# Interviews with kebele officials in Shumsheha kebele, Lalibela City Administration, North Wollo - Stage 2 questions

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## Kebele structure

### About the kebele

The kebele structure was described: the present council has 300 members with equal proportions of men and women since 2005and there are 15 wereda council representatives, 10 male and 5 female elected in the 2010 election. Formerly there were only two wereda council representatives, a man and a woman. The kebele leadership consists of 9 cabinet officers/leaders; three of the cabinet posts – rural development/agriculture, civil services (formerly called capacity building), and health offices – are occupied by government kebele sector expert representatives and the remaining 6 posts – chair, vice chair, security and administration, women's affairs, youth and sport, and speaker of council offices – are held by elected farmers' leaders. There has been a manager since 1999 EC.

There were 9 cabinet members, 6 elected farmers (one of them a woman) and 3 government sectors workers; cabinet members meet every Sunday to evaluate weekly performances of the kebele by evaluating performances of each cabinet in the gots/sub-kebeles they were assigned to coordinate; it was indicated that on average more than half were available for cabinet meetings. The same chairman has been working since 1994 EC; the 4 main kebele committees were being coordinated by a cabinet each; each committee was responsible for the coordination of implementation in the respective sectors; it was mentioned, for example, that the education committee held a meeting and discussed the problem of low school enrolment.

The 3 Ni'us Kebele (sub-kebeles) have been coordinated by a cabinet member each or three member leadership each (coordinator, secretary, member); each sub-kebele consists of 3 gots.

Among the sectors, the health cabinet is working in providing a better health service to the community, education cabinet is working in providing education to all community members, the development committee is working through facilitating the development interventions, the Justice and peace cabinet is working on eradicating the frequent crimes, the Women’s affairs cabinet is working to empower women to play a management role, to secure their rights, and to access credit services.

The kebele council consists of 150 males and 150 females; it was estimated that more than three-quarters of the members attended council meetings; council members were called to a meeting to decide on the amount of contribution they should pay for Abay and for Weldiya stadium; most of them promised to give a goat to 300 birr each for Weldiya, and decided to pay 10 birr each for Abay; they discussed and approved the 2012/13 work plan prepared by the kebele cabinet in July, 2011.

The new structure has facilitated the development intervention plan at the national level, particularly in the rural kebele. It assists the implementation of different sector interventions which the community is a beneficiary of.

### Sub-kebele structures

There are 3 Nius-kebeles (sub-kebeles) each having 3 leaders, chairman, secretary, and member (9 leaders); all the 9 gots together have 41 development teams each having 3 leaders (total 123); the last level is known as Anid le Amist (one for 5) in which 6 neighbouring households/heads are organized, with one of them as leader of the 5 lay members.

### Kebele Committees

There are 4 main kebele committees, health, education, development, and justice/security.

### Kebele leadership

The same kebele chairman has remained in office since 1994 EC.

According to the kebele manager, the manager has a mandate to direct and follow up all the sectors; however, the manager doesn't have any mandate to make decisions on the sectors. This shows the way that the manager is nothing when it come the decisions though he is the one who is responsible for following up the functions. On the other hand, the kebele chair is not paid a salary. The town kebele and the rural kebele managers have different salary scales with the rural kebele manager’s salary being less advantageous.

The kebele manager came to his position in 2007. He is the first manager of the kebele. The manager is responsible for reviewing community appeals, follow-up and managing the kebele services.

Moreover, the kebele manager presents monthly progress reports to the kebele council meeting and responds to questions from the council members. He interacts with the kebele cabinets one day per week. The kebele manager and chair produce a checklist and decide with the cabinet. More to the point, he has an interaction with the women's association in promoting women's rights, and encouraging their participation in management roles. He also plays a role in encouraging the youth associations in creating job opportunities by arranging a training, and mountain management and peace and discussion conferences.

With the sub-kebele structures, the kebele manager interacts by transmitting information that has been provided by the wereda.

The kebele manager has a role in giving clearance and ID card services to the kebele members and facilitates by providing immediate provision of community services when they are desired by the PA. Since 2005, the kebele manager has helped the kebele in facilitating community services, gathering and compiling data and information in which this helps by providing required information about the kebele when it is desired by concerned bodies.

Sometimes there can be disagreement between the kebele manager and kebele chair. As the kebele manager explained, “the kebele chair is not paid a salary and this makes him frustrated; he is not tolerating it. Thus, the kebele chair should be paid, otherwise the job will be affected since the situation forces him to lose his commitment.”

On the other hand, the manager has a mandate to direct and follow up the sectors but he doesn't have any mandate to make a decision on them. It is the kebele's chair that decides on such matters. And the kebele manager suggested: “As long as the manager is following up on the sectors, he also has to make a decision on them.”

Beside, on the basis of manager’s salary the rural kebele manager is paid less and the town manager is paid better but surprisingly it is the rural kebele manager who manages routine work. As he specified he is paid 1300 birr while the town’s manager is paid 2000 birr

### Women's Association

Since 2011 the membership of the women’s association is 650. The women’s association encourage participation of women in leadership, politics, development work contributions and economic independence by creating credit service access. The women’s league which has 150 members and federation are independent of the women’s association, and carry out political activities.

There is no budget allocation that enables the implementation of specific interventions in the women’s association programme.

### Youth Association

In 2010, there were 151 youth association members. The association has ended its functions in 2011. Among the members, a few young unions are involved in productive activities such as sand, stone and beehives. The major reason behind the discontinuing of the association is lack of support such as training, awareness creation and micro finance credits. However, there is a plan to restructure the association in 2004 EC.

## Roads, paths and bridges

They reported that the community is expected to build new or repair existing roads damaged by floods within the kebele; the community has made many roads connecting gots to each other and with the kebele centre and the kebele with other kebeles, but these were always washed away/damaged by the rainy season floods; the community and sometimes with the help of graders from the wereda used to repair the 9km road to Lalibela ; the airport to Lalibela asphalt road has been the only road they could use begging government/NGO vehicle transport to go to Lalibela, to go up to the bridge on the road to zonal town Weldiya, Bahir Dar or Addis.

There are community built roads to each got for government vehicles; farmers commonly use inter-hamlet/village or got-to-got foot paths all year.

## Community land use

They reported there hasn't been any community land allocation to smallholders, but community forest/terraced hills were allocated to about 100 beekeeping cooperatives; quarry and sand land was allocated to 3 group cooperatives; land allocated to FFF, agriculture, orthodox, and cooperative nurseries from individual/motekeda. Land for kebele and other buildings was taken from individuals by compensating them from Mote-keda land.

## Public buildings

They described public buildings: kebele offices as good physically, have electricity but small rooms, no water; FTC very good brick building with latrine, electricity/water?; the veterinary store building very good with electricity but no water; the elementary school has good buildings, latrines, piped water, electricity, computers? and laboratory; very good health post/centre with electricity, latrines, but no piped water. Others: very good cooperative grain bank building with electricity, no water.

## Modern infrastructure

### Electricity

There has been electricity access to Shumsheha got since it was provided to the airport in 1996/7 EC; when it came first to the airport the kebele paid 250 birr to experts to study the cost of bringing it to the got and it was estimated at 100,000 birr, which was not affordable. Later, a local business man personally paid and brought it for his grain mill and the community could get access.

### Phones

It was reported that the community had built a sub-station house when the wereda told them ordinary telephone would be provided for 5 rural kebeles in 2004 but they never started it; mobile started with poor reception 4 years ago, but clear reception exists since 2011; currently about 150 people were estimated to have mobiles in the kebele.

## Land-related interventions

### Land re-allocation

There has been no major smallholder land re-distribution carried out but land for residential houses has been allocated to new households from communal grazing areas and about 250 individuals have obtained and built houses. It was common also to re-allocate Motekeda land to individuals whose land was taken for public buildings (FTC, borehole station) and road to the boreholes; many communal grazing hills were allocated to watershed development/ forest reserve areas.

### Land registration

More than 700 farmers have received land certificates, the process has been retarded after the kebele was re-organized into the town wereda administration and some haven't got certificates yet; community grazing land was not measured/registered, certificates were not issued.

### Rights to land

It was indicated that before 2004 the law limited land inheritance only to dependent children and if there weren't any the land of people who had died had to be taken over by the kebele as Mote-keda (left by the dead) and much of such land was taken until the 2006 law was issued allowing people to give their land to all kinds of children, dependent or with their own household, to all each or any one of their choice or to their parents or other close/remote relatives, or even to non-kin whom they might choose such as old-age time nurses [people who looked after them in old age?]; according to the 2000 law widows could inherit their husbands' share of land, the 2004 law denies them this and deceased husbands' shares will go to children, parents, or grandparents or to any one of his choice through a will while alive; divorcing women have to take land equally divided with husbands and the share of the children she will take with her.

### Zero-grazing

Their kebele has been implementing zero-grazing by designating hills as no-go areas for livestock so that forest will develop; farmers in the respective protected forest areas have been responsible for preventing animals from entering with the imposition of fines and they were able to harvest grass for their animals or sale, and produce honey. Intensifying of existing shortage of grazing land was mentioned as a problem

### Community forests

It was agreed in describing both terraced and planted hills and those reserved through non-grazing as community forests; especially one Iddir-managed community forest was described as well protected, the chairman noted that because any decision by priests and Iddir has always been hard for people to violate, community forests have been used as group honey production places, and good sources of grass for animals.

### Communal grazing areas

It was indicated that the remaining communal grazing areas have been used according to customary practices; there are ox and cow grazing areas separately, nearer to Mender (residential hamlets) for oxen, far away for cows; it was not possible to take cows into oxen areas, but oxen can be kept in cow-grazing areas. Such grazing areas were along valleys and at hills, which are also places assigned for natural management/watershed development work ; the kebele has been working on terracing and reserving grazing hills for forests every year and farmers were allowed to cut the grass growing and divide or sell to members and use the money to start group beekeeping.

### Re-settlement

They reported 16 poor people (1 woman) went to Metema re-settlement in 1995 EC, and 3 of them returned in 2004 due to ill health. Returnees who had their own land and houses before going were able to continue holding possession of them; the policy was that only poor people who are safety-net users could go for re-settlement but they were not willing to go while non-safety net user poor complained they would like to go.

### Villagisation

There hasn't been any villagisation.

## Farming interventions

### Water for farming - irrigation and water harvesting

There were about 40 individual water reservoirs dug but none of them was used because they couldn't hold water for long as they were made with concrete allowing water to sink through the soil or where plastics were used either Faro had torn it or thieves took it out so that water easily sank away. Regarding irrigation: 16.5 ha of land was irrigated from Kechin Abeba river in 1995/6 EC, now only 7 ha is left after most of it was washed away by flood; the Derewa river irrigation scheme could irrigate about 27 ha of land when built by Lutheran aid in 2000 but the river water has been retreating and decreasing/drying out downstream after March, only about 15 ha of land was being irrigated now; there was around 15 ha being irrigated in 1995/6 EC, now about 6 ha; in 2010 a water dam was constructed by AMELD with irrigation capacity of 13 ha but the canal was not made yet, it didn't give service.

### Producer Co-operatives

There were no producer cooperatives formed according to the cooperative law, but there were honey, cobblestone, and sand producing groups with 15-24 members each. There are 7 beekeeping groups with 168 benefitting members (144 males, 24 females), 7 cobblestone producing groups with total capital of 30000 birr, 5 sand supply groups with total capital of 23000 birr.

### The Service Co-operative

The kebele chairman said the service cooperative was not providing good service as it was being poorly run due to weak leadership, but it helped members to get oil at a fair price and especially benefited from sugar supply as it comes from government supply and was sold at fair a price; supplying fertilizers, selected seeds, pumps, consumer goods, and grain were among activities being carried out by the service cooperative. The price of fertilizers was the same as in the market, but they buy from the cooperative because it gives them 50% on credit.

### Other Co-operatives

NONE

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### Agricultural extension

The FTC was built around 2004 on individuals' farm land of 2-3 ha; it has demonstration plots growing fruits, vegetables and grain for practical training of farmers; there are crop DA responsible for advising/facilitating use of inputs; NRM DA teaching about soil, water, forest, wildlife conservation and coordinating watershed development activities; and livestock DA advising on animal production and health. There has been good credit access for all farmers for fertilizers and selected seeds, for honey producing groups for buying beehives through the service cooperative; input credit was reduced to half down payment since 2009.

## Non-farming interventions

Only quarry/sand producer cooperatives were provided land for non-farm activities; there are 7 quarry producing groups and 5 sand supply groups.

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

It was indicated that 1292 people were safety net beneficiaries. Out of this 200 households have graduated so far, in 2009 one household (6 members), 16 households in 2010, and 183 households (101 M, 82 F) in 2011. Kebele leaders insisted that most of this year's graduates have voluntarily signed to get out, but many denied having requested to graduate and complained that they were not told anything about graduation when they made them sign on a paper; the chairman said this indicated various ways of delaying their stay in the programme/avoiding graduation due to Sir ye-sedede Tigegnnet; deep rooted aid dependency. The chairman said that in response to this complaint graduation of the 42 of was reversed. It was discussed that all people other than safety net users worked in FFW in 2011 for longer [more?] days than ever before. In previous years commonly poor and fewer richer people had access depending on budget availability in each year. Selection criteria were first for poor non-safety net users, then those to whom an accident had occurred (loss of animal or crop, fire, flood), then to middle and finally the rich would be included.

## Credit and debt

### Credit and savings opportunities in the kebele

They argued that the kebele was a high credit user from ACSI until 2002 when it was found that ACSI had collected loans by Nech Wereket (white paper; illegal receipt) and used them personally; they were imprisoned while the debtors were forced to repay the same loan for the second time. One of the discussants noted that the people consider ACSI as Dem, blood enemy, and would never like to take loans ever since; about 27 women received loans from the micro-credit office, a few farmers took some loans from ACSI. PLAN and AMELD jointly introduced Ye-mender Quteba (village saving,) providing saving boxes for those who form an association; there were 104 saving groups with 966 members (62 males and 904 females), some save for one year and divide it [share it out?] in June, others continue saving for an unlimited period, some may provide credit for members with interest when the need arises. There was a village saving association that bought a honey producing bee farm from a beekeeping cooperative.

### Dealing with debt in the community

It was estimated that around 85% of safety net loan users didn't repay debts, partially or fully; formerly ACSI debts were collected through the kebele administration by imprisoning/taking debtors to court until this responsibility was transferred to the service cooperative when the kebele leaders refuse to implement it after the houses of three leaders, including the chairman's, were burned down by suspected debtors forced to pay; the chairman complained that government didn't help them and rather the people contributed food grain, and labour and material to rebuild his house; when the service cooperative tried to collect debts, the house of one of the leaders too was burned by an unknown man in 2008 during the rainy season, making his family life very difficult. Currently, there were 139 debtors, some on paying and most hadn't started any payment.

## Investors and in-migrants

It was noted that there has been no community land leased to outsiders, but FFF pay 5000 birr/year for a seedling nursery rented from an individual land, a hotel owner in Lalibela pays 1500 birr/year for irrigated vegetable production (for his hotel) rented from a farmer. Individual land renting agreements up to 3 years contract are sanctioned by the social court; agreements above this up to 25 years are dealt with by the wereda justice and security office.

## Interventions against HTPs affecting livelihoods

It was said that the majority of people implemented the proposal to reduce the number of non-working holy days immediately after the 2003 conference declaration, but this has gradually been abandoned due to ever increasing threats from priests against holy day work. The kebele chairman mentioned the incident in which priests came to prevent people involved in road maintenance community work on Saturday in 1996/7 EC; he said he was upset when the priests started threatening to curse them for working on a holy day and ordered the workforce to stop and disperse, and being emotional, he caught one of the priests by the throat and fought with him until people separated them and the militia took him and the priests to the wereda police. The chairman was released and went home the same day but the priests were detained for disrupting development work; in response the parish church priests stopped any services/closed the church until fellow priests were released. The community were shocked when the church was shut and the priests were released as a result.

## Food aid

It was mentioned that 1292 people have been beneficiaries of PSNP 15kg and 10 birr/family member. They indicated that in principle safety net food and cash aid should be given at the end of each month, but delay was common as it took some time to check if work activities were carried out according to set standards and to send work reports of recipients to the city wereda administration; it took more time for the wereda to check the work reports and finally send the cash and wheat to the kebele for distribution. It was indicated that PSNP has prevented many poor people from becoming poorer. But they noted that the amount of food aid/household was not enough for some households, which have got additional members through time. They reported that emergency food aid was being provided to individuals who had accidents causing loss of livestock, houses, crops, or farm land.

## Nutrition

They reported that health extension workers have been providing education on nutrition; they give food (oil, flour) to poor pregnant women/mothers, to children harmed by shortage of food. It was indicated that people were increasingly bringing their children for measuring and to receive food if found to be underweight due to food shortages.

The health extension workers provide education on nutrition to the community members. The food supplementary programme consists of pregnant and breast-feeding mothers and children. According to the health extension workers, since 2011 the experts select Volunteer model households from each Got and give them health package training.

Subsequent to the training, the selected community members will teach the households through home to home visits and various meetings. In addition to this, they investigate children whose age is below 2 years and those who are in need of nutrition. Moreover, the health extension workers will screen out those children whose age is below 6 by measuring their weight. According to the health worker, those whose weights are below 10kg will be assigned to the OTP programme. On the other hand, those whose weight is 11 -11.9 kg will be provided supplementary food such as 25 kg wheat flour and 3 litres food oil for six months. Previously, the supplementary food was provided 2 times a year but now only once; this is because the community are expected to prepare it by themselves and most of them have started preparing it by themselves. In this case, the communities are provided with training on how to prepare the supplementary food. As a result, the number of children [needing supplementary food] has decreased from 300 to 115 in this year.

On the other hand, those pregnant and breast feeding mothers whose weight is 18-20.9 kg are beneficiaries of 25 kg and 3 litres food oil per year. In addition to this, every lactating mother is provided with advice on nurturing the infants; before 6 months they are not permitted to feed supplementary food.

World Food Programme (WFP) were providing a school feeding programme such as biscuits, porridge made up of barley flour /yebeso duqet/ and tea from 2000-2010. Besides, in 2011 AMLED had provided 12 kg wheat flour per student.

All this intervention made the community members beneficiaries of the programme and it created awareness on nutrition among the community.

## Drinking water

It was reported that there were 9 hand pumped wells; 5 bono (water points for 1615 users); 4 developed springs for 1169; 11 undeveloped springs for 2814; and there are two boreholes and 3 reservoirs providing pipe water mainly to Lalibela town, most of Shumsheha, and partially to Abaregay and Enkuayberet; the hand pumped well in Laober got, made by AMELD, was damaged and stopped (2011); the solar power relay pump for Enkuayberet got was destroyed by users and stopped since 2010.

Water points and improved springs are available in the kebele. The community is a beneficiary of tap water which has a significant role in prevention of water borne diseases. Besides this advantage, there is no immediate adjustment given by the kebele when the improved springs cease to give service to the community. The water points are managed by the water committee. The community pays 10 cents for 20 litres water and there is no exemption regarding this.

## Hygiene and environmental sanitation

Since 2011, the kebele has formulated a new structure; the health development army (yetena limat serawit). Furthermore, professionals have been provided with training at the zonal and regional levels. Accordingly, by providing training designed for model farmers that intended 1 to 5 structures. Using this structure the kebele is implementing those health package activities.

According to the kebele health cabinet and extension worker, there are 4 main health packages in which there are 16 activities. Among the kebele households, those who graduated after the implementation of the 16 package activities are 627; and the rest, 384 households, are those who didn’t complete the activities. The rough percentages of households graduated are: with latrine (50%), waste disposal (75%), hand washing (50%), kitchen cupboards (90%), water purification tablets (0%), livestock not living in a house (100%), smoke-free house (90%) and pest and insect control (0%).

The community does not have a problem of awareness, rather there is a limit of resources. For instance, there is a demand for latrines but most of the latrines have faced a serious termite attack. To solve this problem the community is demanding cement and sand but there is no potential for providing these resources. On the other hand, some households who don’t have enough space prefer to plant vegetables rather than making a latrine.

Regarding pests and insects as well as purification tablets, the interventions did not get focus from the wereda; as a result, unlike the other interventions, they are not provided to the kebele. In addition to this, the community members did not require these intervention. On the other hand, some households have reported that the smoke free-stove is causing their houses to burn.

Finally, the health cabinet and extension workers suggested that to complete the implementation of hygiene and environmental sanitation beyond the awareness creation and training programme, pest and insect control, removal of termites as well as some resources, mainly cement and sand, should be provided by long- term loan to the community.

## Disease prevention and control

According to the health cabinet and health extension worker, immunizations, bed nets, spraying houses, removing stagnant water, HIV/AIDS prevention, TB prevention and First Aid are the main activities functioning through the health centre and health post in collaboration with community to encourage the disease prevention and control programme.

Previously, the community did not have awareness about different disease symptoms particularly on mosquitoes and HIV/AIDS. For instance, people were considering the mosquito as an evil spirit syndrome and it was believed that this evil spirit might be caused by river water when people drink by their mouth and when they cross the river on foot. In addition, they believed that she is a female demon that comes in the night and makes suffer them in dreams. However, now the community is well aware that the mosquito is an insect caused by stagnant water; and the community including children and old people have been working on removing stagnant water as well as being beneficiaries of bed nets.

Similarly, people used to think HIV/AIDS is something that makes people shrink, and they wouldn’t even take a seat next to an such identified person and did not give handshakes to them. But since the intervention took place, people become aware that it is just a sexually transmitted disease and cannot be identified by looking at someone’s physical appearance. Therefore, the community is becoming conscious and freethinking on stigma and discrimination. Moreover, people are taking blood tests voluntarily.

Though there are some identified HIV+ve people who are organized under Beza NGO, which has been teaching the community, those people who are in the position should have to teach the community by identifying themselves. Likewise the other intervention, model Got, should be selected and should teach the other communities.

## Interventions against HTPs affecting health

In the kebele, female circumcision is above 98%, cutting uvula and pulling milk teeth is 80% and except making tattoos on teeth, body scarring or branding 80% has been successful in eradicating [have been successfully eradicated?] through awareness creation in the community. On the other hand, the community has been trained not to circumcise males as it needs professional and sterilized equipment, but there is no service provided to the kebele for the reason that there is no professional. To provide this service, the health centre needs to be transferred from cluster to full cycle health centre. In addition to this, experts need to get professional training.

## Curative health services

### Health Post drugs

The health post provides HIV/AIDS blood tests, nutrition, vaccinations for mothers and children, family planning and malaria prevention services in the kebele. Regarding the reproductive services, pills, implant, injection, dipo (three month) and condom are among the contraceptive services that are available at the health post.

In terms of malaria, the RDT test is often given to the suspected patient and then according to the patient’s age Quartem tablets are provided. There is a bed net distribution and removal of stagnant water programme initiated by the health extension workers seasonally. Mostly malaria usually occurs from September-December and April to June. However, the prevalence of malaria has been declining significantly in the last four to five years.

Some drugs that are available at the health post are Iron, Albindazol, Mebindazol, Vitamin A and ORS. Though there was a painkiller i.e. paracetamol, it has expired now and the health post has requested it from the wereda health post. According to the health extension worker, the wereda health centre is going to supply it soon.

### Health Centres

The health centre is a well-constructed building that consists of 3 expert’s offices, 3 staff bedrooms, 6 patient beds, 1 emergency room, 2 delivery rooms, 1 adult and 1 child patient service room, 1 mothers’ room and 1 family planning room, 1, laboratory, 1 pharmacy, 1 medicine storage and 1 card and chaser office.

The community is a beneficiary of the health centre; recently, maternal and child mortality has been reduced in the kebele.

There is a staff problem; the kebele supposed to have at least 1 health officer. There is a shortage of emergency drugs, ART, antibiotics, anti-parasite, and antifungal drugs, which are supposed to be available at the health centre. There is a problem of safe water and of the budget. The government have to give critical attention and provide at least one professional and basic drugs. Those poor people who have a support letter from the kebele are exempted from charges. The kebele health centre provides services to another 5 neighbouring kebeles.

### Non-government health services

There are some traditional herbalists that come outside the kebele; some of them are licensed and some of them are not. Compared to the past, traditional herbalists are less popular currently. However, there are some herbalists who are still popular for their herbal treatment such as for snake bite.

## Reproductive health services

### Reproductive health services generally

In the kebele, the health post provides reproductive health services such as training and contraception services to the community. The health extension workers provide educational services to teenagers and adolescents in collaboration with school teachers. The experts use mini-media, HIV/AIDS and sport club to transmit the education.

### Contraception

Except for old women, the community are beneficiaries of family planning education. Previously women were not willing to use contraceptives because they faced resistance from their husbands. However, now both parties are willing to get the service.

Pills, injection, implants, condoms, morning after pill, abstention advice, are among the contraceptive services that the health post supplies to the community. About 546 people are beneficiaries of contraceptive services. According to the extension worker, the majority of women are using 3 month injections, 24 women are using implants, 76 women are beneficiaries of pre-natal advice and 15 are beneficiaries of family planning.

As the health worker mentioned, the boys are provided training on condom usage. There is teaching about the contraceptives at school.

### Abortion

There is no a demand for abortion and no service provider in the kebele. However, there are some people who face a natural abortion incident. This is an emergency case that some women face. About 10% of women could face such a problem in which 30% of them get a medical support. The health centre gives first aid and provides them antibiotic, iron and fluid.

### Infertility

There is no officially reported case of infertility but there are the so-called infertile women and man. As the health cabinet reported these could be about 3% of women and 5% of men in the kebele.

### HIV/AIDS and STDs

In the kebele, there are 37 officially known people [with HIV/AIDS]. They are organized under Beza NGO. There is one woman whose death was officially reported in 2011. These days, HIV/AIDS positive people do not face any stigma or discrimination. The community are willing to accept an HIV positive person since there is no stigma and discrimination in the community. And they have been teaching about the means of HIV transmission to the community in the kebele. There is access to medical treatment for HIV/AIDS infected individuals at health centre. The community attitude has improved.

### Fistula

There more than 7 women who suffer from fistula. There is an NGO called AdATE who provide services when there is a demand by the kebele. ADET will take these women to Bahir Dar where they could get access to treatment.

## Mother and child services

In the kebele, more than 20% of women are beneficiaries of pre-natal advice and monitoring, more than 80% of mothers get maternal vaccinations, help with delivery and advice on infant care are available at health post and health centre provided by health extension.

Based on the intervention, the community has achieved awareness on mother and child care. Moreover, maternal and child mortality has been reduced in the kebele.

## Education

### Pre-school education

The old kindergarten school is at Shumsheha primary full cycle school compound where about 20% of eligible children were beneficiaries. Recently, there are 3 newly established satellite schools in three different Gots. The problems were, the pre-school was inaccessible to some isolated Gots, and children were not able to get to it as desired by the community. However, the establishment of the three new schools will improve the situation.

Establishing additional new schools would facilitate the delivery of education to all rural Gots. According to the kebele, the pre-school education is referred to be pre-school or mewele histanat/kindergarten.

### Primary education

In the kebele, there is primary full cycle school and a first cycle school. Including the two schools in 2011, 480 female and 371 male students were beneficiaries. Though the schools were expecting 457 female and 378 male students to be registered in 2004 EC, only 340 female and 262 male students have enrolled. However, during this research interview period the school teachers and PTA were encouraging the community to send their children to the schools.

The primary full cycle school has 25 (15 female and 10 male) teachers. There are two shifts: the morning and the afternoon shift where grade 1-4 is one shift and grade 5-8 is the other. The shifts could vary weekly. Automatic promotion programme has been started; the system is to promote student based on their achievements.

Self-contained teaching is managed from grades 1 - 4. Since 1998 EC, a student whose average is above 50 has been promoted to the next class, while those students whose average is below 50 repeat the class. However, since 2011 new directives enforce the promotion of those students whose average is below 50 by revising their grades. This has a negative impact on the quality of education. Parents and teachers are not interested in the new directives. Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and the school management staff have regular consultation meetings on the quality of education, staff recruitment and school cost sharing contributions. There is a change in terms of expanding the pre-school services to some additional Gots.

### Secondary education

The kebele does not have a secondary school; however, the wereda secondary school is located 9 km from the kebele, at Lalibela town.

According to the primary school director, in 2005the kebele community had built 8 classrooms as the wereda promised to inaugurate a high school, though it failed to do so. Since the kebele became part of Lalibela administration, a high school couldn't be opened for a single kebele because of budget scarcity. The community became frustrated for the above reason. They are trying and struggling with life in subsistence farming. The community claim that even if they are trying to educate their children in the absence of enough resources like money and food, the output is not satisfactory and the students fail to join higher institutions.

### Post-secondary education

The Zone is a beneficiary of Wollo University. In addition to this, the wereda has a TVET College, of which many kebele students are beneficiaries.

There is no recorded data on the percentage of beneficiaries of post-secondary education in the kebele.

### Other training

None.

## Marriage-related interventions in the community - NA

## Using customary organisations to help implement interventions

Customary organizations such as Iddirs, religious leader and elders and customary justice institutions participate in promoting various interventions. Though not common, using Iddir the community members contribute to helping vulnerable people, and elders’ and customary justice institutions resolve disputes and conflicts among the community.

## Planning and consultation

The kebele is given an intervention plan under each sector by the wereda. Based on the wereda plan, the kebele is expected to report its plan to the kebele council. Subsequently through consultation and Gimgema, the kebele council approves the plan which is going to be implemented. Moreover, in regular meetings such as monthly, quarterly and yearly meetings, the community evaluate each responsible sector's performance report via Gimgema.

Each community member has to plan accordingly [according to?] the kebele plan and the community choose the FFW schedule by themselves. However, sometimes the PA could plan without making an assessment of what is desired. For instance, in 2011 the PA requested the supply of urea and dap loan but when it came to the kebele the farmers refused to take it.

The practice is helpful in carrying out the development intervention plan.

## Accountability

Since the last three years, the community has been practicing Gimgema to evaluate the responsible person’s accountability. The Gimgema takes place in the monthly kebele meeting. The community appeal to kebele land administration, kebele policy and social court. Even if the citizen’s report format is available, people hardly use it. Though it is not common, some of the community members use the suggestion box when it is desirable for them.

## Security and policing

Every development intervention activity is taking place because of policing and maintenance of security in the kebele. Three years ago, there were some disturbances initiated in the community both from within the kebele and from neighbouring kebeles. Though there is theft, house burning and robbery, the level has declined significantly in the kebele. Violence against females has declined. Recently, the community has become very conscious of the level of crime. The community is working together with the community police. Some examples are:-

Case 1

There were some youths who produce charcoal using the community forest secretly in the kebele. One day, based on the community signals, the youths have cough instantly and the social court punished them 90 birr and then let them by providing advice.

Case 2

Four years ago , two youths were caught when they were stealing wheat flour and food oil prepared for school feeding, from the Shumsheha full cycle primary school storage centre. One was underage and was released without sentence but the other was punished with one year’s imprisonment by the wereda court.

Case 3

There were three thieves found while they were cutting car spare parts called balustira owned by Awira godana (road authority). Of these three thieves, two were punished at the kebele social court level with a fine of 500 birr each and the other was sent to the wereda and sentenced to one year in prison.

Generally, the kebele jail handles suspected individuals only for 24 hours until the social court tries the case and gives a decision. Any case which is found to be beyond the capacity of the kebele social court will be referred to the wereda court. Roughly about 25 people will go to jail each year in the kebele. Most of the cases result from disturbance following intoxication.

## Justice

The kebele social court is composed of three arbitrators, three judges and three appeal reviewers. Any person suspected of a criminal act is going to be brought to the social court by police having taken proper evidence. The kebele social court is accountable to the wereda court; training is given to the kebele court by the wereda court. And they communicate through reports.

The peace committee (yesalem komite) which consists of 10 members is the collection of religious leaders, community elders and kebele leaders. The peace committee deals with group, household and neighbours’ conflicts. The technique that they use to resolve the issue is arbitration. The peace committee is accountable to the peace and security cabinet of the kebele and they are provided training. The peace committee follows up within the given Gots and hamlets to supervise if any dispute occurs among the community.

Elders negotiation (yehager Shimgilewoch): they resolve disputes relating to family or marriage matters.

Case 1

4 years ago, a woman was killed by a sudden stone thrown by someone; and the case has been handled by the peace committee and elders' though they have still not succeeded in settling the case. The person responsible and his relatives are not allowed to go to church unless there is a peaceful reconciliation.

Case 2

In 2011, a father was involved in the divorce process of his daughter and proposed the girl to another man, however, the girl's ex-husband heard about the situation and become very offended. Finally, he killed his ex- father-in-law using a stone in a very cruel way (he hit it on the man's head repeatedly). However, within a month the family was reconciled.

## Taxes and contributions

### Taxes and licences

All those who have land have paid land taxes, maximum 80 birr and 45 birr the minimum;

### Contributions

*Research officer 1* The sport fee remained a regular contribution by all but Red Cross contribution stopped, party members regularly contributed membership fee of 6 birr/year each until 2011 when it was increased to 14 birr, most youth and women's association members contribute irregularly. The chairman complained that there has been a multiple of contributions every time imposed upon the community; different types of contribution requests were coming from various sectors, they were requested money contribution to support EPRDF and paid in 2009, then to ALMA (2011), and finally for Weldiya stadium (2011). He said he was ordered to persuade the community to pay for Abay and kebele leaders and council members have already given up to 300 birr contribution promises but he delayed telling the community because he feared they would not be willing. It was also mentioned that there have been community labour contributions for the watershed development programme (60 days work/year), grass cutting for the school, FTC.

*Research officer 2* In cash the community contributed 10 birr per household head for school, safe water and irrigation construction. Moreover, in labour contribution, except the exempted people including underage children and retired people, every member of the community had participated in labour contributions in the kebele. In addition to this, the community contributed to Woldiya zonal stadium and Renaissance Dam at regional level.

## Differences between taxpayers and non-taxpayers

There were 622 male and 360 female headed households as land tax payers; also 387 landless households (150 female, 234 male) who were non-tax payers.

About 70.6% of community members pay land tax. The amount of tax ranges from 30 to 80 birr depending on the size of the land. Every taxpayer has a legal right to use the land according to their will. Every land owner is liable to pay tax. There is no training involved for taxpayers.

## Public Works

### Environmental public works

They indicated there has been high soil erosion in the kebele because of hilly/sloping terrain; to prevent this, there was terracing and tree planting every year since 1995through free community labour, and by safety net users since 2004 or so and since 2008, through watershed programme by free community labour (50-60 days/year), government/NGOs (WFP) FFW labour; they mentioned activities carried out to prevent soil erosion and forest restoration/protection to be: Kitir (gully dam), farm/hill terraces, ditches/trenches at hill-sides/ farm edges called Gmash chereqa , Qindib (half-moon, eyebrow-like trenches) ; trees with/out plastic pots have been planted on all hill terraces, seedlings planted without plastic pots used to dry out while those with plastic pots have survived well; all grazing hills put in watershed Karta have been and will be terraced every year. It was reported that PLAN carried out terracing activities paying 5 birr/day up to 1999 EC; WFP has been involved in watershed programme through FFW : in 2011 WFP sponsored 20 days of watershed activities work paying wheat ; FFF for days at two sites paying 20 birr/day; agricultural office carried out 5 days FFW.

## Government propaganda/public relations

### Growth and Transformation Plan

The kebele introduced the growth and transformation plan by the wereda officials through meetings. It was introduced to the kebele officers, party members, model farmers, religious leaders and development sectors at the wereda meeting. Then it was introduced to the community through the kebele leaders and then the kebele leaders trained to the community 1 to 5 structures, model farmers and party leaders.

### Delivering development messages to the community

The kebele delivers messages to the community through meetings and 1 to 5 groups. There is a regular monthly meeting in the kebele where the community members often gather and in these meetings the community will be introduced to the government development message. There are community selected model farmers who deliver development messages to the community.

Also, the people living in the kebele town, Shumsheha, have access to media such as television and radio.

## Social equity interventions

### Insurance

There is no insurance intervention in the kebele.

### Promoting equity for women

Women have equal rights. The intervention is promoting the empowerment of women's rights. The widow has a right to take her own property. The legitimate and illegitimate children have equal right to inherit their share of the legacy.

A divorced woman has the right to share property equally with her ex-husband. However, the courts usually try reconcile the different parties and to strengthen family bonds which causes the female to feel frustrated and abandon the property. Recently, the woman would continue staying in her home until she acquired her own part.

Because of the intervention made by government and NGOs, underage marriage, female circumcision, rape, abduction and violence against women have significantly declined in the kebele. According to the new criminal code, anyone who commits the above mentioned crimes will be penalized both in cash and imprisonment.

Regarding girls’ education, the structure is making it possible to succeed in achieving the development plan. Thus, the numbers of girls are greater than the number of boys in school. Women have equal land rights with men.

The poor and vulnerable are exempted from public service during the labour and cash contributions, including the food for work programme.

### Youth livelihoods

The Youth association has been supported by AMELED and wereda credit and finance offices. Some of the youth members are participating in sand, stone, beehives and so on. For instance, there are about 30 youths who have engaged in beehive activities in the kebele. These youths are very successful and have already established a means of revenue. There is also a role model young man in the kebele who opened a barbershop on his own initiative, taking a loan from the micro-credit association, and one young girl who opened a local cafe using the credit from the wereda.

However, there are numerous youths who are not using their potential and striving to change their life situation. Most of them are students who failed the grade 10 national exam and have become idle in the kebele; they are rather the burden of the poor PA. The wereda and the kebele in collaboration need to give emphasis to how to solve the problems of unemployed using what potential there is within the kebele. Awareness creation needs to take place among the youth community members. They need to get resource support and skill training. The better youth society members have to be selected and presented to the other youth community to create motivation.

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### Youth recreation

There is a recreation centre called "save your holy land/ qidus midrihin adin" in the kebele but it is not functional at the current time. The recreation centre has TV with satellite dish, tea utensils, chess, table tennis and basketball. Those youths who were managing the recreation centre have left the kebele for different reasons and since then no one has been willing to take on the task of coordinating it.

### Youth and HIV/AIDS

There is anti-HIV/AIDS club in the kebele. The members of the club participate in producing drama, poems and panel discussions at different school programmes. The club has been provided educational support by the health extension workers.

The kebele has achieved a better result in terms of the youth awareness creation programme within the last five years. The youth have begun to use condoms and discus freely with peer groups about HIV/AIDS and so on.

### Exemptions for poor people

They reported that there were 612 poor people receiving free health treatment after they were proved in the social court as having nothing, but it was decided that selection should be approved by the council and 656 were selected and their names sent to the wereda for free card issuance; none of these free health care users have got any service yet. They insisted that very poor people who hadn't any land were not obliged to contribute money or community labour. It was also noted that these were not exempted from land tax, education, water or other costs.

The poor get support from public services such as health and education services. Every land owner has to pay a land fee, there is no exemption at all for land tax. There is no exemption for the water fee as it is a very small amount.

### Support for poor people

Safety net direct aid has been provided to 185 Tetewary (helpless old), disabled, and orphans.

There about 90 people who get exemption from the PSNP. The government gives them support. They are chosen by the kebele leaders on the basis of their livelihood standards. Those who do not have enough means of livelihood are eligible for the support programme. They are provided with 15 kg of wheat flour, a litre of food oil and 50 birr (when they are not given in kind) per individual. The beneficiaries of the aid who are able to work participate in water management activities. Moreover, there are about 15 people who get support from the community. The community contribute grain and cash to help very poor people in each Got. Poor people need to get regular support and a means of livelihood intervention through promoting loans and so on.

### Interventions to help vulnerable people

There were 168 orphans being supported by OSA PLAN, and Addis Ra'ey. About 12 disabled people have been receiving support from Addis Ra'ey in addition to safety net direct aid.

In the community 5% of the people are disabled adults, 1% are mentally ill, 15% are old people, 15% are orphans, 13% are female headed households, 20% are craft workers, 1% are slaves, 20% are child herders, 15% are agricultural daily labourers, 1% are domestic servants, 1% are prostitutes and 10% are migrants.

There is no regular support provided to the above-mentioned groups either by the kebele or by NGO intervention. However, there are about 200 people who get support from NGOs. There are also some vulnerable people who get food aid support from the kebele.

There are a very few individuals (not beyond 3 in number) suffering from mental illness in the community. The kebele helped them in giving them a support letter for free health service.

As the kebele leader recommends, there should be a formal organized institution which gives consistent support to vulnerable people. It needs its own structural intervention that the government and NGO institutions should focus on.