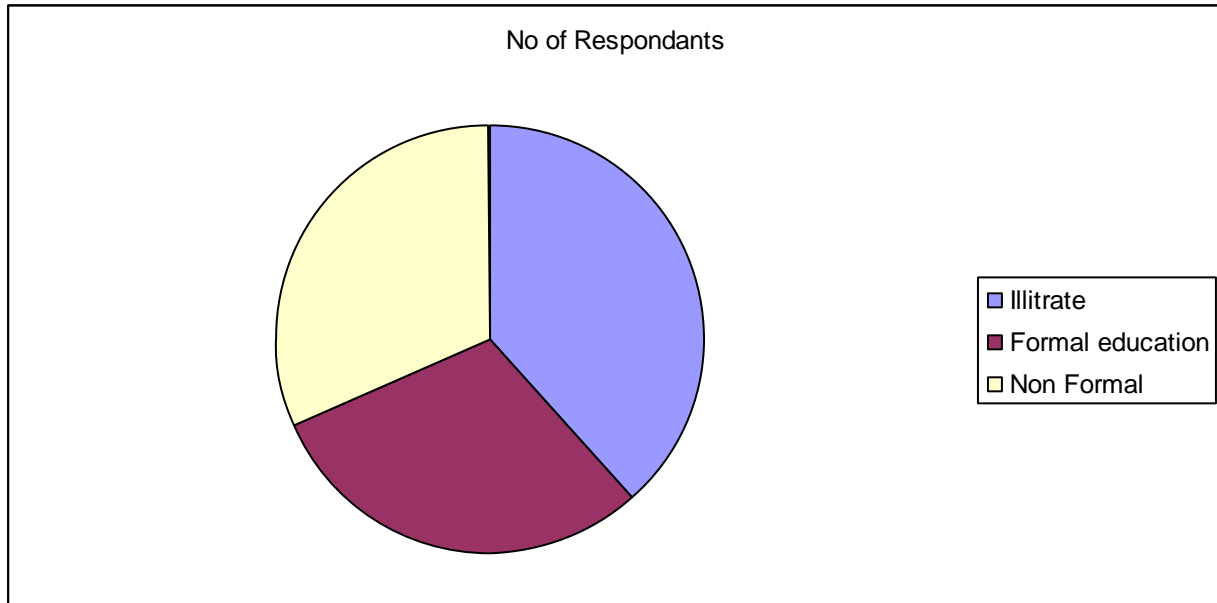
Family type Respondents	Frequency	percent
Joint(Polygamy)	260	73.4
Nuclear(Monogamy)	94	26.6
Family type of respondents		
small	153	43.78
medium	148	41.80
large	53	14.97
Religious of Respondents		
Muslim	348	98.31
Christian	-	0
Protestant	6	1.69

4.1.2. Socio- economic characteristics of survey respondents

Socio-economic characteristics of survey respondents were analyzed on educational background, yearly family income, possession of land and period of stay. These issues were also considered in the qualitative survey questions and observation check list.

The educational level of the respondents was 38.4% illiterate, 30% have formal education and 31.6% had non formal education. Education is vital to human development. In Halaba, women constitute nearly half of the rural population and play a vital role in the rural economy. They need to be considered equal partners' in the development process. Not only do education and training go a long way in achieving this goal, but also in raising the status of women, enable development of their potential and help them to live as independent and equal partners. But, considering the impact of education on improving family welfare, the high percentage of illiterate respondents in this study group has implication towards less family income and associated conditions such as poverty (Table4.3). According to Kiasen (1999), gender inequalities in education have direct impact on growth and through distorting incentives and indirect impact on investment and population growth. Similarly, he stated that gender bias in employment is associated with low growth in Sub-Saharan Africa, reducing growth by 0.3%. Furthermore, it is estimated that countries that are off-track in meeting the gender parity in primary and secondary enrolments might lose 0.1-0.3 percentage point in annual economic growth between 1995 and 2005 and an average of 0.4 percentage points between 2005 and 2015 (Abu Ghaida, et al, 2002).

Figure1: Educational Level of respondents



The collected quantitative data indicated that the average monthly incomes of household earned from agricultural products revealed that 35% of respondents earn below birr 500 and of 31.6% respondents earn 500-1000birr, and 33.4% respondent earn above 1000 birr (Table4.3). According to Linda (2005), the income gained from these economic activities were used for household consumption and family support rather than re-investing it to expand their business. Similarly, being rural women, most are illiterate and have no proper skill for full employment opportunity. On the other hand, qualitative information obtained through focus group discussion with rural women revealed that, on average, the annual income and expenditure trends give priority to satisfy their household basic necessities, loan payments mainly for fertilizer and improved seeds provided by agriculture office on credit And purchase of farm inputs.

Table.4.3 Average Monthly Income of Respondents in sample peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May 2011

Month household income	Frequency	Percent (%)
Low (less than 500)	124	35.1
Middle (501-1000)	112	31.6
Large (greater than 1000)	118	33.3
Total	354	100

Data collected on possession of land revealed that out of the total 354 respondents 67.51% acquired 1-2 hectares and 32.49% acquired 2-5 hectares (Table 4.4). Focus group discussion and interviews with official confirmed the above reality. According to them most women in rural area by social and cultural beliefs suffer from discriminatory practices that prevent them from accessing land in the same way and extent as men either from government bodies or from the parents.

Only few respondents benefited from inheritance, but they acquire land through marriage only when the husband dies. With regard to occupation of respondents, 90.68% were engaged in farming and 9.32% were hired as laborers (Table 4.4). When it comes to the length of time the respondents listed in that locality, all of them claimed to have lived for more than 10 years. Period of stay in specific area is important for acquiring local knowledge and the adaptation to the environment.

Table 4.4 Distribution of respondent's in possession of land, occupation and period of stay in sample peasant association ((2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May 2011

Possession of Land	Frequency	Percent
Nil	-	0
1-2 hectare	239	67.51
2-5 hectare	115	32.4
Occupation of Respondents		
Farming	321	90.68
Farming Labor	33	9.32
Business	-	0
Period of Stay		
1-5 years	-	0
6-10 years	-	0
Above 10 years	354	100

4.1.3. Women's Access to and management of Economic Resources

4.1.3.1. Access to and means of ownership of land in the study area

Out of 354 respondents 66.1% accessed land through marriage, 27.1% through inheritance, 5.93% through land allocation and 0.86% by leasing from others (Table 4.5). Thus, in the study area most people (93.2%) acquire land through marriage and inheritance.

Focus group discussion and interviews with official confirmed the above reality. According to them most women in rural areas were not collecting land either from government bodies or from their parents. Only few women benefited from inheritance by acquiring land through marriage when the husband is dying Marriage has been primary means of getting access to land under customary system of tenure in sub-Saharan Africa (Davison, 1988), and (Nizioki, 2002). Unmarried women have little access to land because they are not allowed to inherit property in most matrilineal societies while wives have better access to their husbands' land.

Land title and tenure tend to be vested in men, either by legal condition or by socio-cultural norms. Land reform and resettlement have tended to reinforce this bias against tenure for women. Land shortage is common among women. Compared to men, women farms are smaller and more dispersed and are less likely to hold title, secure tenure, or the same rights to use, improve, or dispose of land (ARDO, 2011).

Table4.5 Distribution of respondents on means of land ownership in sample peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May 2011

Means of land acquisition of the respondents	Frequency	Percent
By inheritance	96	27.11
Through marriage	234	66.1
Through land allocation	21	5.93
By leasing from other holders	3	0.86
Total	354	100

It has already been stated that most people acquired land by inheritance, through marriage, through land allocation and by leasing from others. Access to their husband’s land offers them secondary right and this right seriously constrained in reality because women’s right to the husband’s land is secured as long as the marriage lasts. According to Desalegn (1994), Zenebework (2000), and Tesfaye (2003), rural women do not have equitable access to land and agricultural resources. They are less involved in development activities and have low decision-making power. Their labor contribution to the agricultural sector is invisible because of the gender division of labor in communities.

Table 4.6: Marital Status and Ownership of Land In Sample Peasant Association(2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May,2011

Marital status of respondent	Means of ownership of land				Total
	By inheritance	Through marriage	Through land allocation	By leasing from other holders	
Married	81	224	16	3	324
Divorced	15	10	5	0	30
Total	96	234	21	3	354

4.1.3.2 Household decision –making role and control over income

Women’s involvement in decision-making and control of resources and on the amount of agricultural products to be sold reveals that 20% responded that women have the upper land, while 78.3% of the respondents claimed only their husbands, while 6% responded of equal share of both spouses (Table4.7). Based on the above facts it would be concluded that in most

cases the husband control and decide agricultural resources without the participation of wives. What is surprising from this is that though women are doing a great job in both the triple role (Production, reproduction and community management) yet they do not have the right to make a decision and even their husbands do not consult them on the allocation of the produce. The United Nation statistically shows that women do 2/3rd of the available job in the world and earn 1/10th of the income. On other hand, they constitute 2/3rd of the illiterate people of the world and earn less than 1/100th of the world's wealth (Ruth, 1994) Most of the African women have not benefited from investment and trade of Agricultural products because they have limited access to land, credit, transport, etc. Women produce 80 % of basic food staff but receive less than 10% of the credit given to men. Agricultural productivity would have been increased by 20% if women have got access to credit (USAID, 2005).

As men control all the resources, the men are the decision makers in economic, political and social issues, in addition to this society's attitudinal problem and illiteracy in the study area, has aggravated women's inequality in property right and economic development.

Table 4.7: Distribution of respondents by participation in decision making processes and control of resources at household level in sample peasant associations (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama) May, 2011

Participation in decision making and control of agricultural resources in the households	Frequency	(%)
More female	71	20
More male	277	78.3
Equally female and male	6	1.7
Total	354	100

4.2 Household Participations in Agricultural Production

4.2.1 Kinds and Level of Participation in Agricultural Production

According to respondents women participate in various activities at different levels to produce agricultural products. Almost all members of the household have roles given in agricultural activities.

4.2.1.1 Types of agricultural products in Halaba special Woreda

The dominant crops primarily grown in the area were cereal crops such as maize, millet Teff and sorghum but wheat and other small grains are not dominantly cultivated in the area; The major staple food was maize, millet and sorghum; while other cereals such as wheat and teff were used to earn cash income next to cereal crops dominantly cultivated in the area cash crops(marketing purpose) such as pepper, soya been, and potato. Also, respondents were engaged in animal production for food and marketing.

Table4.8 Major Agricultural activities / in the area /

Agricultural activities	Frequency/ no of respondents/			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	(%)
Cereal(course and small cereal) crop production(maize, sorghum, ,millet, teff and wheat)	354	-	-	100
Cash crop production(pepper, soy bean and potato)	-	354	-	100
Livestock production	-	-	354	100

The farmers of the study area primarily focuses on produce cereal crops due to used for household food consumption, construction purpose and fuel purpose, next to cereal crop production the farmers focused on cash crop production or produce for marketing purpose, to enable fulfill the incomes of household demands. Lastly the farmers enjoy livestock production only for livelihood food purpose from animal products and used for drought power

4.2.1.2 Level of participation in agricultural activities.

4.2.1.2.1: Cereal crop production

High degree of participation in agricultural activities taken as reference to differentiate household members and calculate the average participation of agricultural activities in cereal crop production so that, the Table 5.2 shows that 91.8% men and 8.2% boys have high degree of participation in ploughing, 96.6% men and 3.4% boys in sowing, 44.9% men, 33.3% boys and 21.8% women in wedding, 96.6% man, 1.7% boys and 1.7% women in harvesting, 79.9% men, 20.1% in threshing and 88.4% men, 11.6% boys in storing and 8.2% boys, 83.3% women and 8.5% girls in transporting cereal products

Table4.9. Participation of household members in cereal crop production in sample peasant associations ((2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama) May, 2011

Agricultural activities	Degree of participation	Men		Boys		Women		Girls	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Ploughing	Very high	325	91.8	29	8.2	-	0	-	0
Sowing	Very high	342	96.6	12	3.4	-	0	-	0
Weeding	Very high	159	44.9	118	33.3	77	21.8	-	-
Harvesting	Very high	342	96.6	6	1.7	6	1.7	-	0
Storing	Very high	283	79.9	71	20.1	-	0	-	0
Threshing	Very high	313	88.4	41	11.6	-	0	-	0
Transporting	Very high	-	0	29	8.2	295	83.3	30	8.5

In Africa, the first shifting cultivation where hoe was the main tool for plowing the land. The contribution of women was much greater than men. In this system women were the dominant figures of the practice of farming whereas men's roles were only confined to clearing the land. Women prepare the soil, sowing, weeding, harvesting, threshing and transporting farm products (Boserups Este, 1970).

Table 4.10 also indicated the average percentage of household members participate in cereal crop production in that that 71.1% by men, 12.4% boys, 15.2% women and 1.2% girls.(Table5.3)

Table4.10: Average household participation in cereal crop production in sample peasant associations (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural activities	Average level of participation of household members			
	Men in %	Boys in %	Women in %	Girls in %
Ploughing	91.8	8.2	-	-
Sowing	96.6	3.4	-	-
Weeding	44.9	33.3	21.8	-
Harvesting	96.6	1.7	1.7	-
Threshing	79.9	20.1	-	-
Storing	88.4	11.6	-	-
Transporting	-	8.2	83.3	8.5
Average	71.1	12.4	15.3	1.2

.4.2.1.2.2 Cash crop production

Table4.11: indicates that the participation of household members in cash crop production is 50% by men, 33.3% boys, 16.7% women in ploughing; 83.3% women and 16.7% girls in cultivation; 83.3% women and 16.7% girls in manuring;16.7% boys and 83.3% women in watering,; 60% women and 40% girls in weeding; 86.7% women and 13.3% girls in harvesting; and 73.5% women and 26.5% girls in processing activities. The result showed that the participation of household members in cash crop production were in ploughing high participation of men and

boys than women's and girls, in cultivation and manuring women's and girls are high participation than men and boys, in watering high participation of women's, in weeding women's and girls were high participant also in harvesting and processing activities women's and girls were high participant from other household members.

Table4.11: Participation of household respondent members in Pepper, Soy bean and Potato crop production / cash crop production/

Agricultural activities	Degree of participation	Men		Boys		Women		Girls	
		Frequency	(%)	Frequency	(%)	Frequency	(%)	frequency	(%)
Production	Very high	177	50	118	33.3	59	16.7	-	0
Cultivation	Very high	-	0	-	0	295	83.3	59	16.7
Manuring	Very high	-	0	-	0	295	83.3	59	16.7
Watering	Very high	-	0	59	16.7	295	83.3	-	0
Weeding	Very high	-	0	-	-	212	60	142	40
Harvesting	Very high	-	0	-	0	307	86.7	47	13.3
Processing	Very high	-	0	-	0	260	73.5	94	26.5

Table4.12 also shows the average participation of household member's i.e. 7.2% men, 4.8% boys, 69.5% women and 18.5% girls in cash crop production. In cash crop production women's and girls were averagely high participant than men and boys. Considering Agriculture, which is the backbone of economy in the developing countries like Ethiopia, the contribution of women in

the agricultural practices from plowing of farm land up to transporting of products to homestead is extremely important. Besides, the contribution of Ethiopian women in general by assisting of their husband in many economical activities is very high. However, all those roles they play had not been recognized, because traditionally the society provides them low status (World Bank, 1995).

Table4.12 Average household members in the above cash crop production

Agricultural activities	Degree of household members participation in percent			
	Men	Boys	Women	Girls
Ploughing	50	33.3	16.7	-
Cultivation	-	-	83.3	16.7
Manu ring	-	-	83.3	16.7
Watering	-	16.7	83.3	-
Weeding	-	-	60	40
Harvesting	-	-	86.7	13.3
Processing	-	-	73.5	26.5
Average	7.2	4.8	69.5	18.5

4.2.1.2.3 Live Stock Production

Table4.13 also revealed that the participation of household members i.e 100% women in clearing barn, 76.6% men and 23.4% girls in milking, 16.7% men and 83.3% boys in herding, 66.6% men, 16.7% boys and 16.7% girls in feeding animals Rural women have played significant role in livestock production in developing countries and they are active participants in the livestock management such as supply of fodder, milking, protecting animals (Boserups, Estr, 1970).

Table 4.13: Participation of household members in livestock production

Agricultural activities	Degree of participation	Man		Boy		Women		Girl	
		Freq uenc y	%	Freq uenc y	%	Freq uenc y	%	Frequ ency	%
Clearing barn	Very high	-	0	-	0	354	100	-	0
Milking	Very high	-	0	-	0	271	76.6	83	23.4
Taking animal to the field	Very high	59	16.7	295	83.3	-	0	-	0
Feeding Animal	Very high	236	66.6	59	16.7	59	16.7	-	0
Taking Care of Calves	Very high	-	0	-	0	354	100	-	0

Table 4.14 indicates the average participation of the household members i.e.: 16.7% men, 20% boys, 58.7% women, and 4.6% girls in livestock productions (Table4.14): Average household participation in livestock productions

Agricultural activities	Degree of participation in household respondents			
	Men (%)	Boys(%)	Women(%)	Girls (%)
Clearing barn	-	-	100	-
Milking	-	-	76.6	23.4
Herding	16.7	83.3	-	-
Feeding animal	66.6	16.7	16.7	-
Taking care of calves	-	-	100	-
Average	16.7	20	58.7	4.6

4.2.1.2.4 Household participation in apiculture production.

Table 4.15 shows the percentage of household member's participation i.e. 100% men preparing bee hives, 100% men hanging bee hives, 69.8% men and 30.2% women and 100% men in honey harvesting

Table4.15: Participation of household members in Apiculture production in sample peasant associations (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural Activities	Degree of participation	Man		Boys		Women		Girls	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Preparing bee hives	Very high	354	100	-	0	-	0	-	0
Hanging bee hives	Very high	354	100	-	0	-	0	-	0
Smoking bee hives	Very high	247	69.8	-	0	106	30	-	0
Honey harvesting	Very high	354	100	-	0	-	0	-	0

Table4.16 Indicates that the average participation of household members in apiculture production i.e.: 92.5% men and 7.5% women, According to summarized data men are high participant in apiculture production and women's were low participant in apiculture production.

Table4.16: Household average participation in apiculture production in sample peasant associations (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural activities	Average degree of participation in the household members			
	Men	Boys	Women	Girls
Preparing bee hives	100	-	-	-
Hanging bee hives	100	-	-	-
Smoking bee hives	69.8	-	30.2	-
Honey harvesting	100	-	-	-
Average	92.5	-	7.5	-

4.4.1.2.5: Household Members participation in poultry production

Table4.17 shows the participation of household members in poultry production i.e.: 100% women in caring chicks, 100% women in both collecting eggs and feeding chicks

Table 4.17: Degree of Participation in Household members in poultry Production in peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural activities	Degree of participation	Man	%	Boy	%	Women	%	Girl	%
Caring chicks	Very high	-	0	-	0	354	100	-	0
Collecting eggs	Very high	-	0	-	0	354	100	-	0
Feeding chicks	Very high	-	0	-	0	354	100	-	0

Table 4.18 shows Average high participation of household members in poultry production such as 100% women's highly Participate in the household level, the data indicated in the table describes relative participation of household members. According to the table women's were high participation than other household members in the poultry production

Table 4.18: Average household participation in Poultry production in sample peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural activities	Average household members participation			
	Men	Boys	Women	Girls
Caring chicks	-	-	100	-
Collecting eggs	-	-	100	-
Feeding chicks	-	-	100	-
AVERAGE	-	-	100	-

4.4.1.2.6 Household Members participation In Fruit and Tree Production

Table 4.19 shows that the percentage of household members in production of fruit i.e: 66.6% men and 33.4% in boy's in land preparation, 23.4% men, 15% boy's, 51.6% women and 10% girl's in planting, 46.6% women and 53.4% girl's in weeding, 56.5% women and 44.5% girl's in manu ring, and 53.4% men, 26.6% boy's and 20% women in pruning, and 81.6% men and 18.4% boy's in harvesting fruit and tree production.

Generally the table explains that men and boy's was high participant in land preparation and women's were high degree of participant than from other household members. Also in weeding and manuring women's and girl's were more participant than from other household members and in pruning men were high degree of participant than other household members also women's and boy's was high degree of participant in harvesting from other household members in fruit and tree production.

Table4.19: Degree of participation in Household members in Fruit and Tree Production in sample peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural Activities	Degree of participation	Man		Boys		Women		Girls	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Land Preparation	Very high	236	66.6	118	33.4	-	0	-	0
Planting	Very high	83	23.4	53	15	183	51.6	35	10
Weeding	Very high	-	0	-	0	165	46.6	189	53.4
Manuring	Very high	-	0	-	0	200	56.5	154	44.5
Pruning	Very high	189	53.3	94	26.6	71	20	-	0
Harvesting	Very high	289	81.6	65	18.4	-	0	-	0

Table 4.20 shows household members participation in fruit trees production. on average i.e: 37.5% men, 15.5% boys, 29.5% women and 17.9% Girls

Table4.20: Average household participation in fruit and tree production in sample peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural activities	Average household participation in percent			
	Men	Boys	Women	Girls
Land preparation	66.6	33.4	-	-
Planting	23.4	15	51.6	10
Weeding	-	-	46.6	53.4
Manu ring	-	-	56.5	44.5
Pruning	53.4	26.6	20	-
Harvesting	81.6	18.4	-	-
Average	37.5	15.5	29.5	17.9

4.2.1.2.7 .The household participations in agricultural activities

The study had shown that the level of participation of each member of the household varied from one type of agricultural activities to the other. All agricultural activities were analyzed and merged to show the average participation level in household members. The household participation in agricultural activities on the average was 37.5% men, 8.78% for boys, 46.6% for women and 7.0% for girls (Table 4.21).

Table 4.21 Totally average household participations in agricultural activities

Agricultural activities	Level of participation in household respondents			
	Men	Boy	Women	Girl
Cereal crop production	71.1	12.4	15.3	1.2
Cash crop production	7.2	4.8	69.5	18.5
Live stock production	16.7	20	58.7	4.6
Apiculture production	92.5	-	7.5	-
Poultry production	-	-	100	-
Fruit and tree production	37.5	15.5	29.1	17.9
AVERAGE	37.5	8.75	46.68	7.0

According to the statistics of FAO, worldwide, 40% of economically active population in agriculture is women. However, in many parts of the world women have little or no access to resources such as land, credit and extension service FAO,(1970). According to Boserups (1970), in Africa the first shifting cultivation where hoe was the \main tool for plowing the land the contribution of women were much greater than men. In this system women were the dominant figures of the practice of farming whereas men’s roles were only confined to clearing the land. Women prepare the soil, sow, and do the weeding, harvesting, and threshing and transporting farm products. Though, undertaking different economic activities More than men rural women in developing countries have less property right have no role in the economic input and they have remained economically insecure. Rural women have played significant role in livestock production and management in developing countries and they active participants in the livestock management such as supply of fodder, milking, protecting animals (Boserups, 1970).

4.2.1.2.8 Level of Participation of Household Members in Marketing of Agricultural

Products

The study showed that the degree of household participation in marketing varied from one type of agricultural product to the other. For instance, women contribute 81.6% in marketing of animal products [milk, cheese and butter], 59.9% vegetable and fruit marketing and daughters 39.8%, leaving the other members to insignificant level of participation. (Table4.22) Degree of Participations of households in Marketing of Agricultural products in sample peasant association (2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Agricultural product	Degree of participation in marketing	Men		Boys		Women		Girls	
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	percent	Frequency	percent	Frequency	Percent
Livestock / cattle and small ruminant/	Very high	283	80	-	0	71	20	-	0
Milk and Milk product	Very high	-	0	-	0	289	81.6	65	18.4
Chickens and Egg	Very high	-	0	-	0	272	76.8	82	23.1
Vegetables and Fruits	Very high	-	0	-	0	212	59.9	41	39.8
Cereal crops pepper, soybean and potato	Very high	343	96.9	-	0	11	3.1	-	0

Table 4.22 also showed on the average 85.8% of the men's decision making power on management of income rests on men. Women are expected to run the household with the money they were provided by their spouses, and therefore they struggle to manage their income in accordance with the basic family needs. The only agricultural product used as a source of income where men participated more was in the income generating by selling cereal, and livestock, compared to the degree of participation in labor force men's work which was easier than women's (Table 4.21).

4.3 INFLUENCING FACTORS WOMEN'S ROLE IN AGRICULTURE

4.3.1 Basic factors influencing women's role on agricultural development in Halaba

In Halaba social context, there is a male domination over the women. Patriarchal system of gender relations was observed, where the male enjoys economic, political, and normative and ideological privileges over the female. By oppression we mean the domination of the other by force; and exploitation is taking advantage for one self, of some body's right unjustly [Women's Youth and children office, 2011].

The contributing factors that influences women's role in agriculture depends upon the women's dependence on their husband, illiteracy, ignorance, low social status and traditional religious and cultural dominance, political and economic status. On the degree of influence, 79.09% of respondents claimed that all factors equally contribute to the domination. However, 16.7% responded the social status and 4.23% religious domination

(Table4.23).However, in focus group discussion the group attributed women’s role in agriculture depends on the attitude of women themselves, due to lack of self-esteem, less awareness of women’s status in society and illiteracy.

Table4.23 Household respondents response on factors Influencing the domination of men over the women on agricultural activities (in 2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Influencing Factors	No of Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
Illiteracy	-	0
Ignorance	-	0
Social status	59	16.7
Religious status	15	4.23
Political status	-	0
Economic status	-	0
All of the above	280	79.092
Total	354	100

4.3.2 Social Status of Women's

According to the Woreda Cultural and Information office, the position of women in Halaba society is notably poor. Traditional Halaba society in the rural area is hierarchical and dominated by men, as evidenced by marriage customs (WCIO, 2011). Polygamy is the dominant type of marriage among the Halaba society (Table4.2). It is usual to see a man with two or more wives. Parents offer their daughters for marriage with the knowledge that her husband can marry second or third wives. Because of this preconceived idea a woman will not oppose or disagree with her husband if he Mary's another one.

The husbands spend a night or two in each of his wives house. Husband and wives depend on each other for economic, social, and ritual activities. This interdependency gives strong relationship between husband and wives. The wives are expected to assume subordinate position to the wishes and needs of their husbands. So, the husband has full control over all the properties of the family (Table4.7). Division of labor between husband and wife is very important to understand the relationship and the interdependence they have. To begin with, all important rituals and positions are held by the husband as a head of the family. The husband has full right of administering the family and is considered as the only head of the family. Therefore, wives and his respected children should obey him. In addition to this the husband is expected to cultivate the crop and supply his family with all necessities (Culture and Transformation office, 2011)

In all human society, people enjoy their own culture, custom, tradition and belief, etc. These social structures empower men and women differently. These differences in the empowerment provide different opportunity and privileges for women and men. In many societies those who were subjected to different discrimination and tight violations were the women. As men control all the resources, the men are the decision makers in all economic, political and social issues while the women just become the receptor of all issues guided by men (Command Helem, 1984)..

Quantitative data collected on women’s participation at the village level to solve socio economic challenges, revealed that, out of the total 354 survey respondents 38.4% agree, 61.6% disagree (Table4.24).

Table4.24. Household responses on women participation in the village level meeting to solve socio- economic problems (In 2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Household Respondents	Frequency	Percent
Agree	136	38.4
Disagree	218	61.6
Total	354	100

4.3. 3. Economic Status of Women's

Women's contribution to agriculture, whether it be subsistence farming or commercial agriculture, when measured in terms of the number of tasks performed, time spent and the extent of women's contribution is aptly highlighted by a micro study indicated that out of 24 hours, 14.30 hours women day was used for household activities, on the other hand the men spend, out of 24 hours 9.30 hours passed on work in a day (Table4.25).

However, according to the Woreda Women, Youth and Children Affairs office data showed that women's spend out of 24 hours 18 hours on work related to agricultural and non agricultural activities. The office explained that 8 hours spent in agricultural activities and 10 hours spent in domestic chores, such as cleaning the barn and the house, milking cows and feeding them (if any), prepare breakfast and boiling coffee, fetching water and collecting fire wood, cooking lunch then visit the market and sell or buy, come home and prepare dinner, feed their family (Women, Youth and Children Affairs office of Halaba Woreda, personal communication). "...Unpaid households chores such as preparing food, cleaning the house, taking care of children or collecting fire wood are not considered being economic activities. Similarly, unpaid community and voluntary services are classified as non-common activities" (Eshetu, 2000 cited from Analytical Report, p.111). These show that focusing on women in all development agenda is the best means to achieve pro-poor economic growth (World Bank, 2007). The report indicated that unless women are educated to get employment opportunity, access to resources, right to property ownership,

equal political and social participation as that of men, it is not possible to reduce poverty in Africa. Rural women are over loaded and over burdened by domestic and productive works that reduce their income earning capacity. African Women work for longer hours than African men. An average of their work per a day is 50% longer than men (Blackden and Bahanu, 1999)

Table 4.25 Average time allocated for different activities within 24 hours for men and women in household

Activities	Women		Men	
	Hours	Minutes	Hours	Minutes
Cooking foods	3	-	-	-
Fetching water	1	30	-	-
Cleaning house	-	30	-	-
Caring children	2	30	-	-
Boiling coffee	1	-	-	-
Cleaning barn	1	-	-	-
Milking	1	-	-	-
Caring animal	1	-	3	-
Fuel wood collecting	1	-	-	-
Attend social meeting	-	-	2	30
Food for work activities	-	-	-	-
Grinding	2	-	-	-
Others	-	-	4	-
Total	14	30	9	30

Quantitative data collected on division of labor and the attitude of traditional leaders to women's role in decision making power revealed that, out of the total 354 survey respondents, only 3.4% of the household claimed to be very encouraging, 43.2% of the households said somewhat encouraging, a large majority of the household 35% responded as discouraging and 18.4% of the households were indifferent (Table 4.26).

In all human society, people enjoy their own culture, custom, tradition and belief, etc. These social structures empower men and women differently. These differences in the empowerment provide different opportunities and privileges for women and men. In many societies those who were subjected to different discrimination and tight violations were the women. As men control all the resources, the men are the decision makers in all economic, political and social issues while the women just become the receptor of all issues guided by men (Command Helem, 1984).

Table 4.26 Household Responsive on the attitude of traditional leaders to women involvement in decision making ability in the household and village community (In 2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Traditional leaders Degree of Involvement	No of Respondents	Percent
Very encouraging	12	3.4
Some what encouraging	153	43.2
Discouraging	124	35
Indifferent	65	18.4
Total	354	100

4.3.4. Access to Technology and Resources

Based on the study, access to technology to women it was revealed that 29.4%, of women had training on agricultural technologies, 50.3% had no training on agricultural technologies and 20.3% partially participate in training on agricultural technologies (Table4.27) .

Table 4.27. Women's Participation on Training agricultural technologies (In 2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Participation of women	Frequency	Percent
Participated	104	29.4
No participated	178	50.3
Partially participated	72	20.3
Missing system	0	0
Total	354	100

Challenge's faced by respondents during land registration and certification was assessed and the responses was varies (Table4.28). A small number of respondents had blamed the husband in preventing them to obtain land registration certificate, while (26.9%) of them attribute it to culture of the society. However, the large majority of women had reported not to have faced any problem acquiring land holding certificate. According to Halaba Special Woreda Land Administration and Environmental Protection Office (2003/2011) the land holding certificate had been distributed to 65 peasant association of the rural sector so far i.e. 24,062 of the men and 7,345 of the women had received land holding certificate. This indicates that most of the women have limited access to land holding as compared to their husband. Women are affected by many issues relate to land and agriculture. Women's right

to land is affected by land scarcity. Women are marginalized from accessing land whenever land is scarce (Hadera, 2002; Tesfaye, 2003). Women’s rights violation on basic assets and key economic resources such as land, livestock, agricultural products and other economic activities are negligible (Hana Kebede, 1990).

Table4.28. Women respondents view on problem on land registration (In 2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Women’s response to land registration	Frequency	Percent
The husband’s un willingness	79	22.3
Cultural influence	95	26.9
No problem	178	50.3
Total	352	99.4
Missing	2	0.6
Total	354	100

4. 4. THE ROLE AND CONTRIBUTION OF NGOS IN GENDER AFFAIRS

4.4.1 NGOs; Support women’s In Technology, Transfer and Extension

Of critical significance are the government sponsored NGO activities in rural areas pertaining to technology transfer and agricultural extension in watershed management and habitat development. The phenomenon is directly related to Woreda strategy, which seeks to associate NGOS in these development activities. Quantitative data were collected from household respondents on NGOS Participation to support household members in capacity building and

Agricultural equipments, the study had indicated that the NGOs were more support us to men and less to women (Table4.29).

Table4.29. Services Given by Non Governmental Organizations (In 2nd choroko, west gortancho, yeye, kobo geto, besheno and book tebama), May, 2011

Kinds of support	Primary Target				No response	
	Men		Women			
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Credit	247	69.8	107	30.2	-	0
Extension service	319	90.1	35	9.9	-	0
Fertilizer provision	312	88	42	12	-	0
Pesticides provision	200	56.5	18	5.1	136	38.4
Family planning	-	0	174	49.1	180	50.9
Maternal and child health care	-	0	217	61.3	137	48.7
Training on income generating activities	246	69.5	108	30.5	-	0
Farm tool provision	316	9.3	38	10.7	-	0
Beehives provision	159	44.9	69	19.5	126	35.6
Improved seeds provision	316	89.3	38	10.7	-	0
Another support. / d/t seedlings	316	89.3	38	10.7	-	0

According to focus group discussion and key informants, involving officers of rural development, Youth and Children Affairs Office, and Halaba Special Woreda Administration, various development NGO's were operating in the area aiming at development of rural women by providing credit support and modern agricultural inputs and technologies, as well as arranging capacity building training on saving and proper management of property at household level. Credit support obtained from development NGO's has enabled rural women to involve in various income generating activities like, poultry production , bee keeping, goat and sheep rearing activities. Modern agricultural technologies and inputs provided by NGOs have enabled rural women to increase productivity of crops. Even if they are under going various types of training schemes provided by NGOs on management of property, as well as, on saving habit in the study area had not significant change to helped women's to raise their income. Due to less development of infrastructure and social services in rural area put significant effect on the deprivation of rural women, (Nira, Ram Chandra, 2008). Because there are no adequate energy and improved technologies in the rural area of the developing countries rural women spend much time to fulfill the energy need for the households.

According to Linda (2005), micro-finance and credit support are part of an integrated program for poverty reduction for the poorest people, creation of accessibility for credit and micro-finance is an entry point for women's economic, social and political empowering. On the other hand, because of high illiteracy rate, absence of business management capacity, lack of exposure to information about the importance of credit and micro-finance for income generation, lack of confidence, and fear to risk to borrow money, etc, had affected the economic empowerment of rural women.

4.2.2. Involvement of Project Planning and Implementation

A number of ways exist by which people may join the planners and implementers and these can be assessed in terms of type of participation, its functions and location of power. As community comes closer to decide on its own situations, the more successful will be the community –based program. The study shows that respondents revealed that out of the total 354 respondents, 8.3% highly satisfactory, 50% of respondents some what satisfactory and 41.8% of the respondents says not satisfactory. This implies that women’s low involvement in planning and implementation of the project design (Table 4.30).

Table4. 30 project respondents on women’s involvement in planning, organizing and implementing agricultural development programs

Women Involvement	No of Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
Highly satisfactory	29	8.3
Some what satisfactory	177	50
Not satisfactory	148	41.8
Total	12	100

CHAPTER FIVE

5. SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Summary of the findings

The purpose of this study is not to go into the root cause of why women are in disadvantageous positions, as compared to men, but rather to assess the role of women in agricultural activities in Halaba Special Woreda. The study attempted to answer the following basic research questions.

- What do men and women do in agricultural activities, and where and when do these activities take place?
- Who has access to and control over resources, and decision making in agricultural activities?
- What are the socio-economic factors that hinder the role of women's in agricultural activities?

In order to deal with these basic questions, research was carried out by using descriptive study design. The total sample sizes of household respondents encompassed in the study were 354 households selected from the rural population in Halaba Special Woreda. To select representative sample from the source population the Cochran's, (1977) formula and simple random sampling and purposive sampling techniques were used. Questionnaires were distributed to respondents and in addition key informant interviews were used as an additional instrument to collect information from different local government and non governmental organizations.

Most of the respondents in the study were in the age group of 26-45 years and half of them females. The majority of men and women were married and a small number of respondents widowed. Almost all of the respondents were followers of the religion of Islam and relatively few were Protestant Christians. Most of the women were illiterate. And the majority of the respondents were spending their income to satisfy their household need. The educational level of the respondents was 38.4% illiterate, 30% had Formal education and 31.6% had non formal education. The analyzed data on educational status among the respondents shows that women share high illiteracy rate in the study areas. Considering the impact of education on improving family welfare, the high percentage of illiterate respondents in this study group was associated with less family income and poverty. The collected quantitative data indicated that the average monthly income of households earned from agricultural products revealed that 35% of respondents had earned below birr 500, 31.6% earned 500-1000birr, and 33.4% responded that earned above 1000 birr.

Almost all of the respondents stated that access to land was limited to them, and they depend upon their marital status, i.e. access to land was granted only through marriage since most of the women in the study were married and are entitled to their husband's land. Women have limited access in decision making processes in utilizing the income from sale of farm produces. In most cases the decision was made by men (husbands) and the women had subordinate role to play in all of the study area. They were participating in agricultural activity, such as weeding, harvesting, field preparation, animal husbandry, agricultural marketing and other farming activities.

The study also showed that on the average 46% Of Women are participating in agricultural activities. But, women expected to run the household with the money they are provided by their spouses, and, therefore, they struggle to manage their income in accordance with the basic family needs. The only agricultural product used as a source of income, where men participate more, was cereal and livestock's. However, as compared to the degree of participation in labor force men's work is easier and so they do not suffer too much as the women do.

The study showed that the level of participation of each member of the household varies from one type of agricultural activities to the other. Women's work in the agricultural sector has often been erroneously documented as marginal and they have been considered more as consumer than producers in society. According to the information obtained from the study women lack access to appropriate and efficient agricultural technologies and inputs which would relieve them from taxing day to day chores and had low level of training opportunity in agricultural technology.

The contributing factors the level of women in agricultural activities, the study indicates that they are institutional barriers (research, extension service, inputs or credit delivery system social service like education) and inadequate access to and control over resources like; land, labor, capital in terms of ownership and use (decision making) were due to socio-cultural influence, illiteracy, and husbands influence. Within the culture of the society, women were seen as subordinate to men, and the husband plays a dominant role and religion has a big influence.

The factors such as illiteracy, ignorance, political and economic status, etc are other factors for dominance of men over the women. However, in focus group discussion on household respondents explain that the group attributed women's economic role in agriculture depends on the attitude of women themselves, due to lack of self-esteem, less awareness of women's status in society and illiteracy. To empower women, they were organized in to women's association, NGO's and government agencies support them by availing "Development and Change Package for Women". Women had inadequate training on agricultural technology and on the use of inputs. Based on the study the technological status of women had put them at a disadvantageous condition.

The limited involvement of NGOs in development work and integrated the process of development. In the area depend on the study indicate that, NGOs have failed to recognize the link between mainstream development planning and women's low requirements within a differentiated framework allowing for different gender priorities.

5.2. CONCLUSION

The findings of the data therefore lead to the conclusion that women are the major working forces of household in the study community. They participate in agricultural and non-agricultural activities. Though men also found to do the same, the extent varies to a high level between the two sexes, women therefore need to be addressed and be given the proper attention.

The result of study shows that, in most households women had participated more in productive work but often earn as secondary income earners. The factors that affect women's role and their decision making ability were socio-cultural, illiteracy, husbands and religious influence. The study revealed that the involvement of women in decision making process related to household income was limited. Most of the income was used for household consumption.

Though the provision of equal right to women in economic empowerment is necessary for the growth of household agricultural activities, they have limited access to the right of land and other properties. Most women in the study area had access to land only through marriage. Widowed women obtained the right to land holding right due to their deceased husband.

In the study area there were few supporting organizations to women in agricultural activities. Some of the organizations had not performed (delivered) adequately in providing the needed services in terms of credit and facilities. The role of NGO in the district resulted in the limited development of innovative, participatory and replicable models of development, which has been reflected in their limited role in appropriate agricultural technology, particularly for women.

5.3. Recommendation

- Recognition of women's role and contribution to social and economic development in general and that of agricultural development in particular by planners and decision makers would help to enhance the status of women and increase food security at household and national level.

- Women are capable of changing themselves, reforming the society and motivating the next generation. Providing them with access to institutional credit, marketing and implementing policies that can address the growing needs of micro enterprise operators, provision of adult and non-formal education and training on management and entrepreneurship, providing with appropriate production and marketing premises, organizing women in cooperatives for mutual support and exchange of business ideas and empower the decision making ability of women at the grass root level are strategies which can immensely contribute to their development efforts

- The secret of success of the Woreda lies in enhancing the level of education of women; by educating a women, the whole family, the entire society or the whole population is educated; sound moral and social values becomes a reality.

- Women's productivity in agriculture is highly dependent on their opportunity to having access to productive resources such as land, credit, fertilizer and other agricultural technologies.

- As per the Constitution of FDRE, women's right must be respected by avoiding the social bias (cultural influence) in economic empowerment. This requires the involvement of leaders, politician, planners and decision makers, development partners and donor agencies.

_Addressing the constraints to implementing the national policy on women and the woreda make strategies to enable supporting the grass roots women's organizations will build women's ability to organize themselves to effectively voice their concerns and preferences about their economic, social and civil rights.

_The Woreda decision makers should expand their policy and structures that were intended to promote and support women's empowerment in all sectors. Land and property right for women require urgent attention by policy makers and land administration office in the country.

- It's necessary to increase women's political participation, to address issues related to equality. Such improvement helps to reduce the gap between men and women in economic, decision making power and employment opportunity.
- It's important to raise women's consciousness through participation and by organizing themselves. It can also be facilitated through education, capacity building, training and other measures. Change has to come in the structures and legal frameworks in order to make the self transformation process of empowerment sustainable.
- Since the contribution of women in reducing poverty and hunger is as important as men it's the Woreda concerned body essentially promote to empower women status for making decision on all economic and income generating activities.
- The Woreda political leaders and decision makers should facilitate financial services such as micro-financial institutions to disadvantaged rural women to enhance their ability of generating income to ensure the well-being of their families.
- The implications for non governmental organizations and other development agencies operating at kebele level specifically focused on; encouraging a basic understanding of the role of women in different areas and socio-economic settings

and in identifying women's felt needs at grass root level, be this in terms of household, productive or reproductive activities. Also, NGOs try to determine short and long term options to relieve identified constraints in appropriate and effective ways by devising innovative approaches, which integrate gender issues.

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AN ASSESSMENT ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE IN SOUTHERN
NATION NATIONALITY PEOPLE'S REGION: THE CASE OF HALABA SPECIAL
WOREDA, ETHIOPIA

BY

MESSAY TEGEGNE

RESESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE MASTER'S PROGRAME
IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERISITY
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Time, budget estimate and questionnaires

Introduction

1.1. Background

According to National population office/NPOE/ the population of Ethiopia is estimated to be 75 million of which women make up half of the total population. Around 85% of the populations live in rural areas where social services such as education and health are poor and rural women participation in different economic activities such as agricultural work in the community is low. Though there is lack of gender data in the country some studies show that women in rural areas work over 15 hours a day but they receive little economic benefit in return. They also have less access to education than men do (NOPE: 1999). Moreover very few women assume leadership and decision making position at all levels in the country. Given this reality development polices, programs and projects fail to address the situation of women. By not being gender insensitive it is hard to think about development in Ethiopia.

In many cases there is social bias that supports the men's role by ignoring the females' in a given society (John, Bennet, 1989). Rural women particularly in the developing countries exercise hardship by undertaking triple roles, that is, productive role, reproductive role and community participation role in their day to day life. They also live in an environment where less or no social services, lack of infrastructural facilities and with no exposure to information and technologies (Coontz, 1986).

Rural women have less right on the use of common wealth they made along with their husband, and have limited role and responsibilities in decision making on key resources. As reported on the national association of business women (NABW) in December 1999, the Center for International Private Enterprise Evaluation report is a multi-faceted non-governmental organization (NGO) that strives to encourage and promote women business owners through advocacy, business and technical skills training, micro-credit loans, and access to information . The association mission is to promote business headed by women and to assist many more women to pursue entrepreneurship.

On the other hand, Ethiopia is the home where different nations, nationalities and ethnic groups live, who perform and follow their own culture, traditions, values and norms. Under these circumstances women have to follow the norms and values of the societies regarding their position in political, economic and socio- cultural spheres.

In addition to this marginalization, women are victims of harmful traditional practice in general women tend to be involved in a wide range of activities and enterprises. They are engaged in productive activities in crop and livestock management. On the other hand, they have high responsibility in domestic affair. Traditionally, division of labor between the religion, culture and sexes has been linked to the reproductive process. As a consequence, the women were not allowed to do certain types of jobs. The function of child bearing or the social function of maternity need not deprive women from opportunities for engagement in economic development.

As, more and more women entering the work force, the predicament of combining satisfactorily their role as income earners with their role as mothers, leaving her vulnerable to discrimination and even dismissal from employment. By and large, employers, being insensitive to the specific needs of women, would either terminate employment in the events of pregnancy or force them to take earned leave at the time of delivery, or even to take leave without pay. To prevent unfair employment practices and exploitation of women in the labor market, and to safeguard the health and well being of the woman, it is essential to provide material protection to working women.

The recognition of the role of women in social and economic activities has been legalized the objective of protecting and empowering women as workers, and protecting the dignity of motherhood (IGNO, 2009).

Agriculture is the back bone of many developing countries. All family members participate at different level. Women account more than half of the work force by participating in different activities, either directly or indirectly. The gender division of labor varies from one society and culture to another, and within each culture external circumstances influence the

level of activity (Nigist, 2004). However, except in few most developed countries, women's efforts are not yet realized by most society. Rural development in Africa can not be imagined without the active participation of women, women are, of course, an integral part of farming households. they produce over half of the producer in many developing countries, bear most of responsibilities for household food security and contribute to household well being through their income generating activities (Etenesh, 2005). In order to improve the ability of African countries to meet their food demand, women's roles have to be recognized and they should be given equitable access to and control over the land, credit facilities, extension services and improved tools as well as membership in cooperatives and other rural benefits (Winrock, 2001).

Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world with high illiterate rates. Illiteracy affects women to a higher extent due to heavy household work loads, cultural influence, and lack of know-how. However, it is impossible to think of development while neglecting the women work force, as women represent the major force for rural changes, largely as an un-tapped resource that could boost rural development and lead to higher growth rates and increased food production (Nigist, 2004).

For development to take root in our country women's role should be recognized and they have to be given their share over all the properties. These days' government and non government organizations are trying to help women get recognition from society which they are part of what is more surprising is that most women themselves do not realize that they are prevented from owning what they deserve recognition and appreciation / Over holt 1991 /.As other parts of Ethiopia the study area, has same problem that give less attention to women role in their every day activity. The reason is that culturally women are assumed that must work everything this study evaluates the role of women in agriculture in order to elucidate how women participate and contribute in agricultural activities at Halaba special district

1.2. Statement of the problem

Women are, of course, an integral part of farming households. They produce over half the food in many developing countries, bear the most responsibilities for household food security, and contribute to household well being through their income-generating activities. Yet, women usually have more limited accesses to resources and opportunities and their productivity remains low relative to their potential. Due to the lack of awareness in our society women role has not been recognized.

As noted by Lynda /1991/ we live in a society in which there is substantial level of gender inequality. The inequality in the provision of education reflects the deep rooted tradition and values with in the ideological, political, economical and socio-cultural structure of societies (Kasente, cited in Takele, 2008).In terms of ownership of property, the women in this country have no equal right as men. In addition, the dominance of men in various income generating activities affects highly the economic empowerment of women. The purpose of this study is therefore to evaluate the activities of rural women and their participation in agricultural production to fulfill the food security of their family. More specifically to answer the question “what is the role of women in agriculture?” This study, therefore, assesses the role of women in agricultural production activities in Halaba special district

1.3. Terminologies

Agriculture

The English term agriculture is derived from Latin words ‘ ager ’ or ‘agri’ meaning soil’ and ‘cultura’ meaning cultivation i.e. agriculture is cultivation of soil in it narrow sense. Agriculture, however, is a very broad term and it includes crop cultivation, soil management, farm tools and agricultural engineering, animal husbandry, veterinary and dairy science, poultry, and piggery, horticulture, fisheries, home science and forestry.

Agriculture can be termed as science, art, business all together. Science because it employs scientific skill to develop new strains of crops trees, animals, fish, and birds and develops innovative techniques to manage them under varying soil and environmental conditions. Art,

because it is the management whether it is the management of crops, animals, birds, fishes or any other branch of agriculture that brings about desired results. Business because the entire produce and inputs of agriculture are linked with marketing which brings in the question of profit and loss. As such agriculture is a very comprehensive applied science dealing with all aspects of life.

Gender

Gender refers to the socially determined differences between women and men, such as roles, attitudes, behaviors, and varies across gender roles are learned and vary across cultures and overtime. They are, thus amenable to change. Gender is a relational term that includes both women and men. Gender equality focuses on changes for both women and men.

1.4. Objective of the study

The study has the following objectives;

The general objective of this study is to identify the role of women in agricultural activities and to suggest the possible practical gender projects, and to raise awareness of top officials and decision makers of the Woreda to address the problem so that they may include strategies in the rural development planning.

The specific objectives are:

- To asses extent and level of participation of women in agriculture
- To study the factors influencing the rural women in agriculture
- To identify the kind and level of support women get from government and non-government organization
- To asses the role of grassroots level of leadership in agriculture and non- agricultural activities.

Research questions

There are three research questions will to be raised and answered in this study, there fore,

1/.What do men and women do in agricultural activities, and where and when do these activities take place?

2/ who has access to and control over resources, and decision making in agricultural activities?

3/What are the socio-economic factors that hinder the role of women's in agricultural activities

1.6. Hypothesis

In most low income households “women’s work” includes not only reproductive work required to guarantee the maintenance and reproduction of the labor force but also productive work, often as secondary income earners. Women’s contribution, in terms of the number of tasks performed mainly the hypotheses framed for the study is:

- Women spend their time in productive activities, which directly benefit their families and society in economic terms,
- Women engage in wide variety of agricultural activities to overcome family food security,
- Women’s role in agriculture faces institutional barriers due to inappropriate strategies.
- The community level leaders do not involve in promoting the role of women in agriculture and in decision making processes.
- The community has low recognized the works of women’s. So that, the participation of Women’s in the decision making ability in family finance is low.

1.7. Scope of the study

The study shall be conducted at Halaba special Woreda southern nation nationality people's region. The study will be carried out in 6 Blocks and three agricultural development projects run by three voluntary agencies such as farm Africa, food for hanger Ethiopia and LVIA. Out of the selected 6 blocks three blocks shall be identified in stratification for this study. The blocks are selected among 79 blocks of the Woreda. The study will be conducting two strata of the Woreda from lower and upper parts of the Woreda. The lower parts of the Woreda including kulito areas' up to 1st konich blocks and the upper parts of the Woreda including from kobo geto block up to Mito areas. The classification is depend on agro climate, population density, farming system of the Woreda, location, elevation range and homogeneity of the living condition of population. In each strata 3 blocks are selected a total of 6 blocks are selected.

In the selection of these blocks some important features would be taken into consideration. Only those projects which were initiated at least three years back will be considered for this study. Moreover, transportation facilities, availability of the concerned voluntary agencies, and type of developmental activities undertaken in respective village communities would also be taken in to consideration to ensure that the selected integrated community development projects possessed certain common characteristics.

1.8. Significance of the study

Women account more than half of the total community and their contribution in securing their family food demand is of great importance. But the society gave them less attention, even nil. Therefore, this study aimed in accessing the role of women in agriculture and how they fill the gap of food production in the family. The study is also significant for decision makers to provide valuable information with regard to the role of women in agriculture, other activities and work load, and hence formulate gender sensitive development projects. It helps for further study. And finally it will create awareness among the society and outsiders on the role played by women and give the due respect to their contribution.

2. METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH DESIGN

2.1. Description of the study area

2.1.1. Location

Halaba special Woreda is found in Southern Nation Nationalities, and Peoples Region. Geographically it lies between 7 17' - 12 latitude north and 38 04-'47'' longitude east, The Woreda is bordered by Shala and Aris Negele Woreda of Oromiya region to Eastern part, Kedida Gamela, Silte and Hadya Zone to Western part, Silte zone and Adami Tullu Woreda of oromiya region to the Northern part, Esterern Badewacho Woreda and Siraro Woreda of oromiya region in the Southern parts.

2.1.2. Population

Total population of the Woreda is according to the Woreda finance and economic development office statistical data shows that 271,054. Among them 136,838 are males and 134,216 are females. There are 45,423 Households in the Woreda. The total rural dwellers are 89% and urban dwellers are 11%. Population Density of the Woreda is 270 person square kilometers.

2.1.3. Climate

The total area of the Woreda is 91,230 hectare of land, among that 70% flat, 27% slope and 3% mountainous. The Elevation ranges of the Woreda from 1554-2149 M.A.S.L, the mean annual rainfalls of the area ranges from 857-1085 mm and mean annual average temperature ranges from 17 – 20 degree centigrade. Climatic condition of the area is 97% dry intermediate high land and 3% moist intermediate high land. The rain fall pattern is erratic and irregular in the area. Due to the severe and heavy rains, soil erosion and flooding are very common in low-lying of the study area. In times of extreme rainfall, mudslides damage roads, Small bridges and other infrastructure and localized flooding are common (ARDO, 2011).

2.1.4. Soil

The dominant soil type of the study area is fine to medium textured sandy loam underlie with ancient Precambrian basement rocks in the plains and calcareous soil at the hills. Over-clearing has led to significant soil erosion problems, with mudslides occurring on the area (ARDO, 2011).

2.1.5. Farming systems

The Woreda considered as woina dega having two major seasons namely Belg and Meher and Irrigation is experienced in some areas. Out of the total consumption and other purposes, normally Belg season crop produce contributes about 67.5% of the Average Crop production and the remaining 32.5% is from the Meher season (ARDO, 2011). Cereal Crop production is Dominate means of livelihood, but livestock production is also kept a source of food and income.

2.2. Method of the study

Descriptive method was used for this study. The research utilizes both quantitative and qualitative methods to clarify concepts, characteristics, descriptions, counts and measures to demonstrate implications of the issue under question.

Data presented in the study are obtained from primary and secondary sources. Primary data is collected directly from respondents using Questionnaires and interviews. Secondary data is collected through Review of related literatures and through direct discussion with focus groups.

2.2.1. Quantitative method

The quantitative research relies on field data collected using structured questionnaire that included questions on different issues in practice and the role of women in agriculture. Basic information was collected on demographic and socio-economic situation of survey respondents. The questionnaire was coded by Kebele to distinguish the six Kebeles.

2.2.2. Qualitative method

The qualitative research mainly focused on the role of women in agriculture in the study area. Information is attained through interviews and focus group discussions by using interview and discussion guides. Secondary data are collected from Woreda Agriculture office, Land administration office, Women's Affairs, Health office and Cooperative and Marketing office and education office. The discussion was undertaken to collect information from relevant bodies involved on actual implementation of the role of women in agricultural practice by using open and close-ended questions. Focus group discussion was conducted with rural women in the study area. The focus group discussion was unstructured, thus allowing participants to open up and discuss freely. Useful information was gathered as a number of issues were raised from participants. The focus group discussion offered opportunity to capture case stories and to direct observation

2.2.3. Sampling Techniques and Sample Size

2.2.3.1. Sampling Techniques

Stratified random sampling method is suitable to achieve the objectives of the study. Although data shall be collected from different groups of respondent households in the village shall form the most important source of information.

Therefore, for selection of the village population in the first stage 6 blocks have been selected at random namely 2nd Chorko, West Gortanecho, Yeye, Kobogeto, Besheno and boko tebama, the households of blocks are 497,629,350,372,830 and 396 respectively. Thus, 3074 households representing in the district. In the second stage three Integrated Rural Development Projects (IRDP) run by various voluntary agencies which were initiated three or more years prior to the data will be collected on random basis from each of the six blocks mentioned above. From each block one village or village hamlets shall be selected on purposive basis ensuring that transportation facilities are available to reach to the selected village households.

2.2.3.2. Sample Size

The sample size for collecting quantitative data for this research is determined by using (Cochran's, 1977) formula as indicated on Bartlett and Higgins (Bartlett and Higgins, 2001). The study uses the following formula to calculate sample size.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

The following steps used to determine sample size derived from the above formula to collect quantitative data using questionnaire;

Where:-

n = designates the sample size the research uses;

N = designates total number of households in six blocks;

e = designates maximum variability or margin of error 5 % (0.05);

l = designates the probability of the event occurring.

Therefore;

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} \\ &= \frac{3074}{1 + 3074(0.05)^2} \\ &= 354 \end{aligned}$$

Sample size for each block such as, West gortancho = 72, Kobo geto = 43, Buko tebame = 46, 2nd choroko = 57, Besheno = 96, Yeya = 40

On these bases, from each block respondents shall be selected on random basis who are in the age group of 20 years and above. It shall cover both male and female respondents; a total of 354 households shall be interviewed in each block, four key Informants shall also be interviewed with a total of 24 Key Informants in the 6 blocks.

In order to assess the opinion of the project staff, two staff members from each Block with a total of 12 project staff members shall be interviewed. A grand total of 390 people shall be interviewed, which includes 354 household heads, 24 key Informants and 12 project members. The researcher feels that the result obtained from the intensive a representative view for the over all situation as it prevails now in the selected village

The sampling design for the interview is given below in table 1

Table 1 sample of respondents for the interview

	Blocks	No. of villagers	Any one of projects	No. of respondents			
				Number of H/H	Key Informants	Project staff	Total
	1 st Choroko	One	One	57	4	2	63
	W/gortancho	One	One	72	4	2	78
	Yeya	One	One	40	4	2	46
	Kobogeto	One	One	43	4	2	49
	Besheno	One	One	96	4	2	102
	Buko Tibame	One	One	46	4	2	52
				354	24	12	390

2.3 .Data collection tools and procedures

The main tool for data collection shall be the interview schedule from the villagers, and the grass root leaders. The interview schedules shall contain mostly close ended questions, though some open ended and structured questions shall also be administered.

A pre-coded questionnaire to collect data from the project staff especially on their opinions on the role of women in agriculture shall also be prepared.

The questions for the interview schedule shall be formulated keeping in mind the objectives and hypothesis of the study. Questions shall, therefore, be composed by including personal data, familial information, work, qualification, role of women in agriculture Etc.

In addition to the interview schedule and pre- coded questionnaire, case studies shall also be used as a tool for data collection. The case studies shall be from one individual household and of one from non governmental organization.

Personal observation shall also be used in reliable data collection, as information which is difficult to be obtained by way of interview; direct observation method shall be applicable.

2.4. Data processing and analysis

Quantitative raw data collected using questionnaires was organized and pre-processing test was carried out right after the field data collection is completed, and data was arranged categorically. Questionnaires were coded by kebele to facilitate analysis of questions on which respondents require to specify their opinions and to facilitate analysis of the open-ended questionnaire. Responses on these questions were carefully collected and summarized. Outputs were categorized into different components relating to relevant variables for convenience in analyzing the findings.

Qualitative data collected through interviews, focus group discussions and observations were put into different categorical variables. Major themes were identified and analyzed in line with research questions and were summarized for use in descriptive analysis. Identified themes of the qualitative survey were exposed to categorical arrangements of the quantitative survey outputs. Issues intended to be addressed by the research are analyzed using findings from both quantitative and qualitative surveys applying triangulation method. Survey findings are used to draw arguments on relevant issues and data from secondary

sources and to draw conclusions and recommendations. The completed interview schedules shall be scrutinized, verified, edited and arranged serially for coding, in three master code sheets shall be prepared one for data collected from the households,, another for data collected at the grass root level leaders and the third for data collected from the project staff. The data shall be processed by using SPSS software. Data is presented using statistical techniques such as, frequency distributions, tables, pie chart and simple measures of dispersion specifically ranges using percentiles and/or counts. Explanation is provided to clarify information on observed data.

2.5. Quality and ethical consideration

The researcher received official permit from Halaba Special Woreda administration Bureau to conduct this study on Halaba special Woreda. Halaba special Woreda agriculture and rural Development office was willing to assist the researcher. Quantitative survey respondents and qualitative survey informants were provided detail explanation on the overall objective of the study ahead of time. Interview is administered on free will of interviewees. Respondents were informed that they can decline if they don't want to be interviewed. Information provided by interviewees will not transfer to a third party or will not be used for any other purpose.

Chapterization

Chapter one

The first chapter shall be on introduction to the subject mater of the present study. In this chapter on attempt shall be made to describe the concept of the role of women in agriculture.

Chapter Two

This chapter shall be a brief discussion on the review of earlier studies on the role of women shall also be included in this chapter.

Chapter Three

This chapter shall be deal with the conceptual frame work and research design of the present study.

Chapter four

Result and discussion

Chapter five

Summary, conclusion and recommendation

The appendixes shall include the time & budget estimate, interview schedules and the extended bibliography.

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Annex I. Time Estimate

No	Research activity	Time required
1	Identification of problems	2 week
2	Review of literature	2 week
3	Identification of objectives	1 week
4	Formation of hypothesis	1 week
5	Selection of research design	1 week
6	Selection of sample	1 week
7	Selection of tools of Data collection	2 weeks
8	Pretesting of tools of data collection	1 week
9	Data collection	30 days
10	Editing of data	2 weeks
11	Preparation of code book	1 week
12	Preparation of master chart	1 week
13	Processing of data	2 weeks
14	Statistical analysis of data	1 week
15	Writing of report	1 month
16	Presentation of report (Typing binding etc)	1 month

Annex II. Budget Estimate

No	Research activities	No. of personal required	Duration	Cost (in Birr)
1	Perdium for data collector (70 birr per day)	6	30 days	12,600
2	Perdium for research assistance staff (70 birr per day)	5	25 days	8,750
3	Stationary			3,650
	Total			25,000

Annex III. Household Interview

Indira Gandhi National Open University Master's Program on Rural Development

Questionnaire on assessment women's Role on Agriculture

This questionnaire aims at knowing the role of women's on Agriculture in the community as you a member of this community. We politely request your help to inform us with what is happening in the community and therefore participate in our research. For its success all the information you provide us will be confidentially recorded as reported and used only for this purpose.

Thank you

Messay Tegegne.

III/ Questioners for household heads

Code _____

Date _____

1. Personal Information

S.No	Age	Sex	Marital status	Types of family	Size of family	Religion
1	20-25	Male	Unmarried	Nuclear	Small (1-4 members) medium (5-9 member) Large (above 9 member)	Muslim
2	26-35	Female	married	Joint		Christian
3	36-45		Divorced			Catholic
4	46 and above					Protestant

2. Education, Income, indebtedness, occupation, possession of land and period of stay **in the** village.

S. No	Education level	Family monthly income (birr)	Family indebtedness	Possession of land	Occupation	Period of stay in the village
1	Illiterate	Low	Indebted	Nil	-farming	1-5 Year
2	Formal Education	Middle (501-1000)	Not indebted	1-5 hectares	-Labor	6-10 year
3	Non formal education	High (1001 and above)	Nil	-above 5 hectares	-Business	above 10 years
				-		
				-		

3. What agriculture activities are practical in the area?

No	Agriculture activities	Types -1 st , -2nd, 3rd
1	Cereal crop production (maize, sorghum, wheat, teffee, millet)	
2	Cash crop production (pepper, Soya bean,)	
3	Inset production	
4	Fruits trees production or Root crops or vegetables	
5	Live stock production	
6	Apiculture	

4. - Who participate more is the following agriculture

Activity	Who participate more				Remark
	Man	Boys	Women	Girls	
1 Cereal crop production					
1.1 Ploughing					
1.2 sowing					
1.3 Weeding					
1.4 Harvesting					
1.5 Threshing					
1.6 Storing					
1.7 Transporting and marketing					
2 Cash crop production					
2.1 Land Clearing					
2.2 Cultivation					
2.3 Manu ring					
2.4 Product collecting					
2.5 Transporting products and marketing					
3 Root crops, vegetables					
3.1 Inset production					
3.2 Cultivation					
3.3 Manu ring					
3.4 Watering					
3.5 Weeding					
3.6 Harvesting					
3.7 Inset Processing					
4 Live stock production					
4.1 Clearing barn					
4.2 Milking					
4.3 Taking animal to the field					
4.4 Feeding animal					

4.5 Taking care of calves					
4.6 marketing Live stock					
1. Apicultural (beekeeping)					
5.1 Preparing Bee hives					
5.2 Hanging Bee hives					
5.3 Smoking Bee hives					
5.4 honey harvesting					
5.5 marketing hive products					
2. Poultry production					
6.1 caring chicks					
6.2 Collecting eggs					
6.3 feeding					
6.4 marketing chicks					
6.5 marketing eggs					
3. Fruit and tree production					
7.1 Land preparation					
7.2 Watering					
7.3 planting					
7.4 Manu ring					
7.5 Pruning					
7.6 Harvest					
7.7 Transporting and marketing					

5. Agricultural products sold or exchange to earn income?

YES NO

If yes, in number 5 what are the products and who participated more and who is selling the products?

Agriculture products	Access in selling the products				Control sale of products	
	Men	Boy	Women	Girls	Men	Women
Milk and milk products						
Chicken and egg						
Vegetables						
Fruits						
Cereals ('teff , wheat or maize)						
'chat'						
Coffee						
O						
Hide						

6/. What is your expenditure from your yearly income?

1/ to satisfy the household needs

2/ to purchase farm inputs, fertilizer, plough, oxen, etc

3/ for household construction and maintenance

7 / How did you acquired the land?

1. by inheritance

2. through marriage

3. through land distribution

4. By leasing from other holders

5. Other means

8/ . Under whose name is the land registered and certified?

1/ in may own name

2/ in the name of the husband

3/ in the name of both

4/ in the leaser's name

5/ in the name of others

9/ how is your participation in decision making on income expenditure?

1/ I always decide on my own

2/ I am involved in decision making

3/ I get information only after decision is made by my husband

4/ I some times decide by my own and my husband decide on his own at other time

5/ I have equal say on income expenditure

10/ what kind of challenges that you had faced during land registration and certification?

1/ my husband was not willing

2/ cultural influence

3/ there was no challenges

4/ If any other

11/. Do you participate in non – agricultural activities?

1. YES

2. NO

12/ If 'yes' in number 6 mention the activity you engage most

13/. Are there any governmental and non governmental organization that gives you support to agricultural activities?

1. YES

2. NO

14/, If yes what is the kind of support

15/, and who is the primary target?

Kind of support	Primary target		Name & type of origination
	Man	Woman	
Credit			
Extension service			
Fertilizers provision			
Pesticides provision			
Family planning			
Maternal and child health care			
Training on income generating activities			
Farm tools provision			
Beehives			
Improved seeds provision			
Any other			

16/. Who participates more?

Time allocated for different activities with in 24 hours

Activities	Time spend	
	Woman	Man
Cooking food		
Fetching water		
Cleaning house		
Caring children		
Boiling coffee		
Cleaning barn		
Milking		
Caring animal		
Fuel wood collecting		
Attend social meeting		
Food for work activities		
Grinding		
Others		

17/ what type of village development associations do you have in your village (tick \checkmark) against the following appropriately

1. Farmers associations
2. Youth club
3. Cultural group
4. Sport group
5. Religious group
- 6. Any others**

18/ Are you member of any of less group association? (Mention the numbers as per Q16 above if a member)

- 1. Member**
- 2. Not a member**

19 /Are there any female members in the VDA?

- 1. YES**

Explain the participation briefly-----

- 2.NO**

Why? Indicate the problem-----

20/ Women's can participate in village level meeting to solve socio economic problems of villages?

1. Agree
2. Disagree

21/In questions 17 you can answer No.2 explain any one the reason?

22/ what is the attitude of traditional leaders to women's involvement of in agricultural production and decision making ability in household and village community?

1. very encouraging
2. some what encouraging
3. discouraging
4. indifferent

23/ which activities of women are acceptable by leaders?

24/ what kind of support do you normally expect while woman in agricultural role?

1. self satisfaction
2. appreciation and recognition of work done
3. material incentives

25/ what are the roles being played by the kebele leaders in your village community? Indicate you consider relevant?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

26/ what extent to have some grass root level leaders influenced the role of woman in agricultural and control of resource?

1. to a great extent
2. To some extent
3. hardly

27/ did the village leaders ever help to some any of women socio economic problems?

1. yes
2. no

Annex II

Interview schedule for grass root level leaders

Code _____

date ____

1. Personal information

No	Age	Sex	Marital status	Religion	Level of education
1	20-25	Male	Un	Protestant	- Illiterate
2	26-35	Female	married	Muslim	Primary
3	36-45		Married	Christian	Middle
4	46		Divorced	catholic	Non-formal
5	and		Widow	Any other	education
	above		Widower		

2. As you understand what are the main woman's role in agriculture?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

3. What is the percentage of women's participation on agricultural activities?

1. less than 25 %
2. 25 – 50 %
3. 51 – 75 %
4. 76 – 100 %

4. To what extent do you think that women's role in agricultural in come in the household?

1. To a great extent
2. To some extent
3. Hardly

5. How a woman doe's able to decide resources equal to men's in the household level?

1. Agree
2. Disagree
3. Unknown

6. In Q no 5, if your answer is 1 or 2 briefly reason out

7. To development project in the village can help the woman's empower their status and income generation activities?

1. to a great extent
2. to some extent
3. hardly an

8. Do you think that people organizations are necessary promoting women's participation in agricultural activities?

1. necessary
2. not necessary
3. do not know

9. What among the following motivate women's to increase their participation in agricultural development activities?

1. money
2. awareness
3. education
4. all the above

10. How important do you feel in the involvement of women in the development process of their village communities?

1. extremely important
2. some what important
3. not practicable

11. What hinders women's from participating in the development activities?

1. illiteracy
2. ignorance
3. social status
4. religious status
5. political status
6. economic status
7. all of the above

12. What do you feel about the improvements of politicians in the women's development process? Are they?

1. help full
2. harm full
3. do not know

13. Explain a sort of improvement do you expect from women's in the development process? _____

14. Are you satisfied with the improvement of women's in the development process?

1. satisfied
2. not satisfied
3. can't say

14 .What is your opinion about the involvement of women's in agricultural development process of your community? _____

Name, address of ----- - --

The investigator _____

Signature _____

Annex III

Questionnaire for project staff

Dear/sir

I am conducting a study on “role of women’s in agriculture with special reference to Halaba Special Woreda” in this context I request you to kindly fill up this questionnaire and return to me at your earliest I assure you that the information given by you will be kept confidential and will be used only to prepare my desertion which is apart my desertion for MA in rural development of indira Gandhi nationals open university.

Sincerely

Mesaye Tegegne

Name and Address

1. How long have you been working in this agency?
 1. Less than 2 years
 2. 2-4 years
 3. Above 4 years
3. Are you a field staff on an office staff?

[Tick (√) relevant]

1. Field staff
2. Office staff

4. What has been the attitude of traditional leaders about women's struggle to benefit the fruits of labor?

1. Appreciative
2. Cooperative
3. Indifferent

5. To what extent do you think that the women's have the ability for decision making in household and in the community?

1.To great extent

2.To some extent

3.Hardly

6. What is the extent of woman involvement in planning, organizing and implementing agricultural development programmers?

1. Highly satisfactory

2. Some what satisfactory

3. Not satisfactory

7. What according to you motivates the women's involvement in agriculture?

1. Money

2. Awareness

3. Education

4. All the above

8. The participation/involvement of women in agriculture more than men but most of them seen as a consumer not as a producer in the community? How far do you agree with this statement?

1. Strongly agree

2. Agree

3. Disagree

9. It is alleged that "involvement of women in agriculture may lead to higher decision making" How far is this statement correct?

1. Fully correct

2. some what correct

3. Can't say

10. What do you think about or suggest comments to promote women's empower & decision making ability? Explain short answer. _____

11. How do you think Government organization and NGO support women's activities to involve development programs?

12. It is true that women involve high in activities through which people can gain some economic benefits?

1. True
2. False
3. No response

13. Higher the involvement of women in agriculture presumes faith and confidence in the ability of rural masses in statement true?

1. True
2. False
3. Can't say

14. What is the percentage of contribution made by your agency for the agricultural development projects of the village community?

1. Less than 25%
2. 25-50%
3. 51-75%
4. 76-100%

15. What is the extent of involvement of women in the development programs?

1. Great extent
2. Some extent
3. Hardly any

Kindly mail this questionnaire duly filled in to my address which is given on the enclosed.

Name and address of

Investigator _____

Annex IV.

Indira Gandhi National Open University Master's Program on Rural Development

Questionnaire on assessment women's Role on Agriculture

This questionnaire aims at knowing the role of women's on Agriculture in the Woreda as your office is a member of the Woreda Administration. According to your institution mandate Request your Help to inform us with what happening has in the Institution and therefore participate in our Research. For Its success all the Information you provide us will be confidentially recorded as reported and used only for this purpose.

'Thank you'

Messay Tegegne

Woreda Cooperative office

1/ what activities carried out in your office;

-To access women's institutional credit?

-To access women's in micro-enterprise activities?

-TO access adult and non-formal education and training on;

-management

-entrepreneurship

-Production and marketing

2/ what activities carried on in organizing women in cooperatives for mutual support and exchanges of Basis, ideas and empowerment of women at village level?

WOREDA Health Office

1/What activities carried out in your office to improve the quality of life, which has direct Impact on family decisions limit the number of children?

2/what activities going on in your office to tackle the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS the people in general and women in particular?

3/ what are the strategies adopt in your office appropriate measures to tackle the maternal morbidity and mortality?

4/According to your institution epidemiological survey of diseases, what are the main factors to the prevalence of disease in the community? Specially: women's and girls more susceptible to such factors? Explain briefly

Woreda Administration

1/ what is the level of political support to encourage women's participation in agriculture?
Explain briefly

2/what are the basic gender problems prevailing in Halaba societies?

3/ what activities carried out as of your administration office to increases the social and political status, and to improve sense of self-esteem, confidence, scarcity, and dignity by of women in Halaba special Woreda?

4/ what activities undertaken to strengthen the decision making power and the leadership roles in different development programs of women's in Halaba special Woreda?

5/ in his/her political capacity, support appropriate Intervention measures to tackle the Problem's of women's?

WOREDA LAND ADMINISTRATION

1/ indicate or explain the causes and consequences of existing land record system?

2/explain the objective of land administration and grass root leaders and their contributions to rural development?

3/explain the contribution of land records in poverty alleviation and economic development?

4/indicate the role of women's in social development and land administration?

5/ what are the strategies to adopt your office to implement land record in the rural areas?

6/ what are social and cultural believes usually have greater contribution to discriminate certain groups of society to the use of land?

WOREDA LEGAL JUSTIECES

1/ explain certain aspects pertaining to the constitutional rights of women as well as some important legislations for the protection of women's?

2/in your institution what are the strategies adopt pertain to equality and personal liberty of women?

3/ explain the function of family courts in our community, decree or order passed by a family courts shall have the same force and effects as the decree or order of a civil court and shall be executed in the same manner?

W OREDA EDUCATION OFFICE

1/ what are the main problems to face your institution from the society to increase the

Enrolment: and retention of girls?

2/indicate the factor responsible for addressing the condition peculiar to girls or boys that prevent them from attending or completing primary school?

3/what are the possible causes of gender gaps in schooling? What measures undertaken from your institutions?

4/explain strategies to adopt your institution enable to convergence between education and development programmers?

5/what are the outcomes/achievement gained from the society undergoing different education programmers?

6/what are alternative activities carried out in your institution for education of girls/mainstreamed gender approach/ especially in rural areas?

Woreda Women's Affairs

1/ what are the cultural, religious and traditional women problems can be categorized and analyzed?

-economic problems

-sexual problems

-reproductive problems

-political problems

-Technological problems

-normative and ideological problems

2/ what are the system subsistence and as one unit in constellation of various relation complexities

-class

-ethnic

-urban

-rural

-mental

Physical

3/what is the cause of women's problems appearing generally as disparities and some time in absolute terms?

4/what are in your office priority given to allocate the Income problems of women in the Woreda?

5/what is the formation of women's association to strength women's economic, social, political and cultural affairs?

6/what are the strategies your institution to adopt enable to create conducive environment to implementation for the alleviation of equality b/n men and women?

7/Why is gender inequality being addressed in isolation from other inequalities?