# Interviews with kebele officials in Harresaw kebele, Atsbi wereda, East Tigray - Stage 2 questions

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## Kebele structure

### About the kebele

NB in Tigray kebele are called tabia and sub-kebele are called kushet.

There are many structures which should be condensed. Wudabe (organizing position in party) and propaganda are separate although they have similar functions. They should be made into one structure. The peace structure is unnecessary because the police should manage it. Water resource is not necessary. It is good if public relations and social affairs should be merged together with health.

Tabia council:

There are 222 tabia council members, out of these 111 are male and 111 are female. There is a monthly meeting of the tabia council and it is usually done on the 29th day of every month. About 95% of the tabia council always attend meetings.

The council makes higher decisions that are beyond the tabia cabinet. These decisions include overall developmental activities. They include replacement of those who do not actively implement development activities. The council decides the annual budget for the tabia. It also monitors how the budget is working.

It decides where and how PSNP works will be done. It decides how to make peaceful relations with other tabias. The tabia council decides to help those students who cannot afford to go to school, because of shortage of school materials. The tabia council supports poor students not to drop out of school. They solve problems in schools in the tabia. The tabia community also contribute and support students.

The tabia council makes decisions on free public work, health, water and irrigation, and protection of grazing areas.

Recently the tabia council decided that the community members have to contribute for the construction of a tabia meeting hall. There were also forests prohibited this year. The places protected were Ma-ekel and Harresaw.

Tabia Harresaw had a quarrel with Afar region and it was resolved by the tabia council. Topics at the last meeting of the tabia council were preparation for irrigation, paving canals, making requests for the community (fertilizer and improved seeds), paying debt among the community, appointment to the post for youth affairs, issue of migration of youths with illegal brokers, and about solving conflicts in a peaceful way (solving disputes with local elders, preventing disputes before they happen).

Problems in the tabia council are delays and absenteeism. There is also a problem with some in bringing compiled report on the activities accomplished. Some council members do not know well about their responsibilities in the tabia council.

Suggestions forwarded for improvement of the tabia council are capacity building for those who have limited knowledge of their position. For those who come late or are absent from meetings it is better to enforce them using the rules and regulations set for the tabia council.

### Sub-kebele structures

The sub kebele officials are those already included in the tabia cabinets.

Good thing about the current tabia structure is that before 2011 there was kushet as a structure to implement various political and development activities. After kushet (administrative unit lower than tabia) it was given to development groups. Now development interventions are monitored at the level of networks. All development groups have networks so reports are available up to network level. In the past plans were given to kushets so it was difficult to see what really happened at the grassroot level. Now the communication is with development groups not in kushet. Now there are three informal kushet coordinators who coordinate various development activities at kushet level. Land administration and land judges also got included in 2007. This was good for solving land cases in a better way than before.

The problem with the structure in implementing development activities is that even though the absence of kushet helps the tabia administrator to see what is going on at the grassroot level on the other hand it also makes the tabia cabinet very busy. The presence of kushets in the past was very helpful, it used to reduce the work burden of the tabia.

### Kebele Committees

There are four committees in the tabia Harresaw. These committee are:

1. Development committee

2. Education committee

3. Health committee

4. Justice committee

Each of the above mentioned committees comprises 5 people. The development committee is led by rural development. The education committee is led by a teacher. Health committee is led by the health extension worker. Justice committee is led by police and security. All the committees except the health committee are led by men.

There is a meeting every Wednesday. All committee attend meetings. Whenever the time is not convenient meeting time is postponed. The decisions made are concerning their own sectors. Education deals with how to improve the condition of education.

The topics at the last meeting of various committee were preparation of annual plans of the different sectors for 2004EC, preparing reports to sector and orientation to finish various appeals within their committees without bringing them to the tabia. Those people leading the different committees are government paid employees. Those people who assist in the committee are not paid. They are just from the community. Those at the grassroot level may not bring achievements and plans because they are occupied with their own livelihood activities.

Suggestion for improvement is that the committees are many and it is boring for the government employees in each committee. The committees should be fewer in number.

### Kebele leadership

There are 14 cabinet members. They are 11 males and 3 females.

There is a weekly meeting of tabia cabinets which is held every Friday. Whenever there are other meetings in wereda or other towns this weekly meeting becomes once in two weeks. The attendance level in cabinet meeting is very good.

The cabinet gives decisions on appeals from community members. It makes decisions on problems related to PSNP. They propose and decide on the budget and pass it to the tabia council for final decision. They propose where to do PSNP works. They decide on matters which are less than 500 birr.

Recently there was a land appeal. Land was given to someone transgressing the right rule. The man did this because he received a bribe. Then 2 tabia land administrators and 4 kushet land administrators were removed from their places. The cabinet decided and the council accepted.

In the cabinet those who do not work properly are removed from their position. There was also a foreman who did not give rations to people who did PSNP works based on the individual's attendance, he was accused then he was removed from his position.

Topics at the last meeting were preparation for irrigation, preparing seedlings in the FTC, community mobilization, study on free public work (where to do it), use of new technology, new beehives, informing the community to repay loans, and prevention of malaria using insecticide treated nets in some places.

There is no problem regarding tabia cabinets.

Things that should be improved for the future are that there are many structures and many meetings in the tabia most of which are led by farmers without any kind of payment. So these meetings should be reduced because these people are spending a lot of time in meetings. These meeting have a negative effect on their livelihood activities.

*The tabia chair*

The tabia chairperson is male. He attends almost all meetings. He is the one who makes all the decisions together with council or cabinet members. The decisions that were made recently are similar to topics mentioned earlier; topics at the last meeting were preparation for irrigation, preparing seedlings in the FTC, community mobilization, selection of free public work, use of new technology, new beehives, informing the community to repay loans, and prevention of malaria using insecticide treated net in some places. There is no problem with the chairperson, he is very active.

The tabia chairperson participates in many political and developmental activities but he is not paid a salary; it will be good if he gets a salary. He will be negatively affected economically.

There is one chairperson since 2005 and his name is Lieutenant HH.

The tabia manager is male and he is from the Tabia community. He always attends meetings. There is no decision that the tabia manager makes but he has the right to give ideas. One of the responsibilities of the tabia manager is giving identification cards to the tabia community. It is suggested that for the future it will be good if this responsibility can be given to the police because giving ID card is directly related with peace and security.

The first tabia manager came in 2008 and he is from tabia Harresaw. He is the only one who has been there from the beginning of the post of tabia manager. The responsibility of tabia manager is organizing various meetings and events, and preparation of plan and report. He compiles reports annually, biannually, quarterly, monthly and weekly. Reports are also compiled as necessary. He also has the responsibility for taking minutes in the weekly meetings of tabia cabinets and provision of identification cards to community members. He hears appeals and discusses them it with the chairperson before they are taken to the tabia cabinets. He has also a responsibility to keep record of various data. The tabia manager also coordinates different committees in the tabia.

The tabia manager has interaction with the tabia cabinet. He always attends meetings and takes minutes. He gives plans to the cabinet and monitors implementation of development plans. He also leads the cabinet meetings in the absence of the chairperson and vice chairperson.

The tabia manager has a meeting with plan and inspection if there is a problem he raises to the tabia council. He attends meeting and gives ideas. He is also a member of the council because he is from the tabia. He has good interaction with the council. The tabia manager has good relationship with the women’s association and youth association. He has weekly meetings with youth and women’s associations. The manager also has weekly meetings with youth and women’s affairs. They discuss plans to be carried out and reports accomplished. These meetings are led by the tabia manager. The tabia manager has good relationships with sub-tabia structures.

### Women's organisations

*Women’s Association*: there are about 982 members of the women’s association in the kebele. The recent change is that the development groups had both women and men members in the past. However, as the decisions made in the meetings were dominated by men and as the participation and membership of women have been low due to the dominance of men, the women’s affairs office and women’s association decided that women should be organized under separate development groups and networks. When we see the activities of the women’s association, the are to help women in the kebele to be organized and to participate in the kebele’s development activities, to enable women to get equal rights of land ownership with men and to coordinate women to help each other in solving their problems. The change achieved is that as women are now meeting by themselves in the networks and development groups, they have been able to explain their ideas without being oppressed and they feel free. Also, they have been able to make stretchers (they call it temporary Ambulance) at the development group level in 2011 which have been used for emergency aid in times of delivery service need. Women are able to own land as equals to men when the land is allocated. For instance, if there is plot of land that is to be allocated to 25 individuals, 15 are women. The association has also worked in HIV and supports women in case of emergency to get support in terms of money or grain. Women have been able to help each other in the farming activities, to keep their houses clean and paint their houses and help each other during funerals through the networks and development groups. There are problems in that women have not yet been able to participate in irrigation activities as much as men do. As those women who have land give their land to men in sharing, they don’t get as much benefit as they should get and are exposed to various problems.

Suggestions for improvement: as the problems that are occurring among all women, in general, and among the members of the women’s association, in particular, are caused because of backward thoughts, awareness raising activities should be strengthened and be continuous.

*Women’s League*: the women’s league was formed in 2011. In 2011, there were 98 members of the league, and in 2012 the number has reached about 150. As the league is newly formed, it has done not satisfactory activities. But its principle is to raise the knowledge of women about politics by which they can understand that they have rights equal to their husbands at home, to enable them to play leading roles in implementing the government's economic as well as political policies through being members of the political party. So far, the members of the league have been able to actively participate in the monthly political meetings and have been able to raise their political knowledge and share their experiences. The number of members is also increasing over time. The problem is that there are some members that complain about the repeated contributions because they are also members of the women’s association and members of the party so that they contribute for three memberships.

Suggestions for improvement: as the contributions that the women make are used to strengthen the women’s organizations who work to help them to respect their rights in development activities and family activities, they should learn to understand these purposes.

*Women’s Federation*: it was formed in the second half of 2011. There is one federation leader at kebele level and three at kushet level. These leaders do not have specific programmes. Their main activity is to help women in the league, association and party perform what they have planned. This federation is a supportive part to the other women’s organizations. As it is in process of formation, there is no information that can be reported as achievements or problems. However, in the future, it should be direct to implement the objectives as soon as possible.

### Youth organisations

There is a *youth association* in the tabia. There are 260 male youth association members. There are no female association members because they shifted to the women's association. The recent change in youths is that they are organized in networks for the implementation of development activities. Recently youths got land. They also work for the involvement of the youth in beehives and irrigation activities.

There is also a *youth league* at tabia level. There are 98 male members. There are no female members because they have shifted to the women's league. Youths who participate in the youth league are those who have interest in the ruling party. The youth league and the youth association work with integration between themselves. Both work to ensure the economic participation of the youth in the tabia.

The activities done by the youth are that they support the community in labour when there is a need and participate in development activities to improve their lives.

The achievement is there are youths whose lives are improved because of the interventions that are done among the youth. The youths are also able to express their feelings openly.

The problem in the youth association is that there is high migration of youths to Arab countries. There are many youth members who migrated. Their migration takes place illegally through Afar region. There is hopelessness among the youth. They want to see dramatic improvement in their life in a short period of time.

The suggestion given for improvement is that the government should work with the youth association closely to improve the livelihood of youths.

## Roads, paths and bridges

The nearest town to tabia Harresaw is Dera. Tabia Harresaw shares a border with Dera. The road is not of good quality. There is no direct public transport from Harresaw to Dera. People travel from Harresaw to Dera on foot and it is 40minutes walk. There is no direct transport from Harresaw to Dera. There is no recent change in transport service from Dera to Harresaw. For 2012 there is a plan to pave the road from tabia Harresaw to Dera. This was planned by tabia Harresaw administration.

Recent change: Community members of tabia Harresaw have access to the wereda town through public transport and on foot. The road that goes to Dera and to the wereda centre Atsbi is the same except that they are found in opposite directions. The quality of road is poor and most of its part was paved by the community members around the road. Walking time to reach the wereda centre from tabia Harresaw is 2 ½ hrs up to 3 hrs depending on the strength of a person. There is no direct transport from Harresaw to Atsbi but it is after walking some distance up to the main road. Transport to the wereda centre Atsbi is not always available. The availability is associated with the presence of market days at Dera or Atsbi. Transport is available on Tuesdays and Saturdays which are market days at Dera and Atsbi respectively. The cost of transport from Harresaw to Atsbi is 10 birr. For the future there is no plan for the improvement of transport to the wereda centre.

The zone town is called Adigrat. The road that goes to Adigrat is under construction but there is a short cut road which was inaugurated recently in 2011.The type of road from Wukro onwards to the zone centre is asphalt. The zone centre is possible only through car transport because it is very far from the wereda centre. People travel to the wereda centre Atsbi and they continue to Wukro after this they take public transport from Wukro to the zone centre. The transport cost from Harresaw to the zone centre is 45 birr,10 birr to Atsbi+ 10 birr from Atsbi to Wukro and 25 birr from Wukro to the zone centre Adigrat. Availability of transport to the Zone centre is good.

The type of road to the regional capital is of good quality. Walking to the regional capital is impossible because it is far from the wereda centre. There is enough transport to the regional centre. Transport to the regional centre is found from Wukro, not directly from tabia Harresaw or wereda centre Atsbi. The total cost from Harresaw to the regional capital is 35 birr. For the community of tabia Harresaw the regional capital is nearer than the zone centre. There is no plan to improve the road to the regional capital.

There are three kushets having 5 gots within them. Lim-at, Harresaw and Ma-ekel are connected to other kushets through local paved roads. Kushet Harresaw did not have enough internal roads. Motor bikes or cars can be used but only people who come from outside use vehicles. The roads are good in dry seasons; there are some problems with travel during rainy seasons. There is no bridge in the tabia. Limat and Maikel have better access to paved roads when compared with kushet Harresaw. Community members living in different kushets use short cuts to go to other kushets; this includes crossing tiring hills. During the rainy season when crops are not harvested there are paths to get short cuts crossing the crops. Certain paths became wet in rainy seasons and people are forced to walk another way.

## Community land use

Smallholder lands are those owned individually or by couples. During land distribution single headed households were given half those of married couples. Land given to a husband and wife is called Gibri (about 1 hectare). The land given to a man or woman is called Goni and is half of what is given to husband and wife. The area of farm land given to individuals as smallholder land is 319 hectares which is 2.67% of the total land. Recently land was given to those who were landless. They were given land from deceased persons and from unused lands in the community.

There are land holdings which are used for irrigation but they are included in the smallholder land. The area of irrigated land is 350 hectares and its percentage of the total is 2.94%.There was land given recently and it included irrigation land. They are encompassed in the gibri and goni land holdings. Irrigable land is found at Endamariam Wu-o and Endagebriel. About 20% of land in the two gots is irrigated. There is no cooperative farming land. Land given to the kebele is about 1/2 hectare and it is included below in the table in land not for farming. The area of grazing land is 403 hectares and it is 3.38% of the total land. The communal forest land is 370 hectare which is 3.11% of the total land. There is also forest land protected and owned by the government. This land covers 10265 hectares which means 86% of the total land. There is no land given to investors. Land which is not for farming but is used for offices and housing is 204 hectares which is 1.7% of the total land.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.N | Use of land | Area in hectare | Percentage |
| 1 | Farm(small holder land) | 319 | 2.67 |
| 2 | Irrigated land(small holder) | 350 | 2.94 |
| 3 | Land for tabia centre | 0.5 | 0 |
| 4 | Co-operative farming land | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | grazing | 403 | 3.38 |
| 6 | Communal forest land | 370 | 3.11 |
| 7 | Governmental forest | 10265 | 86.19 |
| 8 | Land for investors | 0 | 0 |
| 9 | Land not used for farming(used for government offices and houses) | 204 | 1.7 |
|  | Total land | 11911 | 100 |

## Public buildings

There is an office for the tabia administration and the offices are in good condition. There are incomplete offices which are left with some things to be finished. The tabia office does not have a fence or door for its gate. This is because of budget constraints. It has a clean latrine and the rooms that are giving service are of good quality. It has electricity but it does not have water.

The farmer’s training centre has good offices, shelter for animals and houses for development agents working in the tabia. The rooms are of good quality. It has 1 well and 1 water pond. The farmer's training centre has access to electricity but it does not have water in the compound. There is one latrine.

There is no veterinary office at tabia Harresaw; community members get veterinary services by going to the adjacent tabia

There are two schools in the tabia. The main school which is found in Dera has old and new classrooms. The rooms have good quality. It has fence and trees. The floors are made from cement. It has electricity and water. It has got latrines which is separate for male and female.

Health post. The health post is newly constructed block. It is in a good condition. It’s floor is cement and it has well painted wall. It has electricity and water collected from the health post block's roof.

The health centre has old and new rooms giving health service. It has electricity and water. It has also separate latrines for males and females.

The other building found in the tabia is a newly constructed meeting hall. It is in the tabia administration compound. The meeting hall is in good condition. It has electricity but no water. The latrine is together with the tabia administration.

## Modern infrastructure

### Electricity

There is electricity in tabia Harresaw. Electricity was first installed in tabia Harresaw in 2004 in one of the gots called Abiydera and it was used for the school and health centre in the got. The second installation was in the centre of the tabia which took place in 2009. People in got Endagebriel, FTC, tabia administration and health post are currently using electricity. About 95% of community living in got Endagebriel have access to electricity. Those who live in Equnta and Harresaw have no access to electricity because it is far from the centre.

Electric power is mainly used as a source of light for the community. In addition to this people use it to watch TV, listen to radio, and to recharge mobile batteries.

The installation of electric power was by the wereda budget.

For the installation of individual electric power individuals pay 1200 birr it is very expensive for many people in the tabia. The poor cannot afford to pay this; for this reason those who are poor extend electric cables and pay those who have the individual electric line. Individuals pay 7 birr per lamp per month.

### Phones

The phone access for the community is by individual mobile phones and land line phone found at the tabia.

There is mobile network coverage in some parts of the tabia. Harresaw is the kushet which does not have mobile network coverage. Mobile network coverage is available in the 60% of the tabia. The network coverage came in 2010.The mobiles are used mainly for communication within the tabia and outside the tabia. In addition to this they use mobile phones to listen to FM radio and other music saved in the memory card. There are the latest mobiles in the tabia which come from Saudi Arabia.

The land line phone started in 2006.It is also giving service currently but the number of customers has dropped significantly since the introduction of mobile phones in the area. People use the tabia phone to communicate with people outside the tabia.

## Land-related interventions

### Land re-allocation

There has been no land re-distribution since 1983 EC. But land re-allocation has taken place twice, in 2008 and 2011. Land re-allocation was needed because there are many landless youth and the number of landless migrants has increased. Land is re-allocated only to those who don’t have land. Sometimes, there are conflicts between those who need land and members of the land administration. This is because some members of the land administration have acted corruptly because they let land holdings be kept by individuals when they should have been re-allocated.

### Land registration

Those households who received land before and during the last land re-distribution of 1991 have received land ownership certificates/paper which indicated the name of the land owner and the boundaries of the land owned. Those who were allocated land in 2008 and in 2011 have received a certificate that indicates the name, boundaries and size of the land. There are people who have not received land owning certificates although they own land. As most of the people need certificates when there are conflicts with the neighbouring boundaries, they don’t have them. Otherwise, only those holdings that do not fulfil the requirements of the law do not get a certificate. There has not been a certificate given with photo of land owners. It is a right given to the land owners to use the land by protecting it properly.

### Rights to land

Inheritance from Parents: When the parents die, their children are given priority in terms of inheritance of land. If the children have land, the grandchildren inherit the land. Adopted children can also inherit land. This inheritance law has been fully implemented. For example, there was a woman who died after she went to Saudi; then her land was given to the child who was adopted by her after it was confirmed by the community.

Rights of widows: if the partners have children, the children have the right to inherit the land; but if they don’t have children, the one who is alive owns only his/her part and the remaining land holding is taken by the government and is re-allocated to landless community members. And this has been implemented.

Rights of divorced women: if they already have been married during the land distribution, the land belongs to both of them equally, although the certificate might be in the name of one person. If they have had individual land holdings before they get married, they take their own when they divorce. Also, if one of them has received land individually, he/she takes it and the partner is registered as landless and waits for land re-allocation. Thus, spouses have equal rights of land ownership.

### Zero-grazing

There is a zero grazing policy in the kebele aimed to rescue the affected farming and non- farming land in the kebele. It is about keeping/feeding livestock at home. When we see its practicality, the people in kushet (sub-kebele) Harresaw don’t respect the law and send their livestock to the dry and open area. But this doesn’t occur in other kushets.

The benefit of zero grazing land is that it has protected the development activities in the kebele from being damaged by livestock, it prevents transmission of livestock diseases, it has saved the energy of the livestock to produce milk and meat which was lost on their way going and getting back home and the amount of grass is increasing. The main problem here is that there are some occurrences of conflicts between the neighbouring kushets and kebeles when the boundary of grass land is demarcated.

### Community forests

There are two types of forest in the kebele: government forest and communal forest. In addition to the policy that prevents livestock from entering these protected forest lands, there are 8 guards hired to protect the government forests. In addition, there are people who are paid by the community to look after the communal forests. The community can benefit from grass from the government forests, and from grass and wood from the communal forests when approved by the responsible people. So far, there are 3 communal forests and 2 government forests. As a result, the structures that are made to rehabilitate the affected land have been protected from being damaged by livestock and the land is being rehabilitated. Sometimes, there are people who cross by to send their cattle into the protected land. There is a law that punishes such violent people.

### Communal grazing areas

There is no communal grazing land other than the land which is protected for oxen which are used to plough the farm and are only allowed to graze twice a year. Previously, the communal land was re-allocated to the community to be used privately for grass land. This has been implemented in all gots/hamlets which have wet grass land. But in kushet Harresaw, there is a dry open area which the community still uses as communal grazing area. The benefit of the protected grass land for oxen is that it helps the oxen to get more diet as they might lose much energy when they plough the land. There are similar problems of violating the norm and sending animals into the protected grass lands.

### Other land policies

The land which was non-farming land has been re-allocated for the kebele administration office, FTC, health post and school. Although there is no one who requested land for investment, there is a policy that enables the allocation of land to investors from the available area of government land. The presence of various government institutions in the kebele has enabled the community to get health services, school, kebele administration and demonstration of farming inputs in a nearby place.

### Re-settlement

There was re-settlement only once- before 2005

### Villagisation

There has not been villagisation since 2005 with the exception of the villagisation which took place in 1998 at the town which is, now, the centre of the kebele. People without houses were given land for residences in this newly emerging town. Currently, there is only land allocation for houses for some youth from their parents’ holdings. And this is not considered as villagisation.

## Farming interventions

### Water for farming - irrigation and water harvesting

The modern irrigation system was introduced using the dam which was constructed in 1994 and started to function in 1987 EC. It was constructed by a regional organization called Sart by reserving running river water. It is surface/gravity-fed irrigation and was done by the food for work programme. There are 315 households that are beneficiaries of the dam and it uses canal technology. The dam’s benefits are: the beneficiaries can produce more than once in a year, it helped to increase the underground water resource beneath the dam, and it has enabled the grazing land to get enough water and the grass for livestock increased. The problem was that those farmers who were displaced complained that they didn’t receive sufficient compensation. There were 655 ponds constructed since 2003 in collaboration with the agriculture office and food aid paid community members who took group and individual construction contract agreements. During the first years, those who had ponds were benefiting by producing vegetables in their back yard. The water that is collected in the ponds is rain water. The materials that are needed to construct ponds are: cement, plastic, sand and stones. They are used for irrigation by motor pumps, treadle pumps and by pouring.

Benefits: it used as additional source of water when there was shortage of rain

Problems: currently many of the ponds are not functional because the community thinks that they are not successful in benefiting from the ponds so they sold the plastic and they ploughed over the ponds to use them for farming.

After this, private wells were introduced in 2006 and communal wells were introduced in 2010. There are around 100 households that are benefiting from private wells and 150 households benefiting from communal wells. The source of the water is underground water and it is used with motor and treadle pumps. These wells are under construction by the community with the support of the safety net programme and wereda as well as the kebele water resource office.

Benefits: the community has benefited by producing 2-3 times a year using the private as well as the communal wells. Those people who are living in places where there is scarcity of water have been able to get clean drinking water for themselves as well as for their livestock. In general, it has helped to bring about better changes in irrigation activities.

Problems: sometimes, there is no water although it is dug deep; or it gets dry soon, so this leads to wastage of farm lands. Also, there are such problems as that the wells were not made of the best quality and were not maintained on time in case of destruction and non-beneficiaries destroy the wells. Also, when communal wells are made on land where there is enough water but which is private land, people who owned the land do not get enough compensation and this creates problems too. In addition to these activities, the reservoir was introduced in 2007, tanker in 2008, roof water catchment in 2010, check dam and spate irrigation were introduced in 2010. The community has been using different water harvesting methods for expansion of irrigation activities. It is also planned that a farmer should have at least one alternative to get water. These water harvesting activities are coordinated by the water resources sector. The roof water catchments in the health post and Harresaw School are collected in tankers and reservoirs which the students and staff use for drinking and washing. As the check dams and spate irrigation are under construction, they have not yet been used.

### Producer Co-operatives

No producer cooperatives.

### The Service Co-operative

There is one service cooperative in tabia Harresaw. There are 1300 members of the service cooperative.

The activities that the service cooperative does are buying consumer goods from outside and selling them to the community at lower prices. The members had not got a dividend share since its establishment in 1989 EC. In 2012 the cooperative members got a dividend share. The share was given in the form of oil and sugar. They shared one kg of sugar for each member, and 20 litres of oil was shared among 30 cooperative members. There are also those who have not taken their share. Some did not take their share because they have to come in groups so that they take the 20 litres of oil and share it among 30 members. To take the oil people have to group themselves and go to the service cooperative.

The cooperative also sells fertilizer to the community. It is difficult to compare the price of the fertilizer with market price because fertilizer is not sold at the market like other goods.

The service cooperative sells improved wheat seeds to the community. The price of improved wheat at the cooperative service is lower than the market price. The price of improved wheat is 250 birr at the cooperative whereas it is 300 birr at the market. The service cooperative sells matches, hair food, coffee, sugar, chewing gum, soap and detergent powder.

The amount of dividend is not well known; they got a dividend share only this year since the establishment of the service cooperatives.

### Other Co-operatives

No other cooperatives

### Farming interventions

The FTC that is found in the kebele was constructed in 2005. In 2008, the demonstration site and farm land were protected and implemented. The FTC covers a total land area of around 1.5 hectare, out of which 0.5 hectare is where the buildings are constructed and the demonstration site, while the remaining 1 hectare is farm land. Currently, the FTC is used as an office for the DAs and as a demonstration place for various modern farming technologies to the community. The farm land is used to produce crops through irrigation when it is winter and through rain water when it is summer so that it is used as source of income to strengthen the FTC.

Crop Extension and Packages: there is a crop DA in the kebele who acts based on the kebele’s general agronomy and irrigation activities; which means that he assesses the total area of farm land, the alternatives to farming, and the necessities to use modern farm technologies, plans the necessary types and amount of inputs, mobilizes the community to benefit and provides advice and does supervision. The wereda agriculture office supplies the necessary inputs to implement this. The credit that is used to buy the inputs is provided by DECSI (Dedebit Credit and Saving Institution) and the multi-purpose cooperative. The beneficiaries should be the ones who don’t have previous debt from credit. There is no specific package just for women and youth other than the package which is provided for all members of the community. All those who own land can get benefits from the inputs and credit services to buy the inputs.

Livestock Extension and Packages: there is a livestock DA in the kebele. His duty is to assess the livestock resources of the kebele, assess the forage development activities and wet grass lands, plan for the types of interventions should be done and teach the community about how to keep and feed livestock at home (the care that should be done for the livestock). The inputs to implement these are supplied by the wereda agriculture office. This DA identifies whether those people who apply to get credit service for buying the inputs are able to pay the debt back and sends it to the wereda for approval. When the wereda approves, the DA works to help those people get credit from DECSI and the cooperative. There are two types of package in livestock: youth package and farmer’s package. The youth package includes landless young men and women and consists of keeping beehives, production of honey, and fattening. The farmer’s package is given to land-owning men and women farmers and includes multi-activities such as poultry, fattening, and milk production.

Vet: there is no vet just for the kebele. However, there is a vet in Dera town who serves four kebeles including Harresaw. His task is to provide livestock vaccination and medication as well as livestock hybrid service. There is supply of inputs from the wereda as well as from the federal government to implement these activities. As the cost of these services is low, the community doesn’t need to take credit. Despite this, those who want hybrid services should have a cow. So, they can get credit from the livestock package to buy a cow, if they don’t have one.

NRM Extension: there is an NR DA in the kebele. The packages that are included under the NRM extension package are the reforestation package, and the water and soil conservation package. Thus, the DA in the kebele is responsible for preventing deforestation, for planning where and how the water and soil conservation activities should be done and for selecting areas where the watershed activities need to be done. On the basis of this, he creates better environment, land and grass for livestock and crop resources. Inputs such as cement, gabion and various materials that are used to implement the environment rehabilitation activities are supplied. As these inputs are supplied by the government, there is not much connection with credit. The objective of the NR package is to provide land from the unused hilly places to landless youth, without gender segregation, so that they can produce fruit seeds such as apple and eucalyptus trees and keep beehives. Although the activities that have been done are few, there are initiatives.

Modes of Working: in addition to the FTC which they use for offices and demonstrations, the DAs have residential houses. This has helped them to do their work properly. The practical demonstration way of teaching has better results in educating the community. Despite this, when bad weather affects the crops in the demonstration site, there are people who think that it is not possible to adopt those crops in the kebele. So, there are tendencies not to be willing to accept the ideas.

## Non-farming interventions

The activities that are included in non-farm activities are keeping beehives, fattening and poultry. Previously, the person who was included in the non-farm package was supposed to be engaged in such activities as production of cow milk, fattening and poultry. But now, the person can choose the area of production. The person who is included in this package is chosen for having one cow, 12 goats and sheep and 6 chickens. If the person doesn’t have any of them he/she has to buy them all and if he/she has some of these, the remaining ones should be obtained. There is a credit service from the package to be used for this purpose and those who have no land are given land when they request it. Although there are youth who have taken credit, as most of them are using their family’s land, they have not requested land. Only one farmer requested and has been given 200 square metres of land to keep beehives and he is working there. But there are many who do fattening and produce cow milk at their houses and at the available land they have. These farmers who are participants in the package use water from the local streams but there is no electricity supply.

## Food/cash for work (PSNP and Emergency Food Aid)

FFW programme: in this kebele it is the practice that the community members who are able to work should participate in development activities and should get paid for this. Previously all the community members were participating in the FFW programme as there was a drought. But now, as there is a better situation, those who are better off and are not eligible for the programme have been excluded. Currently, over 60% of the households participate in the programme. According to the FFW guidelines, the beneficiaries are selected if they are poor and if they are able to work. But during the first phase, almost all the households were included as there was drought. And not all family members were included in the programme because it was intended to reach all the community members. In the second phase, those who are not eligible are excluded and all family members of the beneficiaries are included in the FFW programme. This is done because it is necessary that those poor households should secure their food needs without selling household assets and livestock and gradually get graduated with in the five years. There is an appeals committee that hears complaints about the beneficiaries identification/selection process from the beneficiaries. Also, as the NRM DA is a member of the appeals committee, he can hear the complaints and give solutions. In addition to this, the kebele cabinet gives solutions

Although the work is done from January-June regularly, it is also done for a longer time when there is extra budget. For instance, the work for 2011 is still ongoing. The activities that are accomplished by the FFW programme are identified by the DAs, community volunteer agricultural cadres and the kebele cabinet who discuss the idea with the community and approve it through the kebele council. Recently, the activities that have been given due focus are rehabilitating watersheds, roads, communal wells and check dams. The payment of C/FFW is done in cash as well as in grain. But in 2009, only grain was provided because it was intended to fill the gap created by the then drought. With regard to graduation, those who have secured their food needs, and those who are considered to be better than the majority are let to be graduated. Only 45 households have been graduated for the first time in the kebele in 2011. There is a quota sent from the wereda that there should be 204 households to be graduated in 2012 and they are being identified. Those who were graduated in 2011 are allowed to stay for a year after the graduation and have not yet been excluded from the programme. The graduated were given 150 birr each from the wereda as a means of good will. In addition, there is a programme called HABP through which the graduates can accumulate their own wealth, to form their own credit and saving institutions and gradually withdraw from Dedebit. Accordingly, in 2011, an orientation was given to DAs and the kebele officials for one day about the HABP and it is in the way for practical work.

Generally, the changes in FFW are: there was no graduation before 2011 and it was started in 2011, the payment which was 10 birr has been increased to 15 birr because the value of the birr has been low. Despite this, the community prefers to be paid in grain which is better than cash.

Benefits of FFW: the main benefit of FFW programme is that the affected areas have been rehabilitated, the underground water resource has increased, grass and forests have grown and are protected, the development of water steams has created a conducive environment for irrigation activities and there have been additional job opportunities although their payment is low. The problem of the programme is that it has increased the dependency syndrome in the community, it is an obstacle for the participants that they can’t complete their private activities on time and it is not profitable as the participants can’t use their labour and resources and work hard to get better production as they spend their time in the FFW

## Credit and debt

### Credit and savings opportunities in the kebele

In addition to the credit and saving service of the multi-purpose cooperative that serves the community of the kebele, there is DECSI (Dedebit Credit and Saving Institution) in Dera that provides services to four kebeles including Harresaw. There is also another cooperative which was formed in 2010 in the kebele which is in the process of strengthening its membership and has not yet started to provide services. Currently, the credit and saving institutions that are providing services to the community of the kebele are: Dedebit Saving and Credit Institution and the multi-purpose cooperative. Those who want to take credit from Dedebit should write an application letter to the kebele cabinet. Then if the kebele cabinet assesses and confirms, the credit and saving institution sends a staff member who assesses the private wealth of the person to decide how much money the person can borrow and when he/she can pay it back and the credit is then allowed. Those people who have better saving experience have better opportunity to get credit. Both credit institutions have equal interest rates which is 18% for credits. The maximum amount of money that Dedebit can lend is 7000 birr and the cooperative lends money up to 1,500 birr. Although the people who take credit should use the money for the intended purpose only, there are some problems in practice. The intended purpose means that those people who take credit do specify their interests about what they have intended (planned) to do with the money that they borrow in their application letter. For example, a person that applies for a credit of 2000 birr should indicate the specification of the costs for what he is going to do/to buy with the money. If it is for fattening, the money should be used only for fattening purposes and not for buying foodstuffs, and so on. The same is true for those who borrow money to buy beehives and other things. When the people who take credit can’t pay it back at the specified time, the Dedebit institution sends a list of the people who have debt to the kebele administration. Then, the list is sent to the development groups where those people are found. The leaders of the development groups contact the people with debts and convince them to pay their debt. If there are people who are not willing to pay back their land, warning is given that they will be accused and their land will be rented.

### Dealing with debt in the community

Over 50% of the community in the kebele has debt. There is over 1.8 million birr that was taken as credit from Dedebit and has not yet been paid back. In addition, there is hundred thousands of money that was taken as credit from the wereda agriculture and rural development office department of supply for agricultural inputs and from the cooperative. The kebele administration is working first to let officials in the administration pay their debt on time so that they become models to the community. These model people will in turn mobilize the community through the development groups to pay back the loans on time. The community also understands that credit is something that must be repaid and has better understanding. Husband and wife were able to take credit individually before 2009; after 2009, however, they are allowed to borrow money only with the signature of both.

## Investors and in-migrants

There is no land given to investors.

## Interventions against HTPs affecting livelihoods

Previously, there was an agreement at regional level with the participation of religious leaders to limit the number of religious holidays. Also, it was decided that the religious leaders have to teach the community to limit the expense of weddings and commemorations. However, there are occurrences when those decisions are not enforced and those who had been improved are relapsing. Thus, there are activities at kebele level to enforce the decisions by the region and to convince the community to work hard and to respect those decisions. There are also rules and regulations. Although the community accepts the ideas, it is not strong in implementing the rules. Besides, there are religious leaders who agree during the meetings but become obstacles when it is implemented.

Burning land and planting chat are not common practices in the kebele. Although there are initiatives to sow seeds in rows, it is not common practice. The community is encouraged to plant eucalyptus trees because they are used for fuelwood, to construct houses and to sell wood to the market, and there has been great acceptance by the community

## Food aid

The change regarding the PSNP food aid is that previously, not all beneficiaries were participating in the development activities. But since 2011, some of the beneficiaries have started to participate in the FFW work place. For example, they are looking after the children whose parents participate in the work, preparing coffee for those who do the work and so on. The beneficiaries of the PSNP food aid are paid similarly to those who are in PSNP FFW which is in cash and in grain. When the payment is in cash, the amount was 10 birr; now it has increased to be 15 birr.

Timeliness: When the payment is in grain, the report that is sent to the wereda is facilitated quickly; but when the payment is in cash, the preparation of the payroll at the finance office takes a long time.

With regard to the adequacy of amount per household, as all the family members are included in the second phase, the amount of grain is better than when it is in cash; although that is still not sufficient. Most of the time, the kind of grain is wheat but sometimes maize and sorghum are also provided. There is special food provision of fafa and oil to babies and mothers.

Achievements: As the beneficiaries of the PSNP food aid are not able to work and help themselves because of their age, health problems and disabilities the food aid has saved them from dying of hunger. In addition, their participation in the work has motivated others morally. Hence, it is suggested that it would be very helpful if the amount of money paid was increased and if possible, it would be better to pay these people all in grain than in cash.

Emergency Food Aid: there is no recent change, the payment is only in grain and there is no payment in cash. As the aid is provided in grain, it is given on time unless there is a delay at the wereda. The amount of support is enough because these beneficiaries have a better economic status as they support their livelihood with other sources of income. The type of grain they receive is lequa, sorghum, wheat, maize and any grain that is available. They don’t receive only one type of grain all the time. Special food for babies and mothers is provided as fafa, oil, beans and peas together with the grain.

Achievement: As the EA (emergency aid) beneficiaries participate in various development activities just like the FFW beneficiaries, the programme has enabled great achievements in expansion of roads and in environmental protection. It has also enabled the support of those beneficiaries so they are not affected in times of drought.

The problem is that there is some delay when the grain is sent to the beneficiaries because it is support only when there is grain. This means, there are times when the beneficiaries do the work while they are not paid until it is available. So, it is suggested that it would be better to inform the beneficiaries in advance when there is a delay so that they wouldn’t expect it soon.

## Nutrition

There is nutrition education given to community members. This is given on individual and group bases. The group education is given in EPI (extended programme on immunization) services which is given once a month and on CHD (community health days). This community health day is carried out every three months. This is given in health posts. There is also nutrition education given at health centres. CHD started in 2011, previous to that it was EOS which used to be carried out once every six months.

Nutrition education is also given during house to house visits by health extension workers. Group education on nutrition is also given by community based nutrition (CBN) volunteers from the community.

CBN volunteers are women from the community who are trained in community based nutrition and work with the community on nutrition and other health interventions. These women do growth monitoring of children by weighing them. Whenever they find a child to be normal they thank the mother and tell her to keep up with it. For the underweight children they ask the mother about the nutrition background of the malnourished child. There are three steps in identifying the causes for underweight children. The first one is to investigate the situation of the child feeding practice in the house. They also assess the situation of hygiene in the house. The CBN volunteers ask the mother and they make their own observations in the house. After investigating they identify what caused malnourishment to the child. They discuss this with the mother. The last step is to take action as a solution to improve the nutritional status of the child.

They advise the mother how to improve her child's health by feeding a balanced diet with what she has at home by mixing more than one grain for food. The mother is also told to practice good hygiene in preparing and feeding her child. After giving this advice by demonstrating to them how to prepare food the CBN volunteers make an appointment with the child's mother and come at that time. At this time they observe and ask the mother if she is doing things based on the advice given to her or not. There are 35 women development groups and each of these has one representative who takes care of implementation of health interventions within the development group. The health extension workers make house to house visits and make sure that food given for the malnourished children is properly used in the house.

There is no recent change in nutrition education. Previously world Vision was giving training on nutrition now it has stopped because it is not operating in the area any more.

The achievement is that in the past up to 260 pregnant and lactating women and children under five used be malnourished. Now this number has dropped significantly to 90. This change came through time, not at once. The number of severely malnourished has decreased to 2 from 9 previously.

In the past the community did not have good awareness about nutrition. Mothers were not aware of the fact that children can be malnourished because of the mother's problem in feeding the child and hygiene problems.

In the past women were complaining for not taking FAFA as supplementary food because they did not have awareness about the criteria and objectives of the supplementary food provision. Now there is a much better improvement in the awareness of the community.

The problem in nutrition education is that even though the community members have good knowledge there is a problem in practicing what they know. For the future the nutrition education should continue as it is and change will come steadily as it has changed in the last few years. The health representative women in the 35 development groups will help to improve the awareness of the community.

There are nutritional supplements given to the Harresaw tabia community members. The supplements given are:

1. Vitamin A to lactating mothers less than 45 days after delivery, to children 6-59 months.

2. Iron supplement is given to pregnant and lactating women. The lactating women take iron supplement for 3 consecutive months.

3. Iodine capsules are given to children aged 6-23 months, pregnant mothers and lactating women less than 6 months after delivery. These supplements are given at health posts and the health centre in the tabia. The supplements are usually given on community health days and on a routine basis.

Recent change in the supplement provision is that iodine has started to be given as supplement this year (2012).

There are so many people who use supplements and as an achievement of supplement provision anaemia is not common among mothers because of the provision of iron supplements. The other supplements are also important for the health of children and mothers. There is no problem in the provision of supplements. It is good if it continues in the current way.

Pregnant and lactating mothers get nutritional support when they are found to be malnourished using the MUAC (middle upper arm circumference) measurement. Those women with a MUAC measurement of 20-20.9 mm are categorized under moderate malnourishment. Pregnant and lactating women with less than 20.9 mm MUAC measurement are categorized under severe malnourishment. Pregnant and lactating women in both malnourishment categories are provided with supplementary food of 25 kgs of FAFA and 3 litres of oil. The nutritional measurement is done at the health post and the supplementary food FAFA and oil used to be given at the health centre. A recent change concerning this supplementary food provision is that it is going to be given at the health post. The tabia administrator has provided a store to keep the supplementary food.

The achievement that comes to pregnant and lactating women as a result of the supplementary food provision is not satisfactory because they share it with their children and the first of the family.

This situation can be improved in the future by teaching the community, and specifically the mothers, about the purpose of nutritional support. Currently the supplementary food that the mothers are given is for three months at a time so giving them a month's ration will reduce the problem. Making frequent house to house supervision can also solve the problem. Giving a month's ration instead of three months' will be started in 2012.Those who distribute the food will also make house to house visits to monitor the use. The food distributor and store keeper will be employed in tabia Harresaw, previously they were at the health centre.

Children who are affected by malnourishment are given supplementary food. There is a community health day which is carried out every three months and the nutritional status of children, pregnant mothers and lactating women less than six months after delivery is assessed by screening. Children who are below 10 mm MUAC measurement are categorized under severe malnourishment. Those children whose MUAC measurement is 11mm-11.9mm are categorized under moderately malnourished. Those above 12 mm MUAC measurement are categorized under normal. Children categorized under severe malnourishment are provided with 25kg of FAFA and 3 litres of oil to be consumed for three months. This food support is given at the health centre and is going to be given at the health post this year. They are also given OTP (outpatient therapeutic programme) service. At the OTP severely malnourished children are given plumpy nut, folic acid and vitamin A. These services are given at the health post by the health extension workers. The severely malnourished are also given Amoxasline for seven days. The plumpy nut is given according to weekly measurements of the malnourished child. When the children achieve normal weight the provision of plumpy nut is stopped. If the child does not have appetite for the plumpy nut the child is referred to TFU (therapeutic feeding unit) at the wereda. When mothers are referred to TFU they are given the chance to select the place where they have relatives or friends. So the mothers can choose Atsbi, Wukro or Mekelle. The severely malnourished children referred to TFU get service as in-patients. There is no TFU for pregnant and lactating mothers. In addition to the provision of supplementary food the mothers are also advised how to use the food. There is also demonstration of how they should prepare the porridge.

The recent change in nutritional programme for children under five is that OTP service at the health post started in 2010. As mentioned earlier, this includes provision of plumpy nut and other medication. In the near future provision of FAFA will be done on a monthly basis instead of giving supplementary food provision once for three months' consumption.

There are visible improvements in children when they use food supplements properly. Their nutritional status improves significantly. They are measured after three months and most of them gain normal status.

There is no problem in the implementation of nutrition for children.

There is no feeding centre in tabia Harresaw. TFU is found in the wereda centre, Atsbi. Plumpynut is given at the health post but there is no feeding centre.

There is no school feeding programme in tabia Harresaw but it is found in the school in the neighbouring tabia. It is found in a school named Agewo. There are many students from tabia Harresaw who attend Agewo school. Students are provided with porridge made from various food types. This programme is assisted by an NGO.

## Drinking water

There are 3 protected springs in tabia Harresaw. These springs are very vital in places with no other water sources. There is no payment to get water from these sources. The community protect and care for these springs; there is no formal committee established to look after the springs. For the future there is a plan to make fences and pipes for these protected springs. There are 11 boreholes which gives services in the form of hand pumps. Two of these boreholes are not giving service currently. These boreholes are all with fences. They have water committee to run the hand pump water points. There are five persons on each water committee. There is 2 birr monthly payment to use water from boreholes. Some payment is given to those who work on the water committees. There are 70 wells in the tabia. Twelve of these 70 are owned communally and 58 wells are owned individually. There is no piped water in the tabia. There are 5 roof catchment water sources; of these three work properly. Many people who live in those areas with enough water resources have better access to potable water. On the other hand there are two kushets with serious water scarcity. These kushets are Harresaw as a whole and parts of kushet Ma-ekel. It was tried many times to get underground water by digging with rig but it failed repeatedly. These places have no water because they are located adjacent to Afar region. For the future the regional government has promised that they will solve the water problem.

## Hygiene and environmental sanitation

The percentage of households which has constructed latrines is 99%.The percentage of those using the latrines that they constructed is 89%.The recent changes in the construction of latrines is that people are constructing latrines closer to their houses to use them during the evenings. Some people have two latrines, one closer and another one away from their home. There is good achievement with the use of latrines: people are utilizing them and preventing communicable diseases. The problem that happens with latrines is that they collapse in rainy seasons. Some people also construct latrines and do not use them. Continuous follow-up should be done for the future.

The percentage of households that have constructed waste disposals is 82% and the percentage of households using them is 75%.The is no recent change in waste disposal. There is a good achievement in using waste disposal: people are disposing of their garbage in a safe way and they are protected from communicable disease that comes with poor sanitation. Now there are fewer people with diarrhoea. The problem that happens in the utilization of waste disposal is that it is constructed from locally found materials like clay so it collapses during the rainy season. The suggestion to improve the programme is to do continuous follow up after the rainy season. The community members should also close the waste disposal material with stone, not with clay.

The percentage of households who keep hand washing materials at their latrine is 64 and those using hand washing is 58%. There is no change with regard to hand washing.

The percentage of households that have constructed a kitchen cupboard is 100% and all of them utilize it. The community members want to use it because it has very good benefits. It saves space and keeps materials organized. It also protects materials from dust. There is no recent change in kitchen cupboards. There is no problem in using and constructing kitchen cupboards, it should continue like this.

Water purification tablets are not given to the community in a continuous way but when they are given all the community members provided with the water purification tablets use them. When the water purification comes, priority is given to kushet Harresaw and got Ekunta because they have a serious problem getting potable water. There were no water purification tablets given recently. Those people who use water purification tablets were protected from diarrhoea. There is a problem of continuity in water purification tablet supply. Also when it comes it does not cover all households who really need the tablets. For the future provision of water purification tablets should be done in a continuous way. Got Ekunta has a very serious shortage of potable water.

Livestock do not live in the same house with humans beings but the intervention is to make a separate gate and compound for human beings and livestock. 4.6% of the households have constructed separate entrances and compounds for livestock and they are using them. There is no recent change in separating compounds for livestock and human beings. The achievement in separating compounds is that animals and human beings will not be affected by sickness that comes by contamination of one another. There is serious problem in making people have separate gates and compounds for their livestock because it requires labour and stone for construction. For the future the tabia leaders should become models and show the community.

The percentage of household who use smoke-free houses is 100%. People use kitchens, in addition to that they make the smoke go out of the kitchen using a chimney. There is no recent change regarding smoke-free houses. The achievement with this intervention is that mothers and children are protected from eye illness that can be caused by smoke. There is no problem regarding the intervention of smoke-free houses, it is good if it continues with the current status.

There are pest and insect control teachings given to the community members. The teachings given to the community are to make their houses clean and to do local painting to prevent breeding of insects. Some community members use spray to kill insects. 96% of the community members paint their houses with dung and clay, some of them with lime. Recently house spraying was done in those places suitable for mosquito breeding; house spraying was done once and it was effective for destroying insects.

## Disease prevention and control

There is an immunization programme given to children once a month at the tabia health post. There is also an immunization programme given in the form of campaign. Tetanus vaccination is given to mothers. The community has a good response to the immunization programme. They bring their children to the monthly vaccination and campaigns. There is no recent change in the immunization programme. There is good health among children because of good immunization coverage. There is no problem in immunization programmes, it should continue in the current way. In the tabia there are places which are suitable for the breeding of mosquitoes. Insecticide-treated nets are distributed to those households in places suitable for mosquito breeding. The community members showed big interest in taking insecticide-treated nets. Insecticide-treated nets were distributed only in 2011, not before that. People who use the insecticide-treated nets properly have protected themselves from mosquitoes and other insects. There are problems in using insecticide-treated nets properly. Many people hang the insecticide-treated nets inappropriately. For the future, continuous health education should be given to the community on how to use bed nets properly. Spraying houses was carried out in tabia Harresaw in 2011.The houses sprayed were those in places where there is mosquito breeding. In some places there were people who refused it because it is not good for bees but the majority were happy about the spraying. Those people living in sprayed houses prevented mosquitoes and other insects. The problem is that house spraying does not have continuity. There was no house spraying this year. For the future house spraying should be done continuously. Activities should be done to convince those who refuse house spraying. Stagnant water is removed with the participation of the community. The community members participate highly in removing stagnant water. There is no recent change with the removal of stagnant water. The achievement is that the breeding of mosquitoes is prevented. There is no problem in removing stagnant water, it should continue as it is being done now. HIV/AIDS prevention activities are widely done among the community. Teachings are given to the community by health extension workers, tabia administration and people living with HIV/AIDS. The community members have a good attitude towards HIV/AIDS prevention education. The recent change in teachings on HIV/AIDS is the use of PLWHA to teach community members by using their experiences. There is good achievement in increasing the awareness of the community about HIV/AIDS. Even though good awareness is created among the community, there are many people who have practices that expose them to HIV/AIDS. Health education on TB prevention is given to the community. They are told to have a TB test whenever they experience a cough for more than two weeks. There is a good response from community members. There is good achievement in making people have TB tests when they are suspicious about themselves. There is no change in activities done to prevent TB. Additional teaching and awareness creating activities should be done in the community. First aid is given at the health post and community members are beneficiaries of the service. Whenever there are complicated cases people are referred to the nearest health centre. The community members have a good attitude towards the use of first aid at the health post. There is no recent change in the first aid service.

## Interventions against HTPs affecting health

There is male circumcision which is done on the 7th day after a child's birth. More than 99% of the community members still practice male circumcision at home because the places where medical circumcision is done are very far from Tabia Harresaw. There is health education given to the community to do male circumcision at the wereda capital Atsbi health centre or Mekelle. The teachings given to stop male circumcision at home are not successful but they are successful in using sterilized materials. For the future the case of male circumcision at home should be as strongly banned as female circumcision. It should be considered as violence.

Female circumcision is not known as a tradition in Tabia Harresaw but teachings are given together with other health education.

Cutting of uvula is very prevalent in tabia Harresaw. Cutting of uvula happens in infants when they get sick in their throat. They practice cutting of uvula by hiding themselves in secret. Teachings are given to community members to stop cutting of uvula. But it is not as successful as desired.

There is a harmful practice known in the community and it is called locally siny barkay. This takes place after the age of nine months in an infant, when teething children get diarrhoea. At this time the community believes that this is caused by a white tooth that is seen inside the gum before the tooth gets above the gum. They think that there is a worm inside the gum causing the diarrhoea so they use a hot iron to attack the worm that they perceive. The lips of the infants are also harmed sometimes when they try to heat the gum. Teachings are given to the community to stop this harmful traditional practice because diarrhoea during teething is not caused in the way they perceive. There are small changes but the practice is still there. For the future the teachings should continue in a strengthened way.

There are body scars and tattoos made in the community. In the past this was very common, now it is decreasing. The scar on eyebrows is done to treat eye sickness. Tattoos were done on adults but now there are almost none. Teachings are given to the community to avoid these because of their role in HIV/AIDS transmission. This is successful with tattoos but there are very rare cases in making body scars. In general health education on harmful traditional practices should continue.

## Curative health services

### Health Post drugs

Curative drugs that should be available at health post are:

1. Amoxsaline (an antibiotic)

2. Folic acid (for the treatment of malnourished under five children).

3. Bactrim(for pneumonia treatment).

4. Cotrimozasole (pneumonia treatment).

5. Chloroquine (for malaria).

6. Quartem (for malaria).

7. ORS (diarrhoea treatment).

8. Paracetamol (anti pain).

9. Syrup paracetamol for children

10. Mesprostol (given 30 minutes after delivery to facilitate the coming of placenta, for uterus contraction and to stop blood).

11. TTC ointment (eye ointment mostly used to drop on newly born infants to protect them from eye disease that comes because of STI in the mother during delivery).

Giving a pneumonia drug was started in the end of 2011. There is a problem of supplies of some drugs. There is a shortage of ORS, iron and TTC. Syrup paracetamol has never come to the health centre. The fact that health centres’ financial management is now carried out by their own board is creating shortages of supplies in health posts. The establishment of boards in health centres is a recent event. Currently health centres do not give TTC free to health posts because of the establishment of boards. Iron shortages have happened only recently. There is always a full supply of malaria drugs.

### Health Centres

DOTs (directly observed treatment) provision in the community started in 2009. Reporting and data recording based on HMIS started in 2011. Recent change in health centre is the construction of additional rooms where mothers stay after delivery. Mothers are so happy about the construction of rooms for them to stay after delivery.

There is a big problem in staffing in the health centre at tabia Harresaw. There are not enough staff according to the standard of the federal ministry of health human resource requirements for health centres.

Curative drugs that should be at the health centre are all anti-biotics and anti-pain, ORS, and malaria treatment drugs

There is a problem in getting a full supply of ORS and TTC ointment.

Recently there is a change in the health care financing system of the health centre. The health centre started to be administered by a board in 2011. In the new health care financing system health centres establish boards and they buy drugs on their own. Whenever drugs are bought on their own they do not transfer them free to health posts.

The exemptions given are under three categories based on the customers' backgrounds. The first category is people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to ART people living with HIV/AIDS get free service for other opportunistic infections they experience. The second category includes people who are war veterans with disabilities. This group of people get exempted from health costs and the wereda covers their health costs. The third group of people who get exemption are those poor people whose list is sent by the wereda to the health centre. These people have exemption certificates before they get sick.

The health centre is busy; the average number of people visiting the health centre on a single day is estimated to be 40. Many people go to the health centre on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Many people visit the health centre on Tuesday because it is market day at Dera where many people gather at the market. Many people from Harresaw also go to this market.

For the future additional health workers should be added to the health centre. Enough supplies should be given to the health centre.

### Non-government health services

In tabia Harresaw there is no NGO health service, private clinic or pharmacist. There are traditional practitioners in the tabia. Those traditional practitioners involved in cutting uvula are very popular. Those people who heat newly emerging teeth with hot iron are also very popular in the community. There are two bonesetters in the tabia but they are not as popular as those mentioned above.

## Reproductive health services

### Reproductive health services generally

The reproductive health service that is given to the community is advice on contraceptives and abstinence. There is no special service for adolescents. There is no suggested service in reproductive health because it is tackled in family planning and maternal health.

### Contraception

In tabia Harresaw contraceptives are available in health centre and health post. Pills, injection, implant, condom are found in health centre and health post. Morning after pill is found in health centre only. The morning after pill is used by making double of the pill contraceptives.

Contraceptive use

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | General advice | pills | Injection  (for 3 months) | Implants | Condom | Morning after pill | Abstinence advice |
| Number of women using them | 1153 | 25 | 279 | 74 | 0 | 0 | 334 |

The recent change in family planning services is the start of implant for 3 and 5 years in 2011. Both have sticks that are buried in the arm. Implant serves for 3 years and Jaddel serves for 5 years. In the past there was a five year contraceptive which serves by burying 6 sticks in the arm but this was terminated in 2010 and was replaced by the current Jaddel.

Advice on abstinence is given on health centres and health posts.

Male are changing their attitudes towards the use of contraceptives but their attitudes differ based on the type of contraceptive. Roughly about 95% of males have good attitudes towards the use the of injection contraceptive that stays for three months. The implant that is buried in the arm is not acceptable to males because of the side effects that are observed in their wives. It is said that it has health side effects and it hinders women from working on PSNP public works. Males have good attitudes towards general advice on contraceptives. Men do not have a good attitude towards pills because they can be easily forgotten.

Adult males do not like to use condoms and they do not have good attitudes towards them but young men have good attitudes towards condoms and they use them.

Female also have different attitudes towards the different kinds of contraceptives. Similar to the males the females also have good attitudes towards the injection contraceptive that stays for three months. Females do not have good attitudes towards the use of pill contraceptives because they have a fear of forgetting to take them on daily basis. The implant that is used for three years is preferable to young women who illegally migrate to Arab countries.

Women have good attitudes towards the general advice on contraceptives.

Health education on contraceptives is given in a school which teaches up to 8th grade. This family planning education is given in collaboration with Anti-AIDS clubs in schools. The students in the Anti-AIDS club invite the tabia chairpersons and health extension workers to give them information on family planning. The different types of contraceptives are taken to the school just to show them what they look like. There are rare students who come to the health post and take contraceptives. They students use contraceptives when they marry.

### Abortion

Abortion is not a problem in the community. The demand for abortion in the tabia is extremely low. There are many women whose husbands have migrated to Arab countries. Some of these women start sexual affairs with other men and when they conceive they abort it. These women do not take contraceptives because it is known that they are married and their husbands are not with them. So when they take contraceptives it means they are going to commit adultery. Women do not use customary methods of abortion because they can easily get the service at medical centres. When women want to abort since they know the law they say either that they conceived from their brother-in-law or they say that they were raped. The law says that the mother should be trusted whatever reason she gives. Such cases are usually from Harresaw kushet because those men who migrated in large number are from Harresaw. Women who need abortion go to Atsbi to get the abortion service. They get abortion service at Atsbi if the length of the pregnancy is less than 2 months. If the length of the pregnancy is above 2 months and below three months they go to the regional capital Mekelle or Wukro to get abortion service. There is no death caused due to abortion. Women do not face complications due to abortion. There is no suggestion for improvements; the current service on abortion is good.

### Infertility

Infertility is very rare in tabia Harresaw. The number is not well known but there are not more than two women who are infertile. There is also one man who is infertile. The man is married and there is a child but the widely spread rumour is that it is not the man's child. Because whenever there is no child after marriage it causes divorce; at this time women commit adultery and get a child to save the marriage. There is no treatment which is given to treat infertility.

### HIV/AIDS and STDs

There are 12 people living with HIV/AIDS but they are not suffering from AIDS illness because they are taking ART and treatment for other opportunistic infections they face. Five people out of the 12 have disclosed themselves to the community. There was no death registered due to AIDS in 2010 and 2011.There is not a very serious stigma attached to people living with HIV/AIDS. In the past there were awareness problems, now there is a big improvement due to increased awareness in the community. Some of them even participate in teaching the community about HIV/AIDS. Advice about HIV/AIDS is given at the health post and health centres. The antiretroviral (ARV) drug is given in the wereda capital Atsbi. There is no recent change. There are STI cases but there is no death because of STI. The extent of the stigma is not well known because when people know that they have STI they do not disclose it to others fearing stigma. People are not willing to tell about their STI status. No suggestion was given for improvement

### Fistula

In tabia Harresaw there is not much demand for fistula services. Currently there is a woman with a fistula case. She has a problem to control her urine. She got service repeatedly but is not doing well because she did not take the care that she should have done. There is no treatment given for fistula at the wereda but there is an NGO called REST which works in making women have access to fistula services. Whenever there is a fistula case REST comes and takes the patients and their care-givers to Mekelle where they get access to medical treatment. The current service for fistula is very good; it should continue like this.

## Mother and child services

Antenatal care is given at health centres and health post in tabia Harresaw. During pregnancy women should make a minimum of four visits to health service providers. Until the 8th month of pregnancy women are given appointments every two months for medical check-ups if they have a normal pregnancy. After the 8th month of pregnancy they are given an appointment every two weeks. During check-ups blood pressure and weight of the pregnant women are measured. Advice is also given to the pregnant woman. If the pregnancy is abnormal at any stage they are referred to the health centre. At the health posts care is given by health extension workers and by health workers at the health centres. Once a month there is a vaccination programme for pregnant women. The percentage of women using antenatal care is 100%. Women are followed up by community volunteers working closely with each household. The recent change is that development groups have been established and all women are included in the development groups. This is very important for identifying and following up pregnant women. The good achievements are that women have better awareness so they have check-ups based on their appointments. Pregnant women also use the PMTCT service. There is no woman who does not get antenatal care. There is no problem in antenatal care and follow ups.

TT (tetanus) vaccination is given to pregnant mother to protect them from tetanus. The vaccination is given at health post and health centres. There is a vaccination programme for pregnant women every month. The health post does not have a fridge so the vaccine comes from Dera health centre. The percentage of women who get maternal vaccinations is 100%. There is no recent change in maternal vaccinations. The achievement of maternal vaccinations is that women are prevented from getting tetanus. There is no problem with maternal vaccinations.

There is a delivery service given at the health centre. There are delivery coaches at the health post but in normal circumstances delivery is not allowed at the health post. Delivery is provided by midwives at the health centre. Recent change in delivery is that delivery at health posts was banned in 2011. A health extension worker is supposed to take a pregnant women to Dera health centre. The other change came since 2010 and this says delivery should not be assisted by traditional birth attendants.

Even though there is good achievement in calling an HEW and delivering with her assistance, there is a problem in going to the health centre and having delivery assisted by a skilled health worker. Women are advised to go to the health centre but when labour starts the decision to take the pregnant mother to health service is up to family members or neighbours around her. The number of women who delivered at the health centre in 2011 was 24. This makes the percentage of women who delivered with skilled person 31.6% of the total women who delivered. The number of women who delivered at home or on their way to the health centre with the assistance of the health extension worker is 40 which means 52.6% of the total delivery. There is also delivery done by TBAs whenever the HEW cannot attend because of distance and other reasons. The number of deliveries by TBAs is 12 which are 15.8% of the total delivery.

The problem that hinders delivery in the health centre is delay. When pregnant women start labour they do not immediately call health extension workers, they call after a long time in labour. The other reason for delays is that there is no transport so the family takes the woman to the health centre using a carrying bed. There is also a long distance from kushet Harresaw to Dera health centre. Many youths have migrated to Arab countries so there is a difficulty getting able bodied persons to carry the pregnant mothers to the health centre. For these reasons women deliver at home or on their way to the health centre. The suggestion given for improvement in the delivery service is that delivery should be done at the health post by providing equipment and giving additional training to the health extension workers.

There is postnatal care which is given to mothers after delivery. At this time mothers are advised to give lige-e to the infant. The mother is advised to give exclusive breastfeeding until 6 months. Pregnant mother are given advice on how they should care for the infant. The mothers are given advice before and after delivery. This service is given at health post and health centre. The health volunteers also give advice to mothers. There is no recent change regarding postnatal services. The percentage of pregnant women who get postnatal care and advice on infant care is 100%.The achievement in postnatal care services is that more than 99% of mothers breastfeed their children. The mothers have good knowledge on how to take care of their children. There is no problem on advice on infant care. The service is going well.

## Education

### Pre-school education

The pre-schools in the kebele are child-to-child and 0 class. In 2011, the child-to-child was given in 24 centres which are selected based on the development groups as central areas. The child-to-child students are 4-5 year old children and their teachers are the best students in grades 5-8. These students were trained with the help of UNICEF in 2010 and in 2011 twice. They are 13 girls and 13 boys, in total 26 students. There are 2 coordinators and 4 trained teachers who coordinate the programme. In 2011, there were 364 child-to-child students. But the eligible number of children who would participate in the programme is not known.

Recent changes: it is planned to train additional students who will replace those students who have passed to grade nine, and to increase the 24 centres to 26 centres, and there have been activities to increase the number of students to 420.

Achievements: the child-to-child programme has helped the children to love going to school, it has helped the children to spend their time in school rather than in herding.

Problems: the parents give less attention to the child-to-child programme and that causes a lower number of registrations. Besides, the development groups are not able to register all eligible children under their supervision, there are few trained teachers and there is lack of commitment and lack of support from the other teachers.

Suggestions for improvement: increase the number of trained teachers, make the other teachers supportive and the problems can be solved if the kebele administration and the development groups can provide strong support for the programme.

0 classes: This started in the two schools that are found in the kebele (Abiy Dera and Harresaw primary schools) in 2011. Accordingly, 86 students in Abiy Dera and 70 students in Harresaw are learning. These are students of the 0 class who are 6 year old children and their teachers are grade 10 completed and trained females.

Recent change: the teachers were sent to Adwa and have been trained for 28 days. It has also been planned to increase the number of students of both schools to be over 200.

Achievements: It is helpful for the students to prepare them for grade one. As the children are able to understand basic things, the teacher will not have much difficulty to start teaching grade one. It has also helped the children to have a positive interest towards education. There is a difference between the children who attended 0 class and those who didn’t. Those students that have attended 0 classes have better participation.

Problems: the teachers in 2011 were trained only once for 21 days, there were some problems in handling and teaching the children. The other problem was that the parents didn’t send their children to the (0 Class) school.

Suggestions for improvement: it is helpful for the teachers to get additional training during the summer season, to mobilize parents to send their children when there is a parents’ day, and to train the teachers at the school. Indeed, this has been included under the 2012 plan. In addition to this, a project proposal has been prepared and is waiting for funds of 86,000 birr to separate the 0 class and to upgrade it to be a kindergarten. The kebele administration has promised to support with 30,000 birr. As the registration for the children in child-to-child and 0 class has not yet been finished, it is not possible to know the exact number of the students.

### Primary education

Main Primary School: this school is found at kushet Lim’at, Abiy Dera got, and teaches 1-8 grades. The number of students in 2012 is 1735; 814 are males and 921 are females. The number of teachers is 25. There is a shortage of teachers especially those who hold diplomas. The school time is in shifts (morning and afternoon) and there is automatic promotion in grades 1 and 2. But screening is done in grades 3 and 4; it is a bit strict especially in grade 4. The self-contained teaching is from 1-4. There is a PTA and the education and training board is above the PTA in the school. The members of the board are one from the kebele cabinet (chairman), four representatives from the community, one from the PTA, school director (secretary), 2 from the teachers’ association and 2 from the students’ parliament (1 boy and 1 girl).

Recent changes: the education and training board was at kebele level before 2010; but it has been at school level since 2010 onwards. They meet every three months which has enabled them to solve problems on time.

Other Primary School: The Harresaw School in Harresaw kushet teaches grades 1-4. It has 290 students in the year 2012 out of which 122 are female students. The number of teachers is 6 and there is a shift system. The automatic promotion system is similar to that of the other primary school. There is also self-contained teaching. Similarly, there are PTA and education and training boards in this school.

Recent change: when the school was opened, there was no clean water service for the teachers and students. But since 2010, they have been using water pump from the tankers and reservoir through the roof water catchment system. In addition to this, the 0 class was started in 2011.

Alternative Basic Education School: the plan is to teach students who are 8-14 years old. Although it was planned to start in 2011 with 60 children, it was not successful because parents didn’t send the children thinking that it was too late to go to school as the children are too old to start school. They rather send them to look after the livestock. Meanwhile, the teachers lack commitment to work in addition to their tasks. Indeed, there is weakness in motivating the teachers to facilitate the programme. It has also not been given due attention by the kebele administration. Thus, there is no activity regarding the ABE at kebele as well as at wereda level. It is reported as a failure for all schools of the wereda. Although it has been planned for 2012, there is no activity so far.

### Secondary education

There is no high school in Harresaw kebele. The nearest high school is found in kebele G/kidan at Dera town - but this is almost the same location as the main primary school in the Harresaw kebele. It was started with grade 9 in 2010 and has continued to have grade 10 in 2011. The absence of students is a common occurrence for the year. Many students go absent especially in harvest season (meher) and at the beginning of the summer season. In addition to this, migration of students to Saudi Arabia is a great problem of the (high) school. There were 396 students in 2011 and over 50 students have dropped out of school; most of them went to Saudi Arabia. Out of the total students of 396 in 2011, around 60 students are from Harresaw kebele. Out of these 60, about 25 are girls and about 35 are boys. As the students stay with their families in the kebele when they go to school, they don’t have costs other than the 65 birr for uniform and 5 birr of school contribution. Thus, a student paid 70 birr in 2011.

### Post-secondary education

There are no TVET, University or private colleges in the kebele or in the wereda. So, those students who are promoted to TVET go to Wukro, Mekelle, May Chew, Adigrat or Aksum. Those who want to learn in private colleges go to Wukro or Mekelle. There are students that study in Universities where the government assigns them; for example, to Semera, Mekelle, Gonder and Wollo. But it is not exactly known the number of these students. It is estimated that there were 23 University students from Harresaw kebele in 2011. In 2012, 6 students from the kebele have joined university. About 20 students have graduated from various universities up to the end of 2011.

### Other training

Adult Literacy: this education is provided to young people who are 15-35 years old. The subjects are home economics, environmental science (in collaboration with agriculture and rural development and health packages, especially family planning, HIV/AIDS) and Mathematics. There were about 210 students in 2011.

Recent Changes: the programme was started in 2011, by trained and paid teachers who came from the wereda. Previously it was provided by the kebele officials and teachers in the kebele.

Achievements: although the number is not as expected, a significant number of youth have participated. In the past, it was given by teachers as an additional task to their regular job which created some problems. Now, there are hired teachers to facilitate the programme and there is better provision of education.

Problems: the students think that they know about the lessons they had and they were going absent. There is also a problem of distance as the education is provided at the centre of the kebele.

Suggestions for improvement: the kebele administration and the religious leaders have to mobilize the community to participate in the programme. Besides, they have to play role model by participating in the programme as it includes sessions about practical ways of living.

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## Marriage-related interventions in the community

There is a law that prohibits marriage under 18 years old. If there is case of underage marriage, representatives of the women’s affairs office, women’s association, health and justice offices of the kebele go to talk with the parents and to cancel the marriage. Otherwise, the parents are accused and the marriage is cancelled.

Problems: there are parents that hide the age of their daughters so that they say that it is a legal marriage. And the cases that are sent to the wereda are not handled properly to give a final decision.

Suggestions for improvement: the wereda should be helpful in seeing the cases that are sent from the kebele

Abduction: there is no marriage by abduction at this time and the law prohibits it. If abduction happens, there is a law that punishes it. The problem is when the couples agree so that the girl goes to the man’s house and her parents appeal that their daughter is abducted. The girls say that they go because they are willing. Thus, when the girl says that it is done with her consent, there is nothing to be done except that the two families should reconcile.

Man’s right to choose his marriage partner: it is cultural practice that the man together with his parents chooses his wife since the early time. This right is still respected. However, if there are parents that force their son to marry a girl whom he doesn’t choose, and if the boy asks for legal support, there is a law that supports him not to marry someone he doesn’t want to. But there has not been such case so that it is not mentioned as a problem.

Woman’s right to choose her marriage partner: traditionally, a woman’s marriage was arranged by her parents without her consent. Now, most of the girls are choosing their partners. And the community is almost not arranging marriages without the consent of the couples. This is because the parents understand that their daughter will accuse them in front of the law if they force her to marry unwillingly. So, they let them marry only if they make sure that they have agreed upon the marriage to be arranged. Sometimes, there are parents that misinform their daughters, saying that the man is wealthy and is good enough for them to marry him. Even in this case, the girl’s agreement with the idea of her parents is needed, although she might not love the man. If she said no, there is a law that supports her. This is similar to the actions taken by responsible people for the case of underage marriage, they discuss with her parents but if the parents refuse, they are accused in front of the law. The problem here is that sometimes the girls are convinced by their parents just by looking at the immediate advantages to say that they are willing to accept the marriage.

Suggestions for improvement: the awareness-raising activities about the marriage rights of the girls should be done at school level.

Polygyny: as it is prohibited by religion, there has been no tradition to marry more than one woman. But having a mistress is very common. There is no widow inheritance and marriage to dead wife’s sister is not practiced at all.

Widow’s rights to property: when the husband dies, the woman has full rights to own her half of the property and the other half of the property is inherited by the children. This kind of law has been practiced for a long time. The problem here is that when the man dies, the other children that are born from another woman demand to share the property. In this case, argument is raised among the children regarding property ownership.

Suggestions for improvement: parents have to inform about the number of their children while they are alive. This will help the conflict of property ownership rights among the children that might arise after the death of the parents.

Divorced women’s rights to own property: properties that can be sold and bring money like grain and livestock, are divided in to three: to the father, the mother and the children in which 1/3rd of the property is given to the children. After that the children have the right to decide about living with one of their parents. There is a law that enforces this and is being implemented for the divorces in the community. The problem is that some of the husbands who earn money in Saudi save it in the name of their parents and siblings. So, in times of divorce, when the wife requests the husband to share his money, he say that he already has spent it for medical purposes or transportation and has nothing at hand. As there is no evidence, it becomes difficult to accuse him.

Suggestions for improvement: when the husband and wife live together, they should be transparent to know their property. Besides, when the men lie that they don’t have any money which they bring from Saudi, the women should make efforts to find out how they have saved it.

## Using customary organisations to help implement interventions

There are no clan leaders in the kebele.

Iddirs have just been introduced by the development groups recently. So, they have not started to participate in implementing interventions.

There are elders and customary justice institutions, and religious leaders and groups that are supportive. The elders play a great role by participating in resolving conflicts among community members, gots/hamlets, kushets/sub-kebeles, and kebeles and to ensure peace and security. For example, it is common to resolve conflicts between husbands and wives by elders without wasting their time and money to go to the court. Besides, it is common practice to resolve conflicts that occur at different levels associated with grass land and farm land through selected community elders. This has enabled the prevention of damage that could happen to human life and properties following the conflicts. In addition to this, religious leaders play a great role in sensitizing the community to reduce the religious holidays and to spend much time in work, to reduce extra expenses for wedding ceremonies and commemorations and to prevent underage marriage. For example, they had a great role implementing the number of religious holidays to be only 5 days including Saturdays and Sundays which were approved at regional level and to let the community use the other days for work. Besides, the religious leaders teach the community about the need to limit the expenses for commemoration ceremonies which were considered as a must to spend a lot of resources on in the past.

## Planning and consultation

The kebele agriculture experts and administration bodies assess the places of work and types of activities that have to be accomplished by the FFW programme. Then, they discuss with the community in various public meetings the studied activities. After that it is presented to the kebele council and is implemented after approval. Previously, the types of activities were directed from the wereda. Since 2008, most of the activities that are accomplished by the FFW are identified at kebele level with the exception of some activities that are directed by the government to be given special focus. This has helped to accomplish activities that have been given priority. There is no problem identifying the activities that are done by the FFW programme.

With regard to choice of Household Asset Building Projects, there are community mobilization activities in various organizations and public meetings so that the community can form credit and saving cooperatives through which it develops the habit of saving and ability to build assets. Accordingly, the number of the saving and credit cooperatives which are in process of formation is increasing over time. The problem that is observed here is that as the previously formed multi-purpose cooperative has not been as successful as was expected, there is a sense of lack of interest.

Suggestions for improvement: as the multi-purpose cooperative that was formed previously has started to share profits (dividends) in 2011, there is coming to be better understanding of the community about having additional cooperatives. Thus, there should be awareness raising activities to let the community enter the newly formed saving and credit cooperative and to establish saving and credit cooperatives at each structure through which they can built household assets.

Watershed management: as it is part of the FFW activities, it has been assessed by the experts and kebele officials approved by the kebele council and has been implemented. At kushet Harresaw of the kebele, watershed management activity has been accomplished at the Zeroroha watershed. Base map and developed map have been prepared for it and the affected land is being rehabilitated by making different structures at the upper and lower levels of the watershed. All the participants of the FFW and free community contributions of labour participate in these watershed management activities. Previously, it was done at kushet level. The problem is that the activities are hindered when there is shortage of budget and shortage of inputs. It would be helpful if the government and the NGOs collaborate to solve this problem by allocating enough budget and make it continuous.

In general, the community of the kebele participates in planning for all the development activities done at the kebele through various organizations (basic organization, Associations, development groups and networks). After this the activities are presented to the kebele council and are approved and the work is started.

## Accountability

Gimgemas are done frequently on different occasions and in planned meetings. There is a weekly meeting of cabinet members. The different development groups also have meetings every two weeks. TPLF party members have meetings once a month. There are also meetings with community members. Gimgema is done whenever there is monitoring and evaluation. There is monitoring of development activities based on plans. The performance of those people assigned to carry out the development and political activities is monitored. Ranking is also made based on performance. Those who are weak or lagging are identified and they are told about their weakness. People also make self-criticism, they admit their weakness before others tell them. Those who are found to be not working are punished and they are made to carry out the plans.

There was one party member who did not do what was expected of him so he was excluded from his position.

There is no recent change in the area of gimgema. Gimgema brings good change to the accomplishment of development activities. It facilitates jobs. In rare cases there is a problem admitting faults by those who did them, otherwise the gimgema is going well.

There are some appeals to the wereda against decisions. The cases that are taken to the wereda are usually land cases not related to accountability practice. The fact that the biggest decisions are made by informing the wereda makes appeals to the wereda against decisions to be meaningless.

There is no use of citizens' report cards in tabia Harresaw.

There is a suggestion box at tabia Harresaw administration office. The use of the suggestion box is not frequent because people can raise their problems openly in meetings. The other reason is that the majority of the adults in the community are not literate. Once there was a message in the suggestion about land saying there was use of bribes in land administration. Because of this message in the suggestion box the case was investigated and the land administrator was dismissed from his job. There is no recent change regarding the use of the suggestion box. The good thing about the use of the suggestion box is that it shows gaps that are not openly told. There is no problem is in using the suggestion box, it should continue as it is.

Budget posting is not known in the tabia. The budget is given orally to the community in the annual meeting. The community are told the tabia budget in the month of August. They are also told in mid-year. Recently there is a plan to post the tabia budget on the notice board.

The rank of the above mentioned accountability practices is first gimgema, second use of suggestion box, third appeals to wereda against decisions. The rest, citizens' report cards and budget posting, are not practiced at tabia Harresaw.

## Security and policing

There is good peace and security in tabia Harresaw. Women are free to go within the tabia. The situation of peace and security is improving over time. There are guards at the health post and at the tabia administration office. Theft and various attacks are not common in the tabia. Women can freely move within the tabia. There is much improvement in the tabia with regard to peace and security.

The militia have a big role in maintaining the security of tabia Harresaw. They have a role in resolving quarrels and fighting between married couples and youths and neighbours. Whenever such quarrels take place the militia informs the police or the security administrator. From the beginning the militias are selected if they have good conduct in the community. The desired conduct of a militia man is not quarrelling, having patience and not drinking much.

Peace and security is maintained in the tabia using militia, police and commander. The commander and the militia are peasants from the community and they are not paid a salary. There is also one policeman involved in maintaining peace and security in tabia Harresaw. The policeman is a government employee and he is paid a salary. There are 135 militia in the tabia and they always have guns with them. The militias are chosen by the interest of the community. The 135 militias are divided between the 3 kushets of Harresaw. The militias should come from the kushet they are going to be assigned to. The militias who keep the kushets continuously are 15, 5 from each kushet. These 15 militia are exempted from PSNP public works. There is investigation of all places twice a year. This is checking of the mountains and other hidden places for their security. This can be done more than twice a year whenever there are suspicions, whenever there is an election and whenever there is information from the community. There are three commanders who coordinate the five militia who carry out the routine peace and security maintaining work. The militia and commanders have meetings on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Recently there was notable incident in which a person was found dead in a siwa (local alcoholic drink) house. A militia got information about the case and he reported to the security administrator and he discussed with the chairperson and other persons who were at the tabia from the wereda. The dead body was taken to the wereda. This notable incident happened in 2011.The person was dead when quarrelling with someone but the opponent did not physically harm the dead person before he died. He just died when he tried to jump from the door to outside, he fell down and died. With the information provided the suspect who was detained by the police was set free.

There is no community policing in tabia Harresaw. There is one policeman who has permanent station in the tabia. The permanent policeman in the tabia was assigned in 2010. He works in collaboration with the militia. He has a big role in maintaining tabia security. There was the involvement of the police in the same incident mentioned in the militia on death of a person in a siwa house.

There is no prison in tabia Harresaw. Prisoners or suspects are detained at the wereda centre Atsbi.

The wereda police work on the prevention of crime. And they take crime suspects to the wereda prison. The recent change is that the militia work with the police.

Simple quarrels and simple insults are resolved by the social court found in tabia Harresaw. Big crimes and cases with more than 1500 birr punishment are taken to the wereda court.

## Justice

The social court of the kebele looks at the civil code and simple offences and sits twice a week to see cases. Before 2010, it was the social court that was looking at the cases related to land. But since 2010 onwards, land related issues are looked at by land management and land dagnnet / court. The cases that are handled by the social court are marriage related cases, property cases, moral as well as physical harassments, appeals for paying back of credits (under 3000 birr) and it punishes individuals that violate the rules and regulations of the grass land and forest management, giving punishment to those people who refuse to participate in the development activities. When its effectiveness is seen, it has been enabled to enforce the rules and regulations of the community, to punish those who violate these rules and regulations of the community and the community has been able to get justice in a nearby place. The social court meets and evaluates activities in the kebele monthly with the security and justice bodies at the kebele level. The problem is that the per diem that is given to the judges and prosecutor is not paid on time. Otherwise, the delay in justice has been solved.

Suggestions for improvement: it would be very helpful to provide better service if the judges and prosecutor were considered as equal to the development agents, and health extension workers and were paid regular salaries.

Peace Committee: there are 15 militias that are represented from each kushet and there are three commanders that lead them. The militias coordinate other all militias when there are invasions, and local conflicts like among neighbouring kebeles. They look after the houses and property of the community who go to participate in FFW or in free labour activities, they see when there are conflicts among the community members, they check if a stranger comes in to the kebele, they seek and handover suspected people to the social court. These militia members are paid as equal to the FFW participants without the need to participate in the work, and they work effectively.

Recent changes: the members of the committee were 30 before 2010; they were reduced to 15 in 2010 because the development agents refused to pay 30 people without participating in the work.

There was a problem when the militia tried to bring suspected individuals to the social court. Now, as a policeman is assigned, the problem has been minimized as the policeman who has the right to force the suspected ones goes together with the militia.

Suggestions for improvement: there is only one policeman. So, increasing the number of police there would help to strengthen the security work and to ensure peace in the community.

Other Customary institutions: there are 9 community elders in the kebele who are represented from each kushet. These elders handle and reconcile marriage conflicts, robbery, and conflict among gots, kushets and kebeles associated with grass lands and boundaries. It is traditional practice to resolve legal issues through the community elders in the kebele as well as in the neighbouring communities. However, this customary practice was recognized in an organized manner by the community and the kebele administration only recently. The role of these elders has helped the community to resolve cases in nearby places without spending time and money and to use their time in work. Besides, it has helped to decrease the overload of cases at the social court. They teach people at the churches and any other public meetings and reconcile people in conflict. Sometimes, they take back cases from the courts, by discussion with the judges and look at the cases and reconcile. Generally speaking, it has helped to resolve conflicts easily. If there are people who don’t agree about the elders that participate in the case resolution, it is possible to add some other elders or to make changes; so there is not much problem here.

Social court, Peace committee, police, community elders, land administration, land judgment, and law prosecutor of the kebele are organized under the justice and security office of the kebele which has enabled them to work in coordination. They have good relationships as they meet every month.

Wereda Court: the wereda court sees cases from the wereda town (Atsbi) and 2 sub-towns of the wereda (Dera and Hayki Mes’hal). Previously, cases were resolved at Atsbi town only; but recently they have been distributed to be seen in three towns. In addition to this, the court was closed in summer but is now open all year. After these changes, the community has been able to get fast service. The court service which is provided at the other two sub-towns is the mobile court that is held once a week, on market day when the community gathers to the town and it is held by the judges, law prosecutor and police that go from the wereda. This has helped the community to get legal decisions at nearby places. The court at wereda level looks at all kinds of cases. The sectors in wereda justice and security office communicate with the same sectors in the justice and security office at kebele level as they have monthly meetings. In general the problems that were occurring at the wereda court and caused delays to justice have been resolved.

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## Taxes and contributions

### Taxes and licences

Last year, the number of land tax payers was 1022 and the amount of land tax paid was 38,896 birr. This is paid by those households that own land and the amount of tax varies from 20-40birr depending on the size of the land they own. Land tax is the duty of every one that owns land and those who don’t pay tax on time are punished by law.

### Contributions

Last year, 3700 birr was contributed to Red Cross to buy an ambulance. The money was collected through the Red Cross membership cards which cost five birr. But as the card was finished, not all community members could contribute. The Red Cross contribution was done only last year and it was not done before. When we see the annual contribution of the women’s association in 2003EC, it was 6360 birr from 1060 members and each member contributed 6 birr/year, the youth association has 265 members who contribute 4 birr/year, in total 1060 birr, the farmers’ association has 321 members who contribute 6 birr/year, in total 1926 birr have been contributed. The total members of the party members are 450 who contributed 6 birr each/year, in total 2700 birr was contributed in 2011. Only those members of the associations and members of the party who migrated have not contributed. In addition to this, the community contributed 38,000 birr for development projects such as construction of kebele offices and providing high school materials in 2011. The money was collected from the food for work, direct food aid and emergency food aid payments from which one kilo was contributed by each beneficiary.

The community contributes in labour, materials and in cash to facilitate the various development activities in the community. Especially from the year 2008 onwards, the community has been contributing from the FFW and EA to facilitate the kebele office construction, for the construction of the high school and providing internal equipment (such as chairs and computers), digging clean drinking water and supporting orphans. As the projects are ongoing, the contribution has still continued. In addition to this, the community contributed wood, soil and stones. All the community members are participants in all these development activities as much as they can. As almost of the community has been included in the food aid due to the drought that happened in 2000/2009, all of them contribute from the aid they receive. The amount of contribution is decided by the community voluntarily. There is no problem in collecting the contribution because it is reduced from the amount of the grain during the grain distribution. The community also participates in contributing free labour work, especially during the construction of kebele public hall and kebele administration offices. In addition to this, it contributed for the construction of the wereda public hall and to strengthen the wereda youth sport. In 2011, it was promised by the kebele to contribute 50,000 birr for the construction of the Abay dam and the contribution will be started this year. This will be contributed by the community in similar ways as it does to facilitate projects at the kebele level and the community is volunteering to contribute.

Meanwhile, those who have the capacity to work have contributed free labour for 20 days in the soil and water conservation activities. In addition, the community mobilization activity before the FFW started, known as Wofri Hayelom, was done for five days with free labour contributions. This is done every year. This free labour contribution was done for 40 days only in 2010; but as the community complained, it was reduced to be 20 days as it was before.

## Differences between taxpayers and non-taxpayers

Over 90% of the community in the kebele are land tax payers. The community has a positive understanding about paying land tax. With its duty to pay land tax to the government, the community has also the right to produce on the land. Besides, the community is told that it has a duty to produce on the land using necessary inputs, to protect the land and inherit to the new generation properly. In fact, it understands this well. Generally, the community is mobilized to understand that it is a must to pay trade tax or land tax on time. Besides, it is informed at every event that those who don’t pay tax and don’t perform their duties will be accused and it goes to the level that their trade licence or land ownership right can be taken away. If there are people who have not paid their tax, they are accused and are punished.

## Public Works

### Environmental public works

As most parts of the kebele and especially kushet Harresaw have slopes, the flood that comes from the hills causes great soil erosion. It has divided farm land in to two and made it to be out of use. Soil and water conservation activities have been taking place for many years to prevent this disaster and to rehabilitate the land. Currently, there are activities to hinder the flow of the flood in the upper catchment and to protect the land by making gabion and cement walls in the lower catchment areas. There are water streams that have been starting to flow out as a result of the activities planned in 2011. The land has also been protected from erosion. The main challenge here is that there is a budget constraint that hinders the activities from being accomplished sustainably. Thus, there is a need for funding by NGO support so that the affected land can be rehabilitated. In addition to this, there are activities of watershed management in the kebele in which an assessment is done and the base map and developed map have been prepared. At the watershed, soil and water conservation, half moon and check dam structures are constructed and the area is protected to produce grass and fruits such as apple and eucalyptus trees.

The zero grazing policy is being implemented by identifying the non-farm land as communal forest land, government forest land, grass for oxen and private grass lands. Accordingly, the community benefits from the protected grass and trees privately as well as communally. The community is also practicing keeping the cattle and feed at home. These activities are directly organized by the NRM DA. As the lands are used for grass and plants which are used for animal feed and farming land, the livestock and crop DAs are also involved.

-Irrigation Management: the irrigation activities have been strengthened as private and communal wells, check dam, tanks and water reservoirs are built in addition to those which already existed. Accordingly, the area of irrigated land in 2011 has grown to be 296 hectares. The main challenge regarding irrigation is that the community has not yet been engaged in production of cash crops. So, in order for the community to produce more cash crops, it is necessary to work on community awareness-raising about the benefits of irrigation and provision of farm inputs with fair prices as the prices at the market are getting higher. The crop DA organizes the irrigation activities while the other DAs also participate.

## Government propaganda/public relations

### Growth and Transformation Plan

With regard to GTP, the kebele officials were trained at the wereda. Then, they came back to the kebele with the manuals and introduced it to the work related officials of the kebele first. Then, the community was oriented at kebele, kushet and development group levels. After this, the community was mobilized to understand to use modern technologies that are found in the kebele, to use time properly and to overlap the activities. There is some kind of perception by some people that having infertile/affected land can’t help to bring about the needed achievement. To avoid such misconceptions, awareness raising activities should be done so that the community can understand it is possible to achieve the GTP if they use the farm inputs that are provided by the government properly and if they strengthen the irrigation activities.

### Delivering development messages to the community

Development messages: there are different ways to disseminate development messages to the community. When it is needed to disseminate general messages that all the population should know, they are transmitted through radio at the regional level because many of the community members listen to radio and the kebele calls for general meetings because the community can easily participate in meetings. However, the kebele level structures are effective in producing change in the community. This means that, to disseminate messages from the kebele directly to the development groups, then to the networks and then to all the community members is the best mechanism. In this case, as one person tells those who are under its supervision and it is possible to supervise its implementation, it becomes effective. In addition to this, targeting the specific focus groups or providing special trainings, for example, providing special training for people who have irrigation to bring change in irrigation, using the party meetings to disseminate messages to the members of the party, using model farmers/champions, are important ways to bring change to the community.

Suggestions for improvement: the 1-5 networks which brought good change in the 2010 election are bringing considerable change so they should be strengthened

## Social equity interventions

### Insurance

There is no insurance intervention that has started in the kebele so far.

### Promoting equity for women

There is no FGM in the kebele since the past and it is not practiced at this time

Against rape and abduction: previously, rape and abduction were considered as signs of heroic action and were common occurrences. The one who raped was forced to marry the girl by reconciliation. Now, as the girls are accusing the men who rape, the men fear and its occurrence is almost none. It has also been written in the law that the case might cause 15-25 years of imprisonment. As the community has been oriented that these actions are harmful practices, they don’t resist; rather they support the law.

Against male violence: there is a law enforced and that punishes the people that violate the rights of women. Besides, the women’s affairs office and women’s association of the wereda and the kebele follow the violent action and sue to the court. Hence, there is a problem of giving weak/less punishment. For example, a student who killed a girl after she refused to be his girlfriend was punished to be in jail only for 10 years. Besides, there are cases where the time to stay in the prison is decreased by ‘’amecro’’. Thus, the punishment is not educative as it should have been. Although there is full support to women to avoid the violence against women, there still is a sense of acceptance of the domestic violence by men which is a misunderstanding of the problem.

Marriage age of 18: there is follow up by the women's affairs office of the kebele and other relevant sectors to accuse those who arrange underage marriage; and those who are found to violate the law are punished. Most of the time, the marriage is cancelled. The challenge here is that as there is some occurrence of unwanted pregnancy before marriage among the girls who are under 18 years old, the parents want their daughter not to have such problem and they want to see their daughter get married as soon as possible by increasing their ages. This is the problem that is occurring for most of the community members including mothers.

Ensuring access to government services: women are given priority before men to own land in the kebele’s land re-allocation. The number of female students in the schools is also exceeding the number of male students. The problem is that the female’s performance is still less than the male’s performance; especially when their grade increases, their results decrease. Regarding health, since the coming of the HEWs women are supported to keep their personal hygiene and environmental sanitation, to use vaccinations and to have ANC follow up, and to use improved technologies that save their time and energy and support them to improve their livelihoods. The HEWs are playing a great role in helping pregnant mother by taking them to the health centre in time of delivery. In general, women have been beneficiaries of various interventions. As a result, the number of educated women is increasing and the death of mothers and children is decreasing. The attitude of the community about sending females to school is being improved.

Girls’ Education: the women's affairs office and association of the kebele and health providers go to the elementary school and provide education about reproductive health for female students. In 2011, HIV/AIDS VCT was conducted for volunteer female students. The students have been able to get better knowledge on HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancy. The girls’ club in the school has played a great role helping females form Anti AIDS club.

Exceptions from FFW: previously a pregnant woman was working until she got very tired. There is no change in the free community contribution of labour work. In the FFW programme, however, she works only up to 6 months and is given maternity leave. She also has 10 months of leave after delivery. Although there is an agreement at wereda level that a four months expectant mother should not participate in the labour work, it has not yet been implemented because there is no written direction/letter that orders the kebele for its implementation. The maternity leave has been supported by all the community members because as the work is hard, it was affecting the women.

Land rights: women were given land ownership rights during the previous land re-distribution equally with men. It is being implemented. At the recent land re-allocations, women have been given priority to own land. There is not any resistance from the community because the number of landless women is relatively greater than the landless men. In addition to this, women get half of their land in case of divorce.

Women’s Participation in kebele structures: as a rule, it says that the number of women should be 50%. They are 50% represented at the kebele council. They are also over half of the total numbers in the party membership. However, they are very few in sector offices and among cabinet members. For example, out of the 14 kebele cabinet members, only three are women. But this doesn’t mean that there is no change; but it means that their representation is not as much as needed. There are activities to empower women and bring them in to leadership positions. However, practically there is not much change. This is because many women do not like appointment as they are too busy doing the daily domestic activities. As their home life is affected when they have to spend much time in meetings, they don’t want to come to leadership positions. Besides, as their husbands do not allow them to leave their domestic responsibilities and spend time in meetings, their number has not increased as expected.

Women’s Participation in Wereda Structures: the women’s participation in the wereda is almost similar to that of the kebele. Their number on the council and in the party is half and above 50%. Although their number at the sector offices is increasing, it has not yet reached 50%.

Targeting vulnerable women: women receive equal support from the government and NGOs that aid male and female HIV patients. In addition to this, the women's affairs office coordinates activities by which women participate in the women’s package and get credit services to improve their livelihood. There are some women who have taken loans and have been engaged in small business, selling tea and drinks. Meanwhile, the members of the women’s association contribute money and grain to support women who have health problems and those who live with HIV/AIDS. The PLWHA (both males and females) are also supported by safety net programme, through getting more grain than their normal share; the community supports them in doing farm activities and in constructing their houses.

### Youth livelihoods

There are interventions which are done to improve the livelihoods of the youth. Recently land was distributed to youths. The type of land given to youths is on hills which are expected to be used for putting beehives for honey production and for animal fattening. The youth are also given farm land to be used for farming and irrigation activities. The farm land was given on an individual basis. There are also those who got land on a cooperative basis but they are not well established so far. There are 12 cooperatives for the production of potatoes. There are some cooperative groups who put beehives. They were given loans. Those for the production of potatoes have already received land; some of them got land from their families.

Credit service was given to the youths in cash and in kind. They were given credit of up to 6000 birr per individual. Others were given modern beehives as a loan. The price of one modern beehive is 1150 birr. The youth were also given training and advice about how they should work and how they should manage their money. Trainings are given at the beginning. They are usually given 1-2 days training. The training includes technical portions and skills of how to manage and change themselves.

There are many youths that have started agricultural activities based on their plan. There are youths who have become successful in honey production.

The problem that hinders the achievement of these interventions is the migration of the youths to Saudi Arabia. The youths migrate even after taking credit. Some youths become successful after migrating, others die on their way to Saudi Arabia.

The suggestion on help for improvement in the future in the area of youth livelihoods is creating job opportunities for the youth, because many youths are highly attracted to Arab countries and this happens because there is no job opportunity that is satisfactory for the youth. A lot more should be done on honey production and livestock production. In tabia Harresaw there is good potential for these products.

### Youth recreation

There is no intervention at the tabia Harresaw to provide the youth with recreational facilities. There is no youth centre in tabia Harresaw or in nearby where youths can easily go and entertain themselves. The recent change regarding youth recreation is the coming of TVs and satellite receiver dishes. There are five TVs, 4 dishes and DVD players in the tabia. The youths use TV for watching news and other TV shows. The youth in the tabia watch various shows on TVs that are found in tea rooms. Most of the youths who watch TV are males. The most popular TV shows are drama and wrestling. There is a TV and satellite receiver dish at the tabia Harresaw meeting hall but it is not made for the youth to entertain themselves with that. For the future there is a plan for the youths be entertained on Sundays with the TV at the tabia hall. There is also a corombulla that is used as entertainment by male youths.

The problem in youth entertainment is the absence of a youth centre in the tabia. This is so because there is no support from the wereda.

For the future the tabia and the wereda should cooperate and make the youths learn computer skills. Currently there is only one computer at the tabia and it is used by the tabia administration.

### Youth and HIV/AIDS

Education is given to the youth on the prevention of HIV and AIDS. Community conversations and other tools are used to teach the youth as well as the members of the whole community. This activity of teaching is carried out with a budget. The health extension workers monitor the implementation of this. The tabia administrators also participate in lessons given to the community. The issue of HIV and AIDS is discussed with the development groups together with other development interventions. There are 51 development groups which consist of 25-30 households. The number of farmers and youths is 16 households and the female are 35 households. All the development groups discuss health and HIV/AIDS. VCT is done in the form of campaigns in the tabia whenever there are meetings and other community gatherings.

The achievement regarding HIV and AIDS interventions is that the community have acquired better awareness than before. The youth are using condoms to protect themselves from HIV.

For the future teachings should continue in the way they are now so that the youth will have not only better awareness but also to make them practice what they know.

### Exemptions for poor people

*Research Officer 1* There are free medical services provided to very poor people and handicapped former fighters. A person has to show a support letter from the kushet officials to ensure that he/she is too poor to pay for medical services; then it is given to the kebele manager. It is suggested that this process takes a long time especially for patients who are referred to further medical services; so there should be improvements in the application process so that the patients get quick service. There are no other exemptions for poor people. This is because education is provided for free to all the community members, the monthly water service fee is only two birr. Tax (land tax) is also paid from the amount of crop they harvest as everybody has the duty to pay land tax. The community contributions are deducted from the food aid they receive and are not difficult to pay.

*Research Officer 2* There is exemption for poor people. In health there are people who get health service freely. Around 2008 three people from each kushet were registered for exemption on health.

There is some payment for education but everybody pays there is no exemption for the poor.

Community contributions are usually made from PSNP or emergency supports. The agreed upon amounts are deducted from every beneficiary there is not any kind of exemption. There is not also exemption in taxes or other payments. Everyone who fetches water pays two birr per month. There is no problem in the exemption. It is also ok with others the payment for education is very small but the suggestion is education cost should be exempted for the poor with sending many children to school. There are poor children of veterans.

### Support for poor people

The majority of people in Tabia Harresaw are poor. There is no one who is out of PSNP or emergency aid. There are 20 people who got graduated from PSNP. People who get PSNP support are 3314. Those people included in emergency food aid are 1294.Those who get support under federal support are 3263.

With PSNP and federal support all the family members given are included, but in emergency it is ½ of the members and sometimes below that. Most people who have better economic status are included in emergency aid. The beneficiaries are screened for PSNP at the kushet with the involvement of community members. Assigning for different support is done based on the wealth status of households. There is a problem in having enough quota.

For the future what the community waste on weddings, death commemorations and other things should be stopped. In the PSNP there is a delay after doing PSNP public works. There are people who worked in June but who have not got PSNP support until October. Some poor people get labour support in development groups but it is not intensive. For the future poor people should be given various support like clothing.

### Interventions to help vulnerable people

There are adults and children with disabilities in the community. The rough number of those including the mentally ill people is 5% of the total population. There is no special support by the tabia to those people with disabilities including the mentally ill. How the tabia assist them is by giving priority to adults and children with disabilities and mentally ill people whenever there are government supports for the whole community. Persons with disabilities are involved in PSNP and emergency support in the direct support. Labour support is given by the community for people with mental and physical disabilities. These labour contributions are made during the construction of houses and latrines, weeding and ploughing. Such supports are done to a limited extent. There are two NGOs that worked in Tabia Harresaw. These NGOs are World Vision and Adonay. The persons with disabilities were screened by the tabia. The tabia screens first and it informs the community to make sure that these people were selected appropriately. If there is a complaint from the community the selected person is replaced by someone worse off. At the first round Adonay gave 1000 birr as a loan for vulnerable people. In the second round it gave 1500 birr as a loan for vulnerable people.

Tabia intervention to help the mentally ill is that it gives them PSNP support. The tabia also makes the tabia community collaborate and support the mentally ill and other vulnerable people. These people are exempted from association fees and other contributions. The mentally ill people were also involved in the Adonay support mentioned earlier. World Vision gave the mentally ill persons animals. It gave 5 sheep or 1 cow or 1 ox. For some mentally ill people the support was given to their parents. There are some mentally ill people who are totally dependent on their family for many things so for the future their family should make savings for those mentally ill who they take care of. Most of the mentally ill people did not get improvements because of support. Some of them sold it and used the money for their consumption. There was also drought which led to the death of livestock. World Vision replaced the animals which died from drought. Most of those who got replaced have become successful.

The NGO called Adonay was giving 500 birr as a support for poor and vulnerable people. This money was given to double it by using it as seed money for income generating activities. There was three days training on how to use the money and the participants were paid 105 birr as a per diem. The training was on how to use their money effectively, how to improve their lives. For those who are mentally ill the whole package was given to their family. Adonay made house visits to see the status of the beneficiaries.

There are good achievements in the work of World Vision and Adonay but there are also many who did not use the support effectively. There was a problem in using what they were given for the desired purpose. The other problem was external and it was drought. Drought made these people sell and consume what was given to improve their lives.

Suggestion for improvement is that it would have been better if the persons with disabilities got organized and participates in developmental activities based on their capabilities. Currently only those who are war veterans with disabilities have an association. To get organized they need financial and material support and they need to generate income by producing. The majority of the persons with disabilities are those veterans.

There are 64 full orphans in tabia Harresaw. Out of these 40 are male and 24 are female. There are also 135 half orphans. Out of these 53 are male and 82 are female. The tabia gives them full ration for full orphans. The tabia also gives school material support for orphans who experience shortages of school materials. They buy exercise books and pens. The tabia also morally encourages the orphans and prevents them from dropping out of school. In PSNP they are given the full quota and they do not work until they become 18 years old.

World Vision did a lot of work on orphans. It was giving support in grain and livestock. It was also giving school materials for orphans. The school materials included notebook and pen. It was also giving 5 sheep per child, or an ox or a cow. For support targeting children it was given to their caregivers. Adonay made house visits to see the status of the beneficiaries.

World Vision was also giving support for poor children living with their parents. World Vision was giving school materials for poor and rich children. It was given to children whose pictures was taken during assessments made by World Vision. There are achievements with the interventions in that there are people who got improvements with support from Adonay and World Vision. The school materials support from World Vision helped children to attend school effectively.

Recently both Adonay and the World Vision have quitted their operations in tabia Harresaw. There was no problem in the way support was given for orphan children but there was a problem in the community in properly using the support given for them. There was selling of what was given for them. Drought also caused death of livestock that was given for the orphans. World Vision gave replacements for those whose animals died in the drought. Recently there is no change in NGOs. There are changes in those who bought animals. As animals got reproduced people can animals and use the revenue for food and clothing. Also from the animals they get milk, they also use oxen for ploughing.

There was drought and about 50% died. Those that were given by World Vision were replaced. The problem is all were not given them at once. They were given at different times and it created jealousy among the orphans. For the future support from government is required. The community should also assist them until they complete their education.

In tabia Harresaw there are 215 old people who need support. There is no organized support that the tabia administration gives to old people who need support. How the tabia administration gives support to these people is from PSNP and emergency support. These old people are given direct support in PSNP. Labour support is given to needy old people in latrine construction and when a house collapses and a new one is built for them with the cooperation. The labour contribution is usually done in the form of group work. Adonay and World Vision supported old people as part of their intervention but provided no support specific to old people and there is no change recently. For the future government support should continue for needy old people because they cannot work. The community should also continue to support the needy old people with labour.

There is no support given to female-headed households. There is no support given by the tabia administration or NGOs. Female-headed households become poor when their husbands die or they divorced. For the future they should be organized in an associations and should get support from the government and the community. They should also be assisted materially and financially to make them support themselves.

There are not many craft workers in tabia Harresaw. There is no weaver in tabia Harresaw and there is no one who makes pots with clay. There are two people who make ploughs using iron. There is a skill of spinning cotton among women but nowadays it is decreasing over time because the use of traditional cloth has decreased. There is no tabia administration or NGO intervention on craft workers.

There are many landless youths in Tabia Harresaw. Their number is not well known but the majority are landless because land was distributed a long time ago. There is no big intervention to solve this serious issue as such but recently the tabia administration gave land to landless youths. There is no NGO working in the area of landless youth. The suggestion given for the future is that students who complete 10th grade should be given job opportunities. Those who are 10th grade complete should be made to be organized in a cooperative and do something because the land is affected by recurrent droughts. The TVET should be expanded so that many more students will get a chance to get skill training there. The government should give loans to youths so that they can engage themselves in income generating activities. For the future development activities should be expanded and the youths should be made to learn and work. As a solution landless and other youths migrate to Arab countries illegally so the government should close the illegal migration routes. It is good if the government can send them through a legal way. It is good if land should be given to landless youths.

There is no recorded domestic servant or commercial sex worker. Those who are poor live with their relatives and assist them in doing household chores. This is on mutual benefit and it is very rare. There are ladies who go to the nearest towns and get involved in commercial sex work. There are no migrants living in tabia Harresaw. Those government employees came from another tabia but they are not many. Even though there are slaves there is no discrimination so they get any service like other people. Even calling them slaves is not allowed.

There are not many child herders in tabia Harresaw. Usually livestock are kept at home in most parts of tabia Harresaw. Many children go Afar region to work as herders. About 20% of the children in the tabia migrate to Afar seasonally to work as herders. They stay for two months in July and August when schools are closed. These children come back after two months' stay in Afar region. There is no strong intervention on these children because they come back home. The tabia administration is doing awareness raising activities for their parents. The problem is that they do not listen because they are very poor. There is no NGO intervention on child herders. The age of children who migrate for herding is 10-18, those who are above 18 years old go to Saudi Arabia.

In tabia Harresaw there are people living with HIV/AIDS. The tabia administration makes special favour for people living with HIV/AIDS. During the recent land distribution they were given land without lot. In PSNP and emergency support they are given for all of their family members. Priority is given to them before allocation of households started in PSNP and emergency support. Labour support is given by the community to the PLWHA whenever they construct latrines or build houses. The community members contribute money and assist the PLWHA. The NGO called Adonay gave them sheep as free support.

World Vision bought sheep and gave them training. World Vision gave them 5 sheep each for those who disclosed their HIV status to the community and for those who got organized in the tabia. They were also given training on their health, how to live positively, how to improve their livelihood, and the importance of PMTCT.

The different supports have showed improvements among the persons living with HIV/AIDS.

There is change even physically. The change in their livelihood is the same with the rest of the family. There is good achievement in those who got sheep. Now they sell the newly born sheep and buy food and clothes. There are some who have not disclosed their HIV/AIDS status to the community. There are even some who say 'we can live without ART'. Those who are hidden transmit the disease to others who are healthy people. For the future the support from the government should continue in a strengthened way.