# Gelcha site-specific topic:

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[Gelcha site-specific topic: 1](#_Toc440119989)

[Successful wife with children 1](#_Toc440119990)

[Struggling wife with children 1](#_Toc440119991)

[Successful woman engaged in market activities 2](#_Toc440119992)

[Struggling woman engaged in market activities 3](#_Toc440119993)

[Two diaries of wife and husband time use 3](#_Toc440119994)

[Successful woman engaged in market activities 4](#_Toc440119995)

[First day 4](#_Toc440119996)

[Second day 4](#_Toc440119997)

[Struggling woman engaging in market activities and husband’s diary 4](#_Toc440119998)

[First day 4](#_Toc440119999)

[Second day 5](#_Toc440120000)

[Third day 5](#_Toc440120001)

[Fourth day 6](#_Toc440120002)

[Fifth day 6](#_Toc440120003)

[Sixth day 7](#_Toc440120004)

[Research Officer additions and comments 7](#_Toc440120005)

## Successful wife with children

Age: 34; Education: illiterate; household number: 9, she married at the age of 16 years. Since then she has participated in livestock activities and household chores. Economically she is better off in wealth status among the community members. The main livelihood of the family is animal rearing.

The community women are involving more in both productive and reproductive activities. Herding, milking, cleaning livestock yards, collecting animal feed and all household chores including caring for children. And PSNP public work and marketing activities are also the responsibilities of women. The main duties of men are controlling and monitoring children and livestock and involving more in community issues like problem solving and discussing what is good/bad for the community with kebele officials.

Women are involving more in marketing activities like petty trading and shoat trading, selling firewood and grass, and engaging in daily work during hard times (drought). The government would provide credit for engaging more in marketing activities. That helps them to improve the livelihoods of the family as well as the community.

Consequences of women’s workload; it has a negative impact on their health so that they are commonly affected by anaemia and it is locally said “Karrayu women do not have blood”, and suffering from gastritis, malaria, severe back pain, stomach ache and headache.

She devoted the whole time to involving in herding, cleaning the livestock yard, collecting their food (cane residue), going out and collecting them early in the morning and at night, respectively. She engages in household chores with caring for small children. She has no time to involve in non-agricultural works. The coping mechanism of the household is selling shoats for food consumption expenditure. She is not a PSNP beneficiary.

## Struggling wife with children

Age: 35; Education: illiterate; household number: 9, she married at 16 years old, since then she has been involved in livestock activities and household chores. Recently she has started to involve in daily labour; last year she participated in digging canals for about nine months for 25 birr per day. Similarly she has been engaging in building the GTF office since last September. She is participating in loading sand and cement, and watering the building, and she earns 25 birr per day.

Women of the site have starting to participate in daily work if it is available. Commonly they involve in herding, selling firewood, grass, charcoal and crop residue; these are women’s coping strategies during the dry season. They also totally engage in PSNP work and household chores such as fetching water, collecting firewood both for sale and fuel, collecting crop residue from the sugar cane plantation for animals and to sell, child care and marketing activities. These are the duties of women in the kebele. Men have not as much workload as women and the main duties of men are looking after livestock, selling and buying large animals with going to far places for the sake of prices. They keep the family and neighbours life peaceful as they involve in conflict resolution and solving any problem that occurs among families in the village.

Now the roles of women in the coping strategy are increasing as the wealth of the family deteriorates because of the subsequent drought. Women are engaging in market activities like selling firewood, grass, crop residue, charcoal, buying and selling shoats (without fattening), petty trade, etc. Because of dairy product shortfalls, the quality of food has decreased as they are forced to adopt grain food. And again the prices of grains are rising which is causing decreasing quantities of food. For instance, because of high prices of pulses the people couldn’t prepare injera, rather they stick to porridge, which is eaten with goats’ milk or Wojja (coffee with milk); if milk is not available it could be consumed without any.

The consequence of women’s workload is that it has a negative impact on their health. Commonly, women are suffering from anaemia, gastritis, back pain and stomach ache. They give priority for food to their children and husbands, and because of food shortages they are easily exposed to various diseases.

She involves in livestock activities like herding, cleaning livestock yards, going out and collecting livestock in the morning and night, respectively, collecting animal food (crop residue) and participating in all household chores with caring for children. She engages in daily work and selling grass, and sheep for coping strategies.

## Successful woman engaged in market activities

Age: 45; Education: illiterate; household members - 13 family members, three of them are orphan children who are supported by her. Except for educational materials support provided by FCFDA, the have no other means of life. Some others are grandchildren, and a divorced daughter with her child. She had got married at 15 years old.

The main livelihoods of the family are income from selling small animals and her trading activities relating to driving a cart. She is rich in economic wealth in the community. Fifteen years ago she was one of the poor persons among the community members. She remembers her past life like this: the first three and four children were growing with milk contributions for poor children locally know as Debberee. She sold charcoal and grass and saved about 400 birr from its income. Then she started the marketing activities. And gradually she expanded her activities and reached the current situation. These activities have been started in the last 16 years.

Women have great responsibility for household work, both in livestock activities and household chores. Especially the women’s workload is increasing with children’s education as it becomes strict that all parents have to send their children to school. That meant all household work rests on the shoulders of the women. Women get up early in the morning to out to the livestock, prepare breakfast, and cleaning the house and livestock and they work the whole day without the help of child labour. At night they have to collect the livestock if children are not willing do so, they even should be controlling/monitoring the condition of the livestock. Participating in PSNP work and caring for children are also women’s duty. Men have fewer roles in livelihood improvements, their main duty is controlling and monitoring livestock, ordering children to do something (like fencing of the animal yard, moving with camels in far places) and they go with camels, treat animals when they get sick, etc.

Women’s coping strategy is selling firewood, grass, charcoal and small animals, and participating in shoat fattening; they buy one or two sheep/goats and then during hard times or after two/three months they are sold. If a woman sells two goats, she should buy at least one. This is very important. Now, the numbers of women involving in marketing activities have increased. Most women are engaging in petty trading and they sell coffee husks (Ashara), salt, sugar, tobacco in various ways (rolled, powder, leaf), soap, tea, biscuits, etc., and some of them have started to sell cooked grain (Nifro) and potatoes.

The women’s work load has an impact on their health; she said that “almost all of the Karrayu women have not blood (suffer from anaemia) which exposes them to various diseases so that women are frequently affected with malaria, severe headache, and stomach ache and back pain”.

She is engaging in marketing activities/trading, driving a horse cart, participating in household chores and livestock activities like milking cows and goats, cleaning livestock yard, collecting cane residue, caring for too many children including orphan children, and also caring for her older husband, etc. She has no PSNP support.

She is very busy as her diary indicates in the table below; she spend her full time on work as she wakes early in the morning and goes to bed late at the night.

## Struggling woman engaged in market activities

Age: 40; Education: illiterate ; household members: 8, she got married at 18 years old. Economically she is middle wealth family in the community.

The main livelihood of the household is income from small animals and her husband’s wage salary. In the last three years, she has started to involve in marketing activities as she learns from her neighbour who is a model trader. The income helps the household on a daily basis.

She buys consumption goods from Addis Ketema and sells them at home. She works at the market for a full day on each Thursday in the week.

The roles and activities of women in the community: all household chores and livestock activities including non-agricultural activities (selling grass, firewood, charcoal and crop residue (cane)) are done by women. PSNP public work also should be done by women. That meant women are busy both in productive and reproductive works; child care is totally the work of women. Some of the kebele men are guards of the sugar cane plantation who work eight hours per day and then take rest with their free time. Even if they don’t have employed work, they don’t participate in household work except looking after the livestock and controlling children to collect them on time.

The women engaging in coping strategies are increasing as the drought becomes severe in the area. Women are involving more in selling firewood, grass, charcoal, and cane residue, and participating in fattening shoats on a small scale and widely engaging in marketing activities. The respondent suggested that for improving women’s income-earning activities credit access should be available to engage every woman in marketing/trading activities like shoat fattening.

Because of workload women are suffering from back pain, kidney infection and anaemia. Specifically anaemia is affecting pregnant women and then it becomes severe and they go to the health service up to hospital and the health professionals request them to eat protein foods. Sometimes they tell husbands to slaughter sheep or goats for their wives but they don’t do anything for them.

## Two diaries of wife and husband time use

The following tables show the diary of time use of wife and husband (all times in local time)

### Successful woman engaged in market activities

#### First day

| Activities | Woman (wife) | | Man (husband) | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Local time | Activities | Time | activities |
| Getting up | \*11:00-11:30 | Prepared inputs for cooking biscuits, made them to ferment. |  | Asleep |
| Between waking up and breakfast | 11:30-12:00  12:00-1:00  1:00- 2:00  2:00- 3:00 | Let out small animals, fetched water.  Cooked biscuits.  Milked cows and goats, prepared porridge and served it to children before they went to school.  Made coffee and had breakfast with husband and then drinking Woja (coffee) with neighbours, cleaning livestock yard. | 3:00 | Asleep  Woke up |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 3:30-6:00  6:30  8:00  8:00-9:00 | Participated in kebele meeting.  Went to town to bring chat which comes at 7:00.  Back to home.  Prepared lunch and served the family members. | 3:00-3:30  3:30-9:00 | Had breakfast and drank coffee  Kept the house and surrounding |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 9:00-12:00 | Collected firewood and sugar cane residue, fetched water with selling chat and other consumption goods. | 9:00  9:30-11:00 | Had lunch  Asleep |
| B/n dinner and bed time | 12:00- 1:30  1:30- 3 | Collected livestock, milked cows and goats, preparing dinner.  Served the dinner to the family members. | 12:00-3:00 | Talked with family members and had dinner |
| During night | 3:30 | Went to bed. | 3:15 | Went to bed |

#### Second day

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time range | Woman (wife) | | Man (husband) | |
| Time | Activities | Time | Activities |
| Getting up | 11:00 | Fermented biscuit ingredients. | 3:00 | Asleep. |
| Between waking up and breakfast | 11:30-12:00  12:00- 1:00  1:00-2:30  2:30-3:30 | Took out shoats to eat the leaves before others livestock ate them.  Prepared breakfast, fetched water.  Cooked biscuits and gave to daughters to sell at school as usual.  Made coffee, had breakfast with husband. | 3:00-3:30 | Woke up and had breakfast. |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 4:00- 8:00  8:00 | Worked on horse cart, town to kebele.  Backed to home buying with chat. | 4:00-8:00 | Around home. |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 9:00-11:00  11:00-12:00 | Had lunch and engaging in selling chat and other goods at home.  Prepared animal food (mixed fino with crop residue) for horse and cows only and fed them. | 9:00-12:00 | Around home and talked with neighbours. |
| B/n dinner and bed time | 12:00- 1:00  1:00-2:00 | Milked cows and goats.  Drinking coffee. | 12:00-3:00 | Talked with family members. |
| During night | 3:00 | Went to bed. | 3:00 | Went to bed. |

### Struggling woman engaging in market activities and husband’s diary

#### First day

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time range | Woman (wife) | | Man (husband) | |
| Time | Activities | Time | Activities |
| Getting up | 12:00 | Washing hands and face, took out shoats. | 1:00 | Washing hands and face. |
| Between waking up and breakfast | 1:00 – 3:30 | Prepared breakfast (porridge), serve her children and husband, made coffee. | 2:00-3:00 | Ate breakfast and went to brother’s house (other kebele). |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 4-4:45  7: – 8:00 | Went to Addis Ketema to buy chat.  Stayed there to wait for chat.  Back to home and ate lunch. | 3:00-4:30  4:30-6:00 | Walked.  Invited by his relatives. |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 8:00 – 9  9:00 – 12  12:00- 2 | Looked after shoats, collected fuel wood.  She brought cane straw and fed cows, milked cows and goats.  Prepared dinner (porridge) and served the household members. | 8:00-10:00  10:00-2:00  3:00 | Involved in reconciliation.  Enjoyed with relatives.  Had dinner and coffee. |
| B/n dinner and bed time | 2:00-3:30 | Drinking coffee and played with family members. | 3:00-4:00 | Talked with relatives. |
| During night | 4:00 | Went to bed. | 4:00 | Went to bed. |

#### Second day

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time range | Woman | | Man | |
| Time | Activities | Time | Activities |
| Getting up | 12:00 | Preparing breakfast. | 11:00-12:00 | Walked to back to home. |
| Between waking up and breakfast | 12:00-1:00  1:00-2:00  2:00-3:00 | Fetched water, took out shoats and cattle.  Milked cows and goats, fed cows.  Made coffee and ate breakfast. | 12:00-4:00  4:00-5:00 | Guarding the cane.  Ate breakfast at home by substituting friend. |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 3:00-5:00  5:00-5:30  5:30-7:30  7:30- 8:30 | Involved in petty trading at home.  Went to Addis Ketema to buy chat and other trading goods (kerosene, salt, coffee husks, soap, etc).  Stayed there.  Back to home. | 5:00-7:00 | Guarding the cane. |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 8:30-12:30 | Ate lunch, made coffee, fetched water, sold chat and other consumption goods, controlled and requested her children to collect the livestock, prepared cows food and milked. | 7:00-8:00  8:00-9:00  9:00-12:00 | Had lunch and drank coffee.  Slept.  Ordered children to collect livestock, controlled over all activities . |
| B/n dinner and bed time | 12:30-1:30  1:30-4:00 | Prepared dinner (porridge).  Distributed food, drinking, coffee, played with household members. | 12:00-3:30 | Stayed at home, had dinner, drank coffee. |
| During night | 4:00 | Went to bed. | 3:30 | Went to bed. |

#### Third day

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time range | Woman (wife) | | Man (husband) | |
| Time | Activities | Time | Activities |
| Getting up | 11:30-12:00 | Prepared husband’s break fast. | 11:15-12:00 | Ate breakfast. |
| Between wake up and breakfast | 12:00-1:30  1:30-2 | Milked cow, made coffee, ate breakfast.  Went to market. | 12:00 | Went to job. |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 2:00- 11:00 | Involved marketing at Addis Ketema. | 12:00-7:00 | Guarding cane. |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 11:00-12:00  12:00-2:00 | Back to home.  Ate food, drank coffee. | 7:00-8:00  8:00-11:00  11:00-12:00 | Had lunch.  Chewed chat at neighbour’s house with him.  Controlled children to collect livestock and over looked them. |
| B/n dinner and bed time | 2:00-3:00 | Talked about the day with family. | 12:00-3:00 | Talked with family, drank coffee and had lunch. |
| During night | 3:30 | Went to bed. | 3:30 | Went to bed. |

#### Fourth day

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time range | Woman (wife) | | Man (husband) | |
| Time | Activities | Time | Activities |
| Getting up | 12:00 | Let out cattle and shoats. | 11:45 | Washing hands and face. |
| Between wake up and breakfast | 12:30-2:00  2:00- 3:00 | Fetched water, milked cows and goats, cleaned animal house and surrounding, washed house equipment.  Drank coffee at neighbour’s house. | 12:00 | Went to job. |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 3:00-6:00  6:00-8:00 | Participated in kebele meeting.  Prepared lunch, distributed food to children, made coffee and again prepared husband’s lunch, ate. | 12:00-7:00 | Guarding. |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 8:00-9:00  9:00-12:30  12:30-2:00 | Collected fuel wood, washed clothes.  Selling goods, commanded and controlled her children.  Milked, prepared dinner (made bread/kita). | 7:00-8:00  8:00-10:00  10:00-11:00  11:00-1:00 | Had lunch.  Took rest and talked about kebele meetings with friends and neighbours.  Over looked animals. |
| B/n dinner and bed time | 2:00-4:00 | Distributed food, drink coffee. | 1:00-3:00 | Had dinner and drank coffee. |
| During night | 4:00  6:00-7:00 | Went to bed.  Woke up when a sheep gave birth to care for the lamb. | 3:00 | Went to bed. |

#### Fifth day

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time range | Woman | | Man | |
| Time | Activities | Time | Activities |
| Getting up | 11:30-12:00 | Prepared husband’s breakfast. | 12:300-1:00 | Had breakfast |
| Between wake up and breakfast | 12:00-2:00  2:00-2:30 | Milked, served her children, made coffee.  Went to Addis Ketema to buy chat and food grain. | 1:00 | Went to job. |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 3:00-8:00  8:30 | Bought food grain and prepared there for grinding, bought chat and other consumption goods.  Back to home. | 1:00-7:00 | Guarding the factory plant. |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 8:30-12:30  12:30-1:00-2:00 | Ate food, arranged the bought goods and calculated her income and expenditure with her daughters, selling chat and other goods at home, fed cows.  Milked cows and goat.  Prepared dinner (porridge), distributed food among household. | 7:00-8:00  8:00-11:00  111:00-1:00 | Back to home and had lunch.  Chewing chat with friends.  Looked after the livestock. |
| B/n dinner and bed time | 2:00-4:00 | Made coffee, talked with each other. | 1:00-3:30 | Had dinner and drank coffee. |
| During night | 4:00  5:30-6:00 | Went to bed.  Woke up as her small daughter got sick and gave treatment. | 4:00 | Went to bed. |

#### Sixth day

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time range | Woman (wife) | | Man (husband) | |
| Time | Activities | Time | Activities |
| Getting up | 11:30-12:00 | Prepared husband’s breakfast. | 12:00 | Woke up and had breakfast. |
| Between waking up and breakfast | 12:00-2:00  2:00-3:00 | Distributed food, made coffee, ate breakfast.  Swept floor and cleaned livestock home. | 12:30 | Went to job. |
| B/n breakfast and lunch | 3:00-5:00  5:00  7:00  7:00-8:30 | Went to kebele meeting with neighbours.  Went to Addis Ketema to buy chat.  Back to home.  Baked injera, cooked wat, distributed food among children. | 1:00-8:00 | Looked after the plant. |
| B/n lunch and dinner | 9:00-10:00  10:00-1:00  1:00-2:00 | Collected cane straw with daughter, fetched water, controlled children to collect livestock.  Sold chat and other consumption goods.  Distributed food to children. | 8:00-9:00  9:00-11:00  11:00-12:00 | Had lunch.  Took rest and talked with neighbours.  Monitored the livestock. |
| Dinner to bed time | 2:00-3:00 | Prepared food and made coffee for guests and husband. | 1:00-3:00 | Had dinner and coffee. |
| During night | 4:00 | Went to bed. | 3:300 | Went to bed. |

## Research Officer additions and comments

The researcher attempted to see the weekly diary of the respondents with their husbands during field work. Only the two respondents’ incomplete diary are written in the report document, however, there is not as much difference between the woman engaging in market and non-engaging.

From the diary the women’s workload is clearly seen, even the time of waking and going to bed is not the same as husband and family members. Thus, women are waking up early in the morning and going to bed later than other household members.