# Interviews with female teenage focus groups in Dinki, Hagere Selam wereda, North Shewa

*Topic – government development interventions*

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## Focus group of females aged 15-19

1. HB 17, Grade 3, Poor

2. BB 15, no education, Poor

3. BC 18, no education, Rich

4. BNT 18, no education, Middle-wealth

5. XH 15, Grade 7, Rich

6. GU 16m Grade 7, Middle-wealth

### Land

Land registration gave both the woman and the man equal right to their land. Parents’ equal right to their land has made them not to put their wealth away from their family because of fear. By this young girls benefit.

### Resettlement

None

### Government universities/colleges

None

### Irrigation

There is an expansion in use of water for irrigation in the community. The people grow fruits, vegetables and cash crops using irrigation.

This had improved the food and the income of the people and their children. When parents have income their young children will have a cloth to wear.

But it has an effect on our health when there is stagnant water. It will create suitable environment for mosquitoes to breed.

It takes our time. Other harvests do not require as much as time as the farm work of the irrigation. Especially students have to skip classes or their study time to work on the farm.

Some of our parents bought a water pump for irrigation in an expensive price. The water pump without serving for long had broken down. All the vegetables got dry and our parents lose money because of the water pump and the vegetables that went dry. This had affected the whole family. It would have been better if the government could provide a water pump that does not break down easily.

It has increased the time spent together by the family, when they work together on the field.

In dry seasons when there is a shortage of rain people will compete for water. The land of FH might get dry and her children will starve.

If disputes arise by irrigation water and when parents go to get justice, it will be young women’s responsibility to take care of all the domestic work.

In the nursery that works on irrigation young women could benefit because they are included.

### Alternative Basic Education

The alternative school is far from the community and because satellite classes are opened and the primary school in Chibiti is available no one learns there.

### Water harvesting

Big holes are being dug to as reservoir for water.

The water well is suitable for mosquitoes breeding. And the spread of malaria.

The big wells are dangers for children. Little children might fall in it while crawling. For this solution if the water holes could be closed on the top and if the water can be brought out using a pipe line.

### Government pre-school education

 None

### Agricultural extension and packages

Introduction of improved seeds and fertiliser;

The improved seeds give better product than the local ones. When our families get a better income we get enough food to eat, the cloth we wear and other things we need. For instance the improved chickpea seeds we received this year had benefited us as well as it benefited our families.

The fertiliser has caused a problem last year. After it was placed on the farm it did not get any rain. It did not give any product though Teff was sowed on it. Then the Teff was given for cattle.

If the government keeps bringing fertiliser and improved seeds that can benefit our families we also will benefit.

A land that has adapted to use fertiliser if it misses fertiliser when our parents do not have enough money to buy it the land will not give any harvest. We will starve then. If the price for fertilisers could be reduced our families will always be able to buy.

There is discrimination when improved seeds are distributed (see the use of models, champions, promoters). We will be better off if the government could supervise the work of the people who do the distribution.

### Community-government interactions

We do not know.

### Livestock extension and packages

Veterinaries give vaccination and an introduction of improved chickens.

Young women buy stationeries and other materials they need by the money they get from selling chickens or their eggs.

When the family slaughter a chicken or from the heard the young women benefit nutrition.

Young women might get absent from school when herding the livestock.

When a young woman gets sick she can take a chicken from she is raising to get healed. She does not need to buy from the market.(people round chickens over their head when getting sick. But not all people do this.)

The improved chickens die easily. We would like to have a medicine for the chickens dying.

If we could have improved cows that give a better amount of milk.

If the government could provide fodder in lower price because grazing land is not being available.

### The use of models, champions, promoters – roles

Mobilise people to dig latrines and to participate on other interventions that the government introduces. Distribute improved seeds and give grains of FFW payment.

When they distribute improved seeds they discriminate female headed families and those who are not their relatives.

### Non-farm extension and packages

None

### The use of extension workers – roles

They mobilise people to work on development actions.

### Co-operatives

Never heard about it.

### Good governance

We do not know about it.

### Government Micro-credit

When farmers receive credit they consider it as a gift and spend it unwisely. If the borrowed money cannot be returned the farmers land or his house will be taken. And the family will be dispersed and young women will fall out anywhere. When the family is unable to pay the debt young women will not have the stationary materials they need. They might even drop out of school. People in a desperate need may borrow money and use it for consumption rather than business. This will put their life in danger when they be unable to pay so, if the government could give the credit only to those who have enough of what they eat.

### Interactions with wereda

We do not know about it.

### Food aid

None

### Security, policing and justice

Work on preventing abduction.

Our community militias do not work for the community. They use their weapons for their own personal use. They do not take action when they see a women being abducted.

It would be good if supervision could be held over their action. For this If rules could be set. And if other accountable people could become militia.

### Nutrition

We have not seen any practical nutrition intervention in our community.

### Taxes; other contributions of cash and labour

Land tax, church tax, Red Cross, sport and mill tax.

### Family planning

Introduction of contraceptives

If children number in the family is large there will not be enough food for all children; young women will be responsible of taking care of the younger children and the domestic work and might not attend school. If there is a lot of burden on the young women they might migrate to places they will be exposed to exploitation and abuse.

A young women who got married by abduction to a person she does not love she will use contraceptives until she is ready to run away. If she has not given him a child it will be easy for her to separate from him and remarry to another person.

The contraceptives affect the health of women if they does not eat nutritional foods.

### Government-sponsored Associations

None

### Pregnancy and childbirth

We not heard any such service.

### Presentation of government models of development

None

### Drinking water

None

### Exemptions for the poor

None

### Sanitation

Digging latrines and improved stoves

When people get sick they use to excrete on the ground and contaminate others. They excrete on the ground also create an environment that is not good for view. Young women do not have to go far to defecate.

The latrines made in schools made it possible for young women to use.

The improved stove had protected young women who bake injera from being singed by the fire.

If HEWs could follow up the peoples use of the latrines as they have followed up the digging.

If all the people do not start using latrines the environment will not change so, all the people should be forced to use latrines.

### Gender laws, policies , programmes and implementation

Laws introduced to avoid abduction, rape and other actions that deprive the rights of women.

This made possible the young women to keep their education.

If teaching about women’s rights could be given.

### Preventive health services

Vaccination for mothers and children. Distribution of bed nets.

The bed net kills cockroaches, flies and mosquitoes.

### Youth policies, programmes and implementation

There was nothing done we have heard of being done.

### Curative health services

Introduction of HEWs and the health post.

The heath post dose not has the necessary equipment for diagnosis. If this can be improved it can give a better service.

### Community work including FFW and non-government work

Working in the nursery and road maintenance.

This helped young women gain money.

If the nursery’s work could be improved and include many people as possible.

Our wage gets delayed and have to go to Ankober to receive. We could finish it with transportation cost only.

### Primary education

The introduction of satellite classes.

Our young sisters and brothers learn in the satellite classes. When we go to school they take care of the domestic work because they return home before we do.

The class lacks chairs, door and wall.

### Transport

None

### Secondary education

A secondary school is opened in Aliyu Amba.

It has reduced transportation cost, students are now able to visit their parents during the weekends.

If car transport could be available students do not have to stay renting a house or with a relative in Aliyu Amba.

### Electricity and communications

None

### Government TVET

We do not know.

### ‘Harmful traditional practices’

The government have not gave us teaching in the community we heard about it in school.

If the government could take action on traditional medical practitioners.

If a health service could be available in closer site.

## Focus group of females aged 11 – 14

### Land

Before 3 years land was taken for road purpose from our parents.

When the land is reduced product also decreases. This affected our families.

Our fence was fall apart for the road purpose. Young girls get absent from school to look for the vegetables to protect it from cattle.

The road has also benefits. The available government cars sometimes provide us transportation when we go to market or school.

### Resettlement

None

### Government universities/colleges

None

### Irrigation

The introduction of water use for irrigation had increased our parents’ income.

Our families now can easily buy us stationary materials.

Food is available for all of us to eat. The nursery introduced vegetable and fruits.

Stagnant water causes malaria.

The use of irrigation may also create a shortage of water for cattle in dry seasons.

When all the boys in a house hold turn to work on irrigation (cease to fetch water and collect fair wood) all the domestic work responsibility will be on young girls.

Water pump is useful for farms on uphill. This types of farms cannot get water unless by the use of water pump.

### Alternative Basic Education

None

### Water harvesting

There is one water hole in the community.

It replaces rain during dry seasons to water vegetables.

If the water hole is not fenced children and animals could easily fall in it.

It would improve the life of many if it became possible to have the hole almost everywhere.

### Government pre-school education

None

### Agricultural extension and packages

Improved seeds and fertiliser gives a better product.

If a child puts a fertiliser in his mouth he will die.

### Community-government interactions

We do not know.

### Livestock extension and packages

Fodder, vaccination, improved chickens and fattening food.

Young girls raise chickens and sell them and their eggs. By the money they get they buy stationary, cloth and shoe.

When young girls herd cattle they might loss some among the cattle because they are small to look for large cattle.

If the government could provide us fenced house for the chickens to protect them from hawk

### The use of models, champions, promoters – roles

Mobilise the community to do road maintenance, stirrups and in the nursery.

The grain received had helped our family an us.

### Non-farm extension and packages

None

### The use of extension workers – roles

None

### Co-operatives

We have not heard about it.

### Good governance

None

### Government Micro-credit

People borrow from the government.

When a borrowed family cannot pay the debt children will suffer from loss of shelter or food (their house or oxen will be sold).

Borrowed people will borrow again to pay their dept. And get in another dept.

### Interactions with woreda

None

### Food aid

They gave us a flour which they say it was for children. We gave it to our oxen and cows baking it.

### Security, policing and justice

The militiamen keep peace in the community.

### Nutrition

We have not seen anything.

### Taxes; other contributions of cash and labour

Land tax.

### Family planning

Use of contraceptives.

When there is not a large family size young girls could get enough food, cloth and stationary materials.

But the small number of children will lay a burden of the domestic and the field work on the available children. Because the burden is shared by only few children. This will reduce the time they spend on tier study.

### Government-sponsored Associations

None

### Pregnancy and childbirth

None

### Presentation of government models of development

None

### Drinking water

None

### Exemptions for the poor

None

### Sanitation

Digging latrine

Latrines protect people from diseases.

Some people who dug latrine near their house will not use it thinking that is will bring a bad smell to their house.

If the government could enforce people to use latrines.

### Gender laws, policies , programmes and implementation

It had protected young girls from being abducted and to follow their education.

### Preventive health services

Vaccination for children and mothers, trachoma prevention medicine, malaria prevention medicine and Weha Agar to prevent water caused diseases.

A pregnant woman who took the trachoma prevention medicine had died.

A woman who took the Weha Agar in higher concentration for her stomach illness got sick.

If the government teaches people the right dose.

### Youth policies, programmes and implementation

None

### Curative health services

None

### Community work including FFW and non-government work

The nursery and road maintenance.

When our families get grains we will have something to eat.

### Primary education

Introduction of satellite classes.

Made young girls start school in their early age.

### Transport

None

### Secondary education

A secondary school is opened in Aliyu Amba.

It has reduced transportation cost; students are now able to visit their parents during the weekends.

If car transport could be available students do not have to stay renting a house or with a relative in Aliyu Amba.

### Electricity and communications

None

### Government TVET

None

### ‘Harmful traditional practices’

There is not much intervention introduced we have known. But we have learned in schools.