

Remarkable women group in Endegne woreda

Ms. Amsal Shibiru is a member and chairperson of Adoed Ashe women Common Interest Group (CIG). It is one of the CIGs in Endegagne woreda, Gurage Zone, formed by women members of Gomomisha Micro watershed.

Ms Amsal and her fellow women living in Endage woreda observed the soil and water conservation practices implemented in the neighbouring Mierab Azernet woreda, silti zone. Watching the plantings and hillside terraces constructed by communities in Mierab Azernet have given them a promising insight on how to recover the lost natural resources and watch over the threatened environment. Shortly after the visit and participating as a daily labourer in the woreda, the Adoed Ashe women Common Interest Group started striving to engage in soil and water conservation activities.

“We are lucky that a year after we started the soil and water conservation works, SLMP started its intervention and this was what we have been praying for after we saw the results of SLM in Silte zone” said Ms Lalame Muzemil, a member and secretary of Adoed Asha women’s group. Lalame further explained that “ SLMP trained as to construct Bench terrace , to plant Densho grass and support with inputs for production which brings change in our life

Women’s in our micro watershed”. Adoed Asha Women’s common interest group was organized in 2007 and engaged in various activities. The woreda has donated 34 hectares of land to the group to help them strengthen their activities and with the support from SLMP/RLLP the women group started working on soil and water conservation.



Figure 1 barely crop on Mrs. Amsal home garden, Endagegn woreda

“Before the SLMP/RLLP support the women in our micro watershed were economically poor and had low social participation; furthermore the wage value for women was half less than men but know things were changed and even we support others women’s and uses in the micro watershed and fully confident to live and work as a farmer with better economic power and all this come with our effort and SLMP support said Ms. Amsal Shibiru,

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Women in the Adode Ashe CIG are now well represented in the woreda, they fully engage in the RLLP soil and water conservation activities and equally reaping the benefits. According to the members, each of them get significant income from group works, production and management of home gardens which are established with skill based soil and water management trainings of the RLLP.



Figure 2 Adode Ashe Women's common interest group farm land, Endagne woreda

"SLMP comes for communal land management and for women headed house both of them benefited from the project"

Mrs. Amsal says "individually I am well benefited women having more than 300,000 birr in my bank account and teaches two of sons at university level and having houses at kebele and woreda town and after the next crop season I will buy Bajaj for one of my son which is totally impossible before SLMP"

Mrs Lalame assure that members have earned cash from sale of potato seed and barley. She also confirmed that the average annual income of the group is around 350,000 ETB. Currently, the group has a cash saving of 224,000 ETB in the bank account; furthermore, the potato seed to be sold in the 2015 cropping season and the barley on the farm and the seed potato is worth around 330,000 ETB.



Figure 3 Mrs Lalame holding produced Potato crop on the farm, Gomomisha Micro watershed, ndagne woreda

"We have planted desho grass on the ridge and feed our cattle. This has enabled us to harvest more milk, fatten small ruminants and earn more cash" said Ms Lalame.

"I would finally say that SLMP/RLLP came for the sake of abandoned communal lands and women headed households as both have benefited from the project" said Ms Amsal backing her fellow farmer, Mrs Lalame.

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Figure 4 Adoashe women group participating on land preparation, Gomomisha Micro watershed endagne woreda

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