



Gender Equality Issue & Role of Women in Post- Harvest Loss Reduction: PHL-IL regional cases, Ethiopia.

Survey team: Solomon P.; Fetien Abay (Prof.); and Girmanesh Desta



Introduction

- ▶ **Why mind gender?**
 - ▶ A development necessity not just a game plan of power players.
 - ▶ In deed, gender is too costly to risk ignoring it noting the ultimate empowerment of human systems/capacity
- ▶ **Food/nutrition security:**
 - ▶ Availability (quantity) = $f(\text{farm production and post harvest handling})$
 - ▶ Entitlement (capacity) = $f(\text{market} + \text{assets})$
 - ▶ Utilization (quality) = food consumption and content for a healthy living
- ▶ **Gendered constructs determine distribution & relational dynamics across development outcomes**
 - ▶ Gender vs. access to and autonomy over the use of production assets and growth opportunities
 - ▶ Gender vs. access to market endowments, e.g., financial capital
 - ▶ Gender vs. access to nutrition knowledge endowments and diversity

Why? & How?

- The survey is a follow up to the baseline survey conducted in the same regions
- The baseline survey largely lack gendered detail (mostly relational) surrounding farming systems and the subsequent determinants of empowerment.
- This survey is commissioned to shed light pertaining the gender equality issues using five empowerment domains:
 - What are the gendered issues/challenges of empowerment
 - Roles of men and women and determinants of participation, decision making. . .
 - Interventions to effectively guarantee gendered lens and empowerment of men and women . . .
 - If any negative externalities interventions

Table 1—The five domains of empowerment in the WEAI (5DE),

Domain	Indicator	Definition of Indicator	Weight
Production	Input in productive decisions	Sole or joint decisionmaking over food and cash-crop farming, livestock, and fisheries	1/10
	Autonomy in production	Autonomy in agricultural production (e.g., what inputs to buy, crops to grow, what livestock to raise, etc.). Reflects the extent to which the respondent's motivation for decisionmaking reflects his/her values rather than a desire to please others or avoid harm.	1/10
Resources	Ownership of assets	Sole or joint ownership of major household assets	1/15
	Purchase, sale, or transfer of assets	Whether respondent participates in decision to buy, sell, or transfer his/her owned assets	1/15
	Access to and decisions on credit	Access to and participation in decisionmaking concerning credit	1/15
Income	Control over use of income	Sole or joint control over income and expenditures	1/5
Leadership	Group member	Whether respondent is an active member in at least one economic or social group (e.g., agricultural marketing, credit, water users' groups)	1/10
	Speaking in public	Whether the respondent is comfortable speaking in public concerning various issues, such as intervening in a family dispute, ensure proper payment of wages for public work programs, etc.	1/10
Time	Workload	Allocation of time to productive and domestic tasks	1/10
	Leisure	Satisfaction with the available time for leisure activities	1/10

Source: Alkire et al. 2012.



Objectives of the survey













- To **assess** women's empowerment across the cultural practices in agriculture; specifically,
 - To identify the role of rural women across **the productive opportunities** of farming communities
 - To examine **the current situation** of rural women with respect to their participation in postharvest activities in the study areas
 - To determine the **baseline WEAI standings** of households

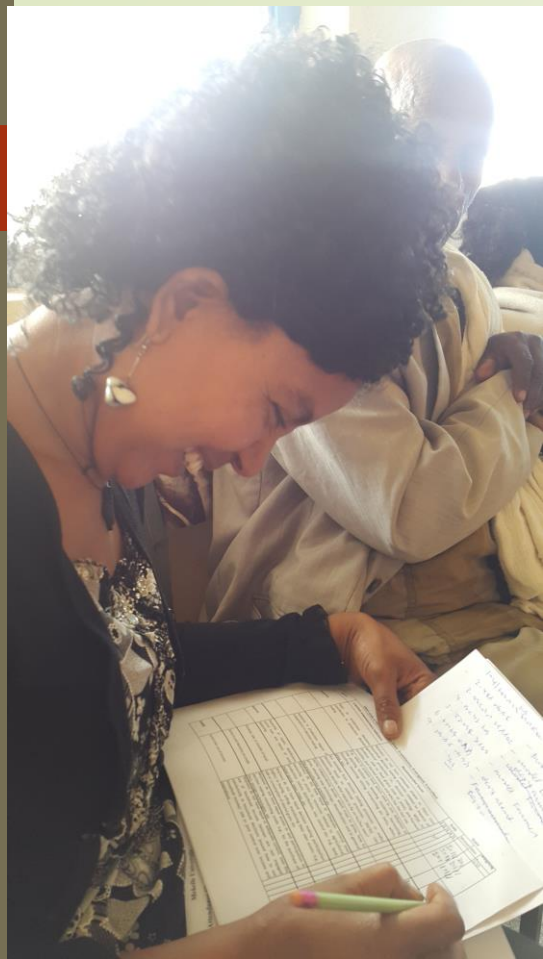


Methodology

- The survey targeted the four crops targeted by PHL-IL in four regions
- Both qualitative and quantitative tools used
- Two rounds of FGDs conducted, i.e., 24+4 FGDs in total
- Respondents randomly selected for the FGDs
- The survey addresses all agricultural cultural practices and is not limited to post harvest activities

Sampling frame and FGDs: a total of 24 FGDs, i.e., 7 women only, 4 male only, and 13 mixed group FGDs held

Regions	Districts	Villages	Crop/s	FGDs	Participants
	Kofele	Ashoka		2	15
	Arsi	Boru Jawi		2	24
		Eteya		1	10
	Mecha	Kudmi/ Shehona		2	14
		Kudmi/ Kolela		2	11
	Dembia	Efoyebemeda		2	12
		Meskelekirstos		2	11
	Kafta Humera	Adebay		4	30
	Endamohoni	Hirity mekan		1	5
	Boricha	Kitaw dembe		4	41
	Boricha	Hanja chafa		2	20
Total				24	193



Instruments:



Data collection:

FGDs

WEAI questionnaire indicators

Key informant interview, and

Desk review

Workshop like validation FGDs (2nd round)

Local workshop and Empowerment scoring: second round

Interviews held with 49 farmers,
55% women. In total 242 farmers

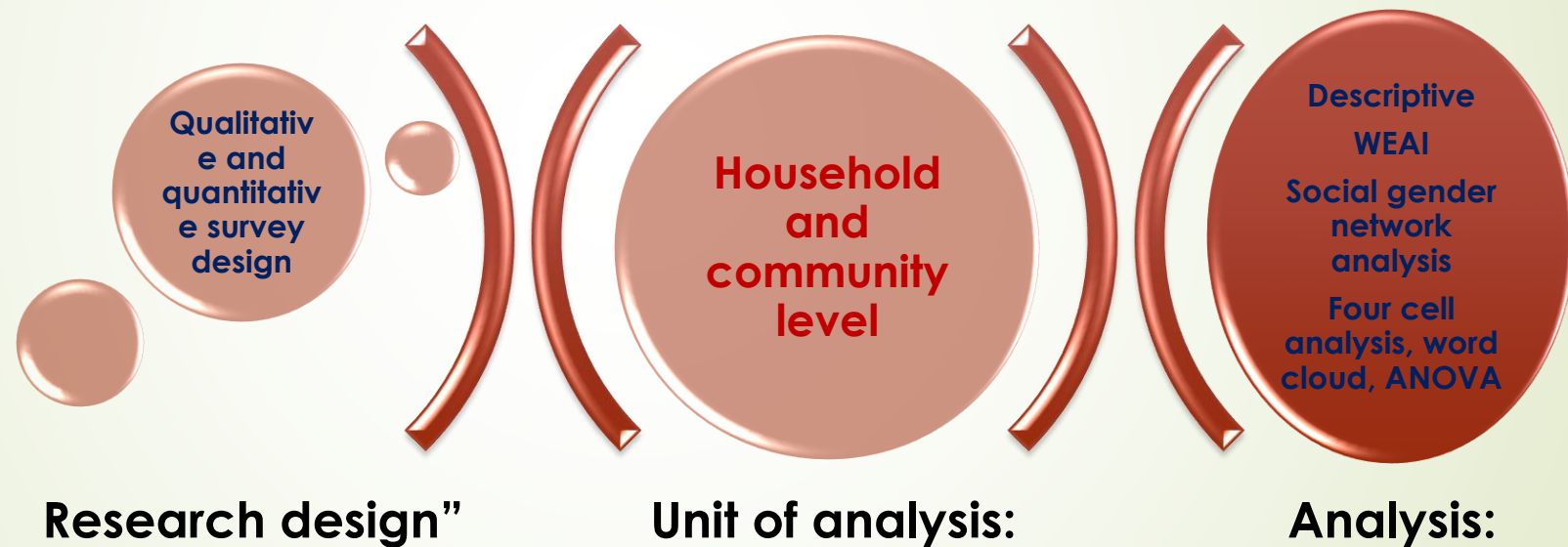
Respondents:

- Model farmers,
- development agents,
- leaders of women development army,
- local admin, cooperative non/members
- Other development actors

Process: participatory for common understanding on variables

Purpose: to determine farmer's (wo/men) empowerment score

Research design and analysis





Cont. . .

Analysis levels

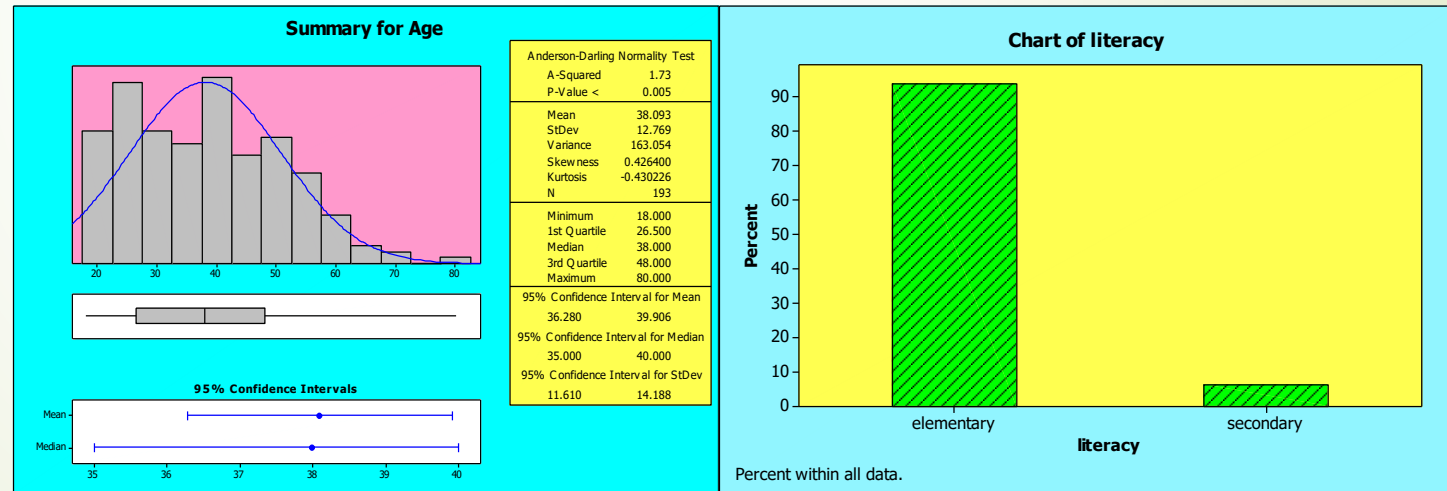
- **Distributional landscapes: achievements**
- **Relational tiers of gendered entitlements & outcomes: adequacy or real entitlement of men and women**

Limitations of the survey

- **Size of sampled FGDs per region vs. total population size**
- **FGDs may not reflect individual household gender relations**
- **WEAI computation ignores single headed households**
- **Conclusions extend to the specific survey communities**

Findings and discussion

- Demographic characteristics: mean age = **38**; illiteracy = **95%**; marital status: **92.7%** married, **3.8%** FHH and single each; and **52%** women



WEAI indices by region

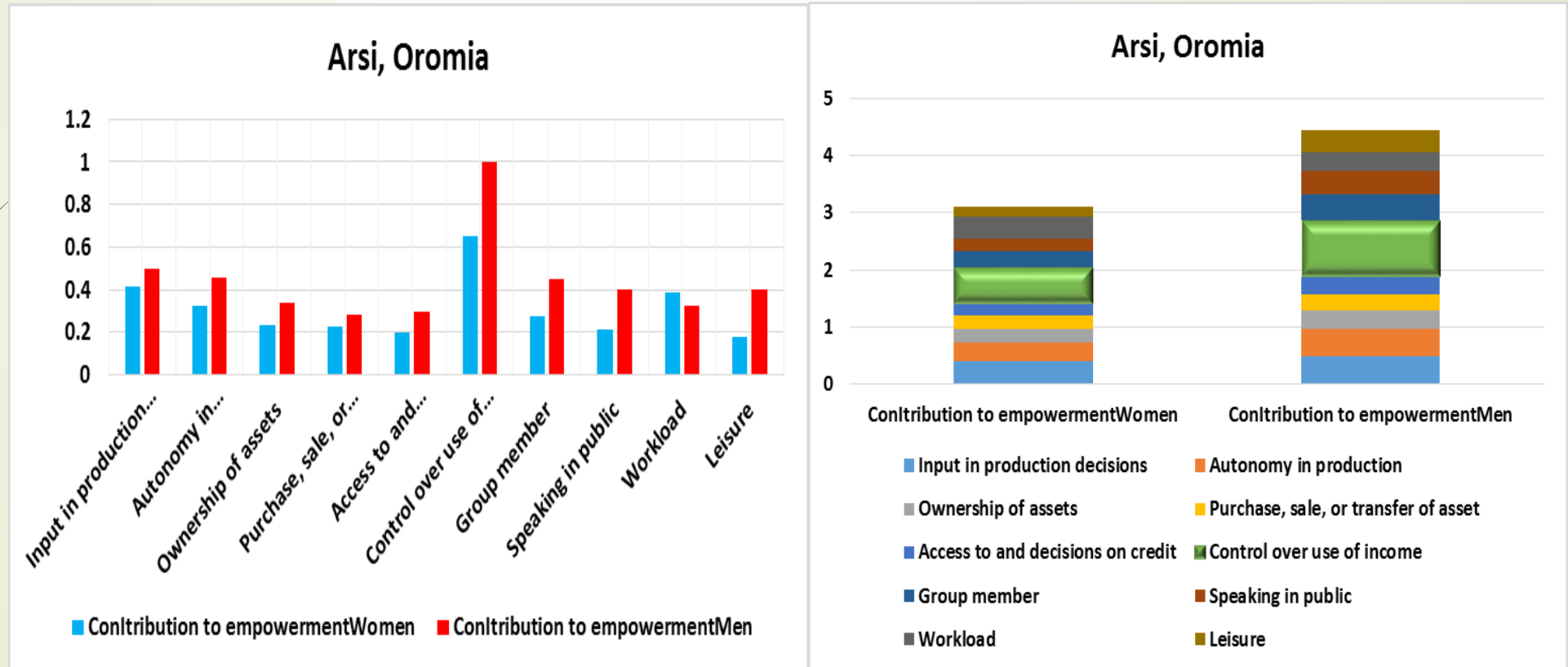
Indices (%)	Oromia		Tigray		Amhara		SNNP	
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Average disempowerment (Hn)	38	12	48.57	17.2	43.34	13.95	39.99	17
Average empowerment (He)	62	88	51.43	82.8	56.66	86.15	60.01	83
Average inadequacy score (An)	59	54	47	40	57	29	69	47
Average adequacy score (Aa)	41	46	52	60	43	71	31	53
5DE index, average	77.6	93.5	76.7	93	75.3	96.1	72.45	92.01

Summary of WAEI indices & constraints

Oromia Baseline WEAI score: 5DE score: 77.6% W; 93.5% M	Tigray Baseline WEAI score: 5DE score: 76.7% W; 93% M	SNNP Baseline WEAI score: 5DE score: 72.45% W; 96.1% M	Amhara Baseline WEAI score: 5DE score: 75.3% W; 93% M
Key constraints: credit, leadership, transfer, sale, purchase of assets, and ownership of assets, time	Key constraints: heavy workload, access to resources, credit, and autonomy in purchase, sale, transfer of assets	Key constraints: heavy workload, autonomy, purchase, sale, transfer of assets, and leisure	Key constraints: heavy workload, leadership, leisure, and autonomy over decision making

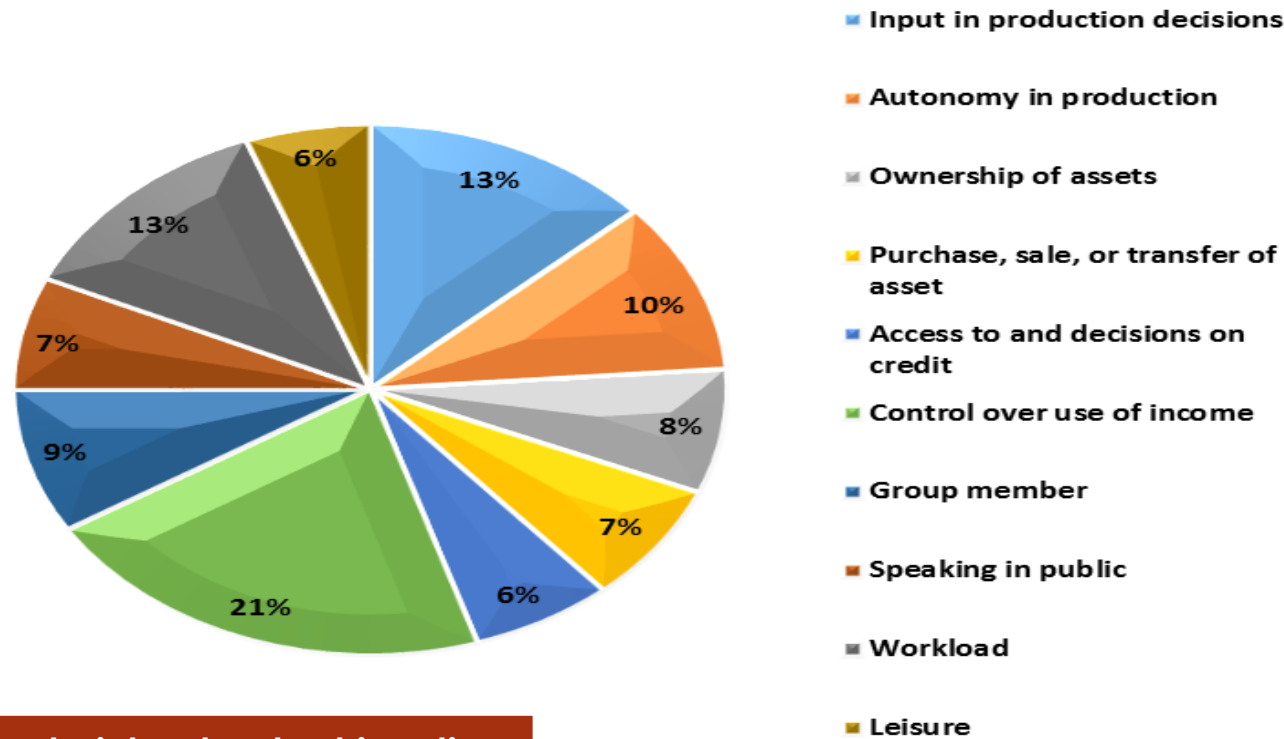
Determinants of women empowerment gap

➤ Oromia



% of dis empowerment contributors by indicator

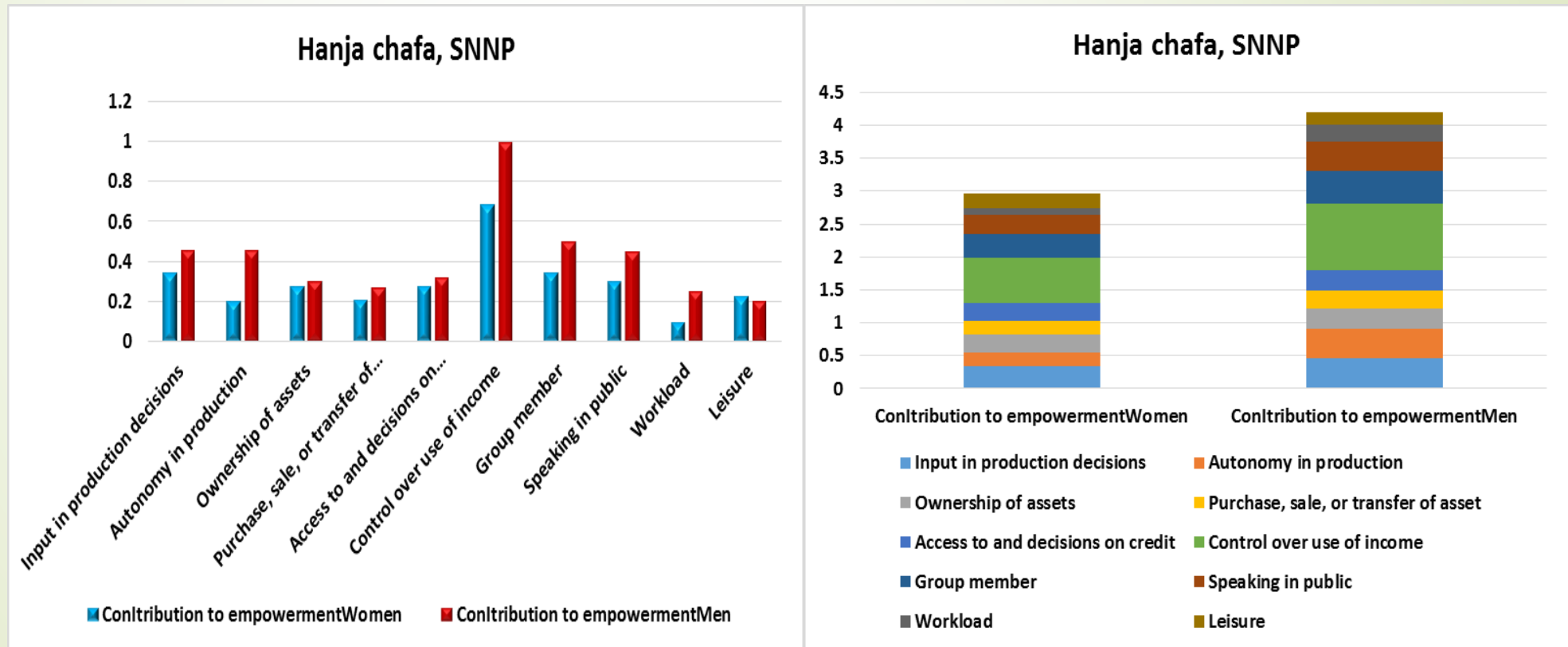
Contribution to empowerment Women, Oromia



Constraints: leadership, time allocation and resources

Cont. . .

➔ SNNP



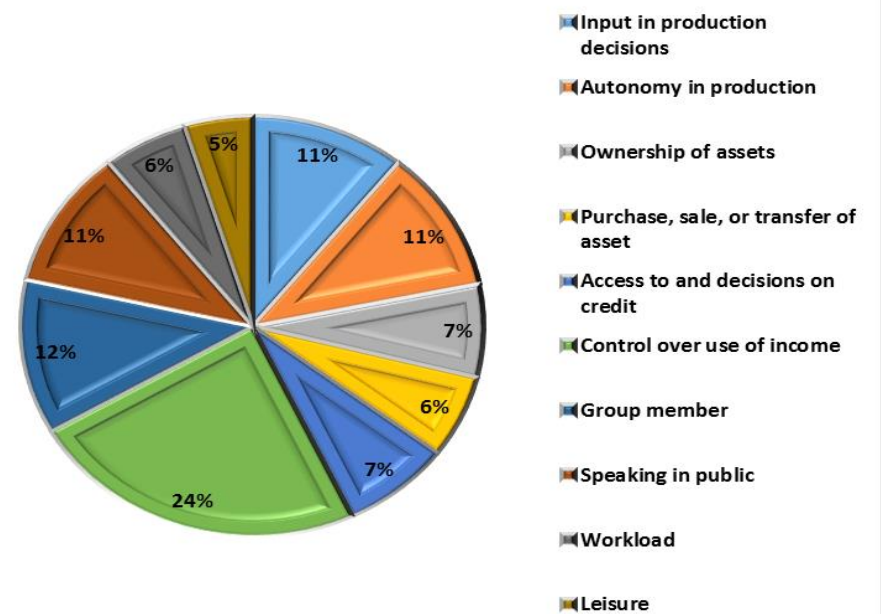
% empowerment contribution by indicator

Contribution to empowerment Women



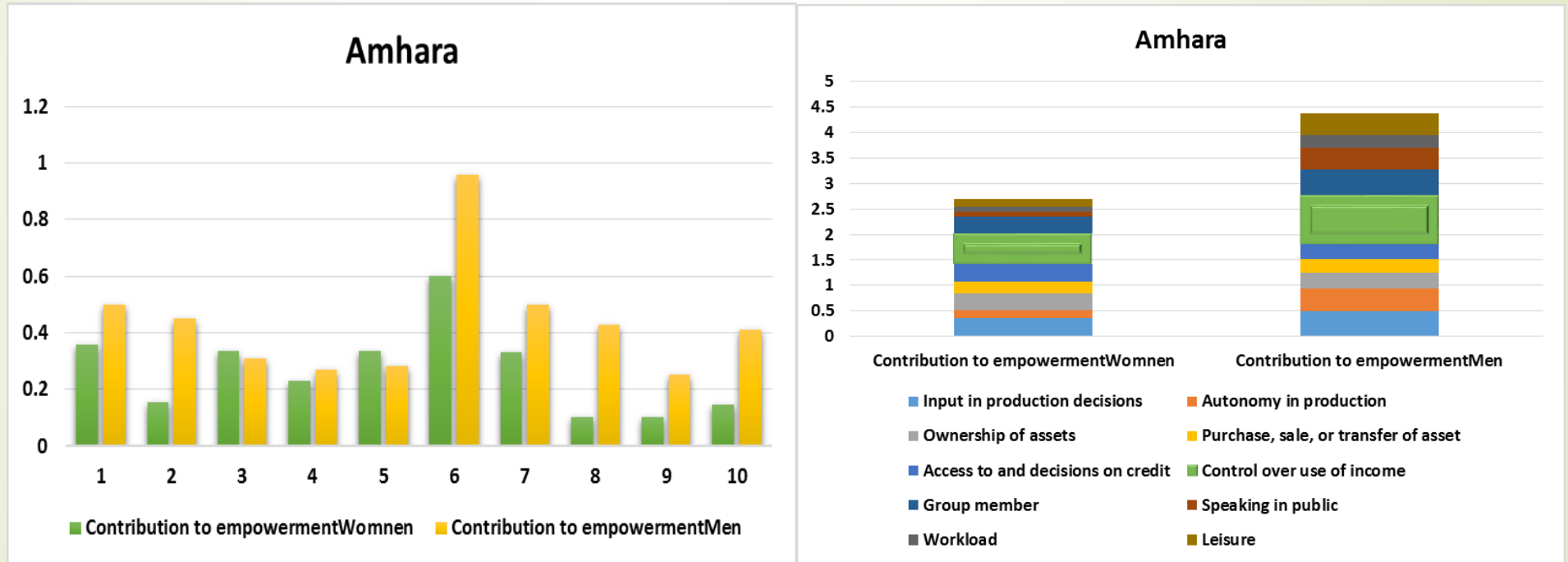
Constraints: workload, less leisure, and limited access to resources

Contribution to empowerment Men



% empowerment & contribution by indicator

➔ Amhara



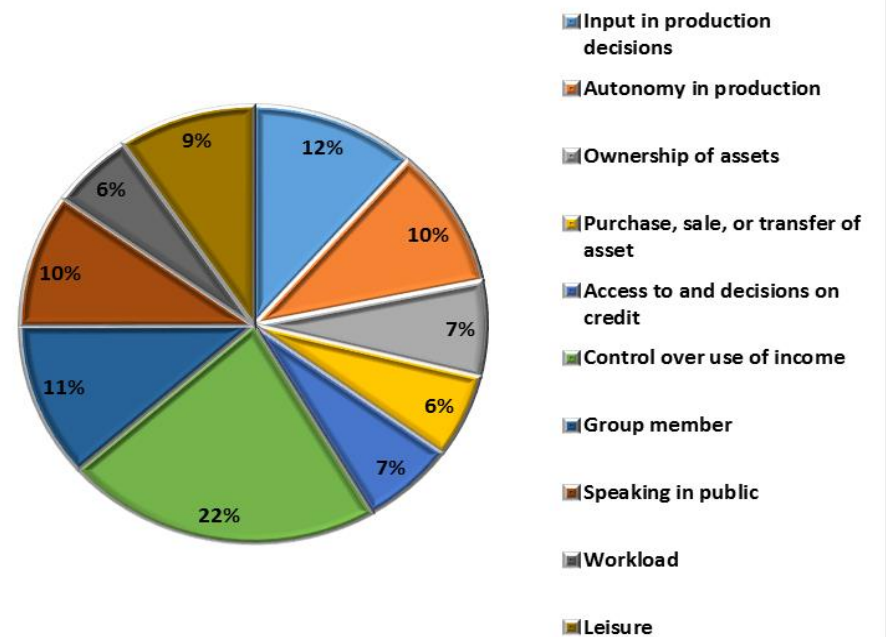
% empowerment contribution by indicator

Contribution to empowerment Women, Amhara



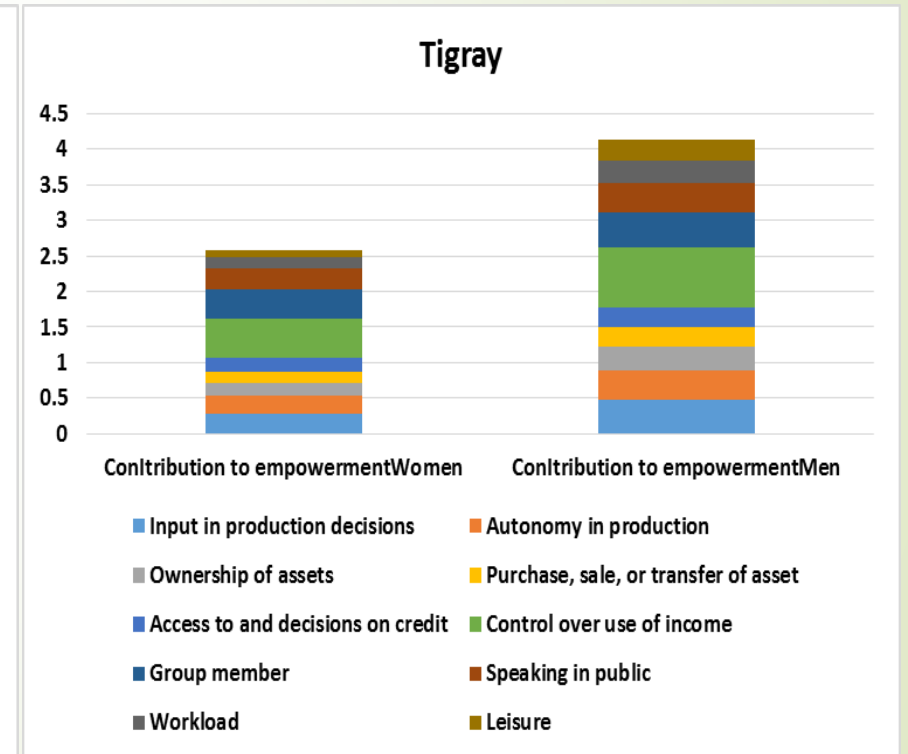
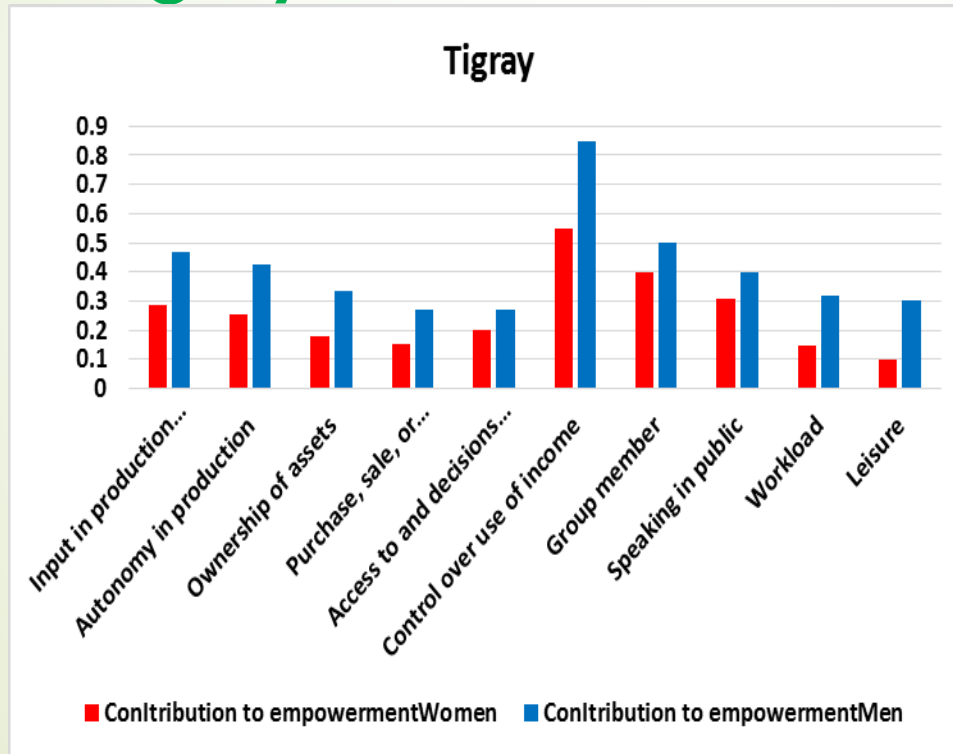
Constraints: leadership workload, less leisure, lack of autonomy and limited access to resources

Contribution to empowerment Men, Amhara



% empowerment contribution by indicator

Tigray



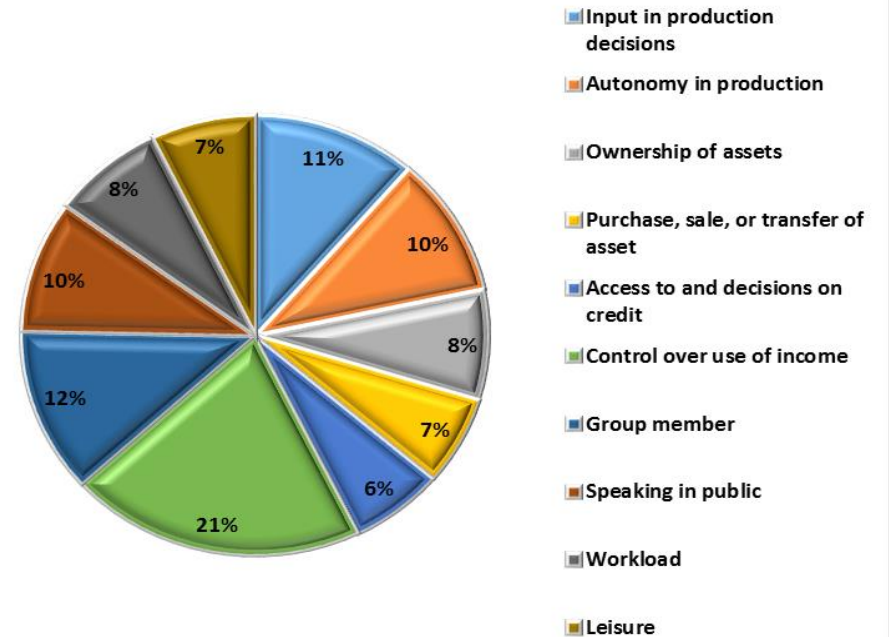
% empowerment contribution by indicator

Contribution to empowerment Women

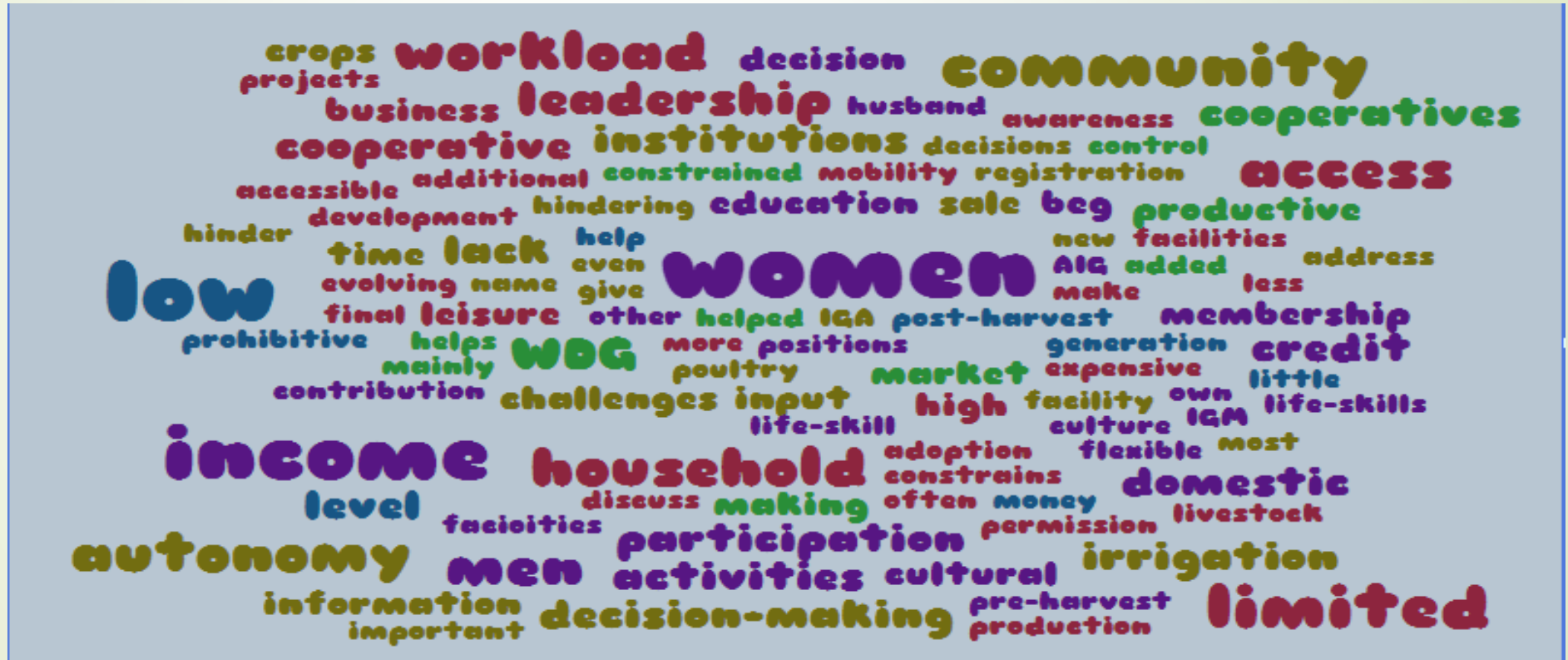


Constraints: workload, less leisure, and limited access to resources

Contribution to empowerment Men



Word cloud of dis/empowerment issues for women

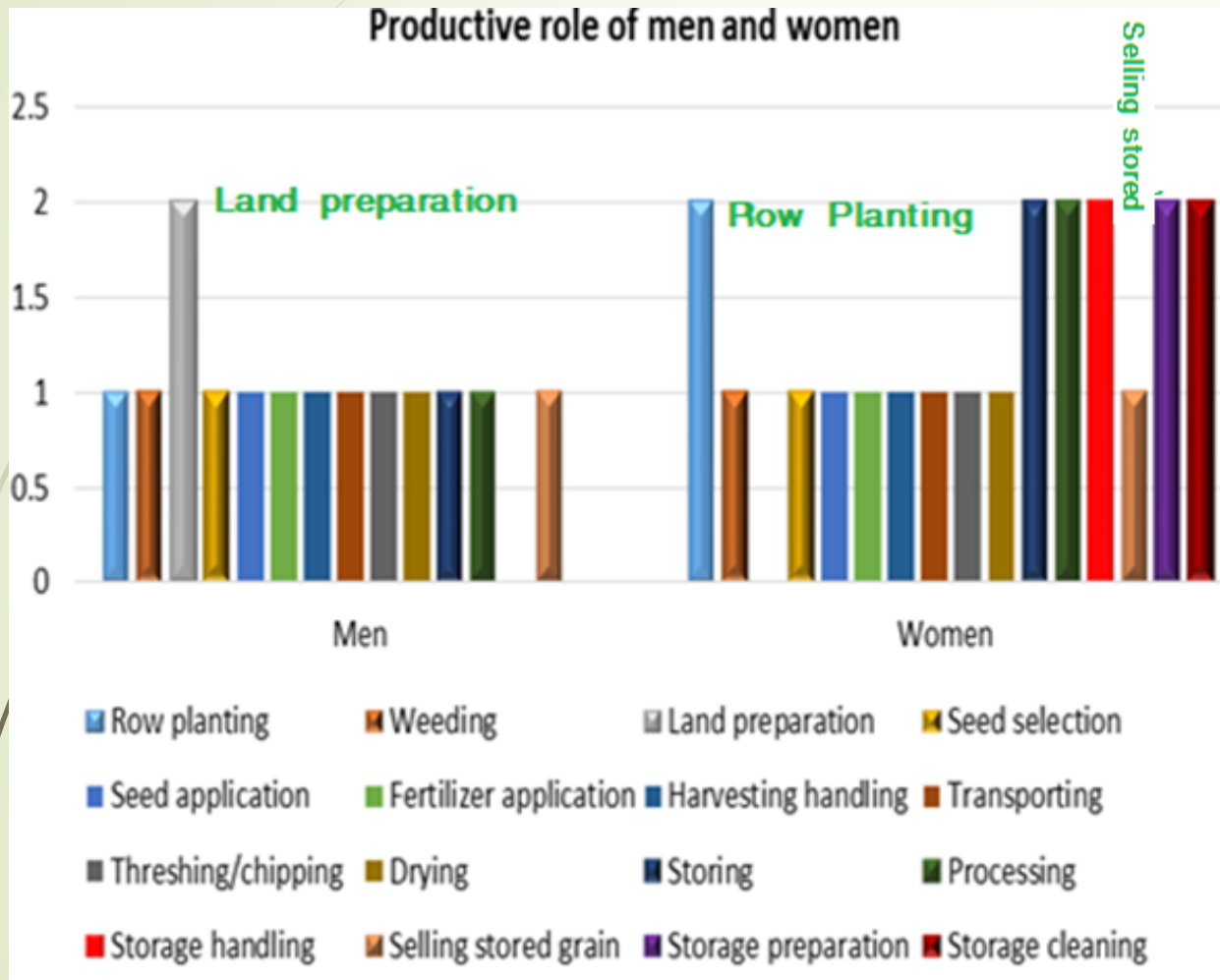




Regional FGD cases:

- ▶ Production – input to production decisions: key findings
 - ▶ Women and men are involved in domestic and productive activities at different levels and decision making
 - ▶ Women auxiliaries in most productive activities while their role increases in post harvest activities.
 - ▶ Limited input in production decisions despite differences among households
 - ▶ Women main players in seed selection and after storage handling

Cont. . .



Share of women in the cultural practices

Productive activities	Percentage
Land preparation	41
Sowing and cleaning	62
Intercultural activities	73
Harvesting handling, threshing/chipping, transport, distribution; storing, and processing	87



Production – decision making

- ▶ **Key findings:**
 - ▶ **At household level, men assume most of the decision making autonomy (e.g., 50% of the listed activities)**
 - ▶ **Women only assume less than 25% autonomy in decision making**
 - ▶ **Women, however, are involved in more than 93% of the productive activities**
 - ▶ **Man may often make independent decisions while women are required to consult husband or other male counterparts in a community**

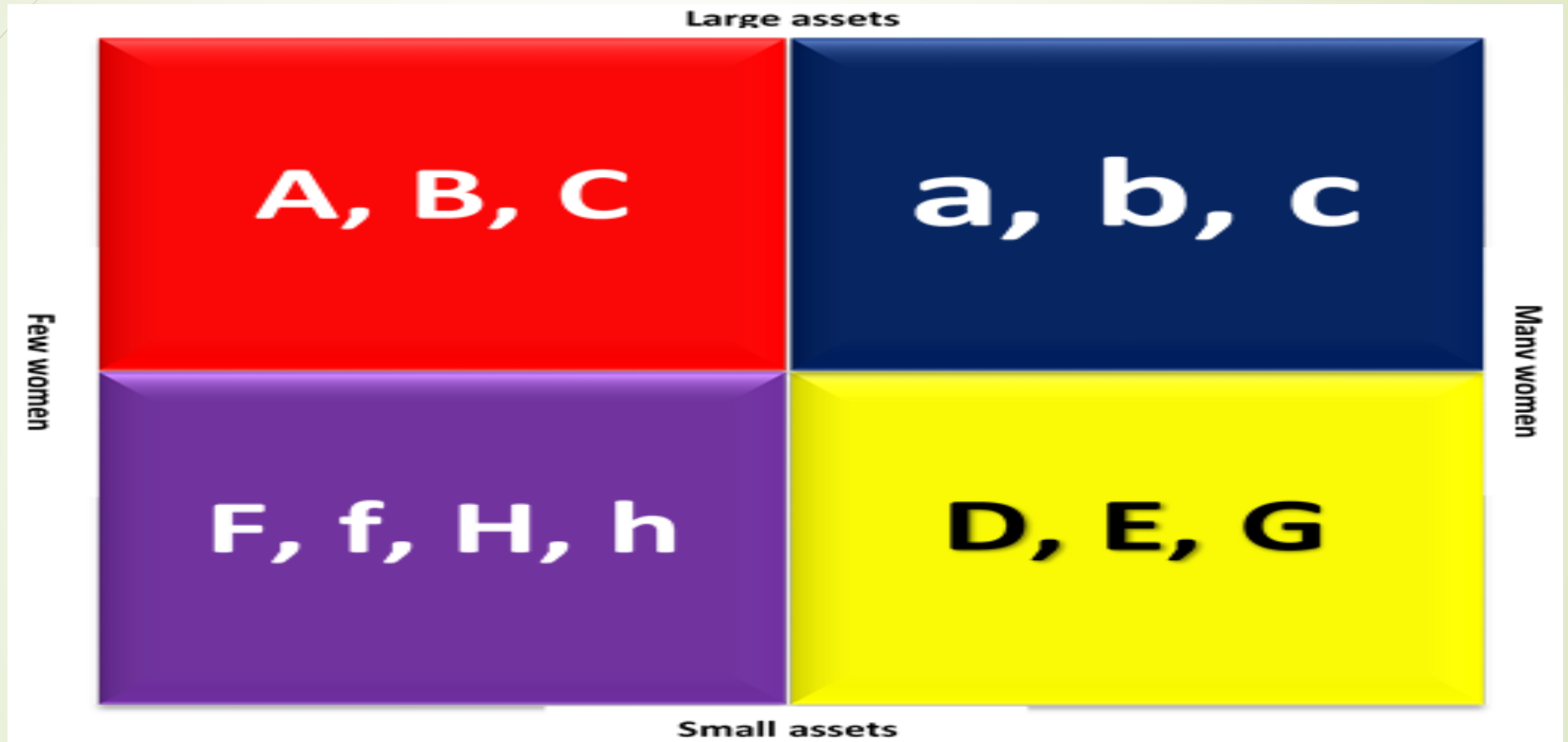


• • •



- Roles within post-harvest system: expressions-
- “Women are our **storage (gotachin), guaguncherachin** (= **key**)” asserts an FGD participant from Shehona village of Kudmi kebele (Amhara)
- **‘It is not for men to ask what is in store’**
- **“Why would a wife be if she cannot manage her possessions (storage). . .”** participants from Amhara and Adebay
- **However, women are mainly responsible for in house storage (kefo) men are responsible out side house (gotera)**
- **“No wife, no seed no life”** showing the role of women in seed selection (Tigray)
- **Selling of grains: determined by **quantity, time** needed, and **income** implications of grains for sale**

Ownership of assets: main finding of gendered access and related control over assets



a) land; b) mechanized farm equipment, c) livestock, large, d) small ruminants, e) non-mechanized equipment, f) poultry, large, g) poultry, small, h) beehives, modern,

Control over and relevance of income streams for women in the four regions

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	P
Factor	3	1.324	0.441	3.99	0.014
Error	40	4.420	0.111		
Total	43	5.744			

S = 0.3324 R-Sq = 23.05% R-Sq(adj) = 17.28%



Purchase, sale, or transfer of assets

- ▶ **Main findings:**

- ▶ Where the monetary implications are larger, men control decision making
- ▶ Women often make decisions concerning low income streams, e.g., poultry



Decisions over credit

- ▶ **Main findings:**

- ▶ Both men and women should make a signed consent during loan application in MFIs
- ▶ Most of the FGD participants have had access (M+W) to some kind of credit from MFIs
- ▶ Credits from informal lenders may not be consulted with women
- ▶ The FGDs have also confirmed that men may abuse the credits once at home for unproductive use, e.g., buy local beer



Income

➤ **Main findings:**

- **Men are the main breadwinners in all the regional FGDs; thus control most of it**
- **Contribution of women to household income is smaller: reasons?**

- **Low level of education/training**
- **Low or limited marketable life skills**
- **Women should not move outside their village or leave their family**
- **Women should not be working among majority men markets**
- **Men vs. women activity stereotyping**
- **Awareness limitations among women: culturally men should play the role of a provider while women must stay at home as care givers; for instance, it is considered a shame if a woman pays for a man for some reason in front of other people.**
- **Men mostly involved in trainings in favor of household head based approaches vs. household based schemes**



Cont. . .



- ▶ **Case: Hanna Batiso, female from Kitawdembe SNNP:**
- ▶ ***“ . . . in my family my husband is the sole family member who have power to decide on selling and spending the money from sale of assets. And have only one option to give money, which is motivating him in different ways and am using that way when I want money. For example I used to prepare his favorite food, appeare clean and feminine and used to kiss him. That time he was so excited and become happy and opens an opportunity to get the amount of money I want.”***



Leadership



- ▶ **Participation in institutions – community space**
 - ▶ Women participate in many community institutions: cooperatives, women development groups, water groups, natural resource groups, religious groups, SACCOS, and other SHG – shows wider community space
 - ▶ Cooperatives and women development army are the two most important instruments of greater community space
 - ▶ Every woman in a village is tied to a network of 1:5 and 1:30 ratio. The network is the main source of information and other issues
 - ▶ However, the degree of influence of women is yet limited

- 
- 
- ▶ **FGD participant from Adebay: quote**
 - ▶ ***“I have gained confidence of adopting new technologies from the continuous interaction with the members of my network, and I wanted to be a model for others. The network of women development groups has helped in proving myself to pursue higher growth opportunities thereby enhance my influence over household and community power structures. At least, I can share my challenges with common interest groups of mine and get constructive advice in return, which by the way is comforting . . .”***



Time allocation

- ▶ **Workload – proxy for time poverty**
 - ▶ In all the regions, women work for more than 16 hours compared to men's 7-9 hrs.
 - ▶ Women are also responsible for productive activities on top of the domestic activity workloads.
 - ▶ Post-harvest activities also form part of the regular workload for women
 - ▶ Heavy workloads of men is one of the main sources of women empowerment gap in all the regions
 - ▶ More this has negatively affected the relative leisure time women have and the degree of satisfaction

Region	Wake up	5-8 AM	8-12 AM	12-3 PM	3-6 PM	6-10 PM	10-12 PM	Sleep
		Domestic						
SNNP	5-6 AM	Cleaning, Prepare breakfast, Feed children, Make coffee, Taking a meal and coffee to the field	Take care of cattle (feeding, cleaning), Cleaning, Preparing lunch such as enset	Serving husband & children, Cleaning	Prepare dinner	Serving dinner & husband children, Cleaning	Preparation for next day	
Oromia	5-6 AM	Cleaning, Prepare food, Feed children, Make coffee, Taking a meal and coffee to the field	Take care of cattle (feeding, cleaning), Cleaning, Preparing lunch	Serving husband & children, Cleaning	Prepare dinner	Serving dinner & husband children, Cleaning	Preparation for next day	
Amhara	5 AM	Cleaning, Prepare breakfast, Feed children, church Make coffee, Taking a meal and coffee to the field, making areki	Take care of cattle (feeding, cleaning), Cleaning, Preparing lunch, making areki	Serving husband & children, Cleaning	Prepare dinner	Serving dinner and husband children, Cleaning dishes	Preparation for next day	
Tigray	4-5 AM	Cleaning, Prepare food, Feed children, church Make coffee, Taking a meal and coffee to the field	Take care of cattle (feeding, cleaning), Cleaning, Preparing lunch, oil extraction	Serving husband & children, Cleaning, oil extraction	Prepare dinner	Serving husband and children, Cleaning dishes	Preparation for next day	
		Productive						
		Farming (depending on the season) includes (sowing, planting, field management, directing irrigation waters,)	Continue working on the farms, storage handling, cleaning, drying, etc	Having lunch and coffee	Back to the farm and	Home for dinner and go to sleep		

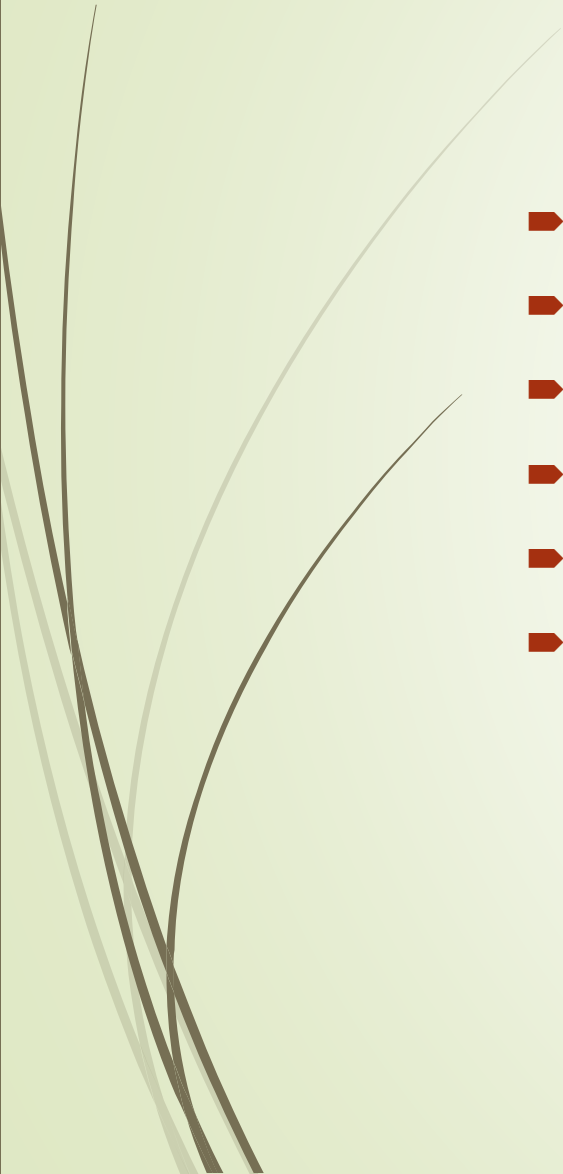


Conclusions and recommendation

- **The WAEI show that men are empowered compared to women in all the cases**
- **Main sources of empowerment gaps across the regions**
 - Time poverty (heavy workloads),
 - Autonomy in decision making,
 - Leadership, and
 - Access to & control over assets (economic voice).
 - Limited access to training and post harvest technologies



Recommendations

- **Trainings on post-harvest grain handling**
 - **Low cost access to post harvest technologies e.g., PICS**
 - **Membership in producer collective actions and access to markets**
 - **Effective targeting of women by projects**
 - **Raising the incentives for women from interventions**
 - **Integration with other civil societies**
- 



Quote: "it is easy for men to meet other men in the villages and talk over many issues. It is very difficult for women to move away from home as a primary care taker and meet other women. This is one of the differences that causes differential access to information and other life skills. . ."



Quote: "... harvest losses are rampant at times we cannot cope. We are even transmitting diseases to next generations due to the distress treatments we use including DDT and Malatine. We are even forced to sell the grains at low price during harvest or risk the substantial harvest loss (quantity & quality) due to beetles exacerbated by our hotter ecology."

Thank you

