# Interviews on non- farming by females in [name of kebele, name of Zone]

## Cash crop trading

### Most important cash crop sold by a ‘middlewoman’ trader

There is no middle woman who gathers crops at harvesting time for sale to a larger trader in the community. This is not common in the Kebele so far. As the respondent mentioned, it is not women’s role to collect crops at harvesting season for sale to the larger traders. Most of the women traders engaged in selling onion, fava beans, maize, wheat, barely, sorghum and nug. The respondent has been involved in trading all the above items since 2007. She wants to continue in trading. She collects each crop from the farmers. The problem is that farmers also start getting involved in trading crops to arger traders and larger traders also prefer to collect directly from the farmers. Because of this reason she fears that she could probably get out of the market. She also said she has faced financial problem to expand her business to a larger scale. So due to this problem she limited herself for irregular and petty trading activity. She usually finances herself by taking credit from her neighbours and pays them back from her small profit. She doesn’t have fixed customers but she collects the crops from different farmers depending upon the crops and grain quality. She did not use transportation to transport crop to the larger market because of financial limitations. She sells in the market. She usually buys 40 to 60 birchiqo (big cup-4 cups = 1kg according to respondent) on the market day. She mentioned that she makes a small amount of profit by selling to her customers. The price is not fixed. Last year she made limited profit. She uses the profit she makes for her household everyday consumption. However, she estimates that she might have collected about 2400 birr in the last year. She thinks that it would be very important if she could get credit service from the Woreda to improve and expand her trading.

Moreover, she said the dominant crop is maize but there are also pulses like fava beans, chickpeas and other grain like barley and wheat which are mostly found in Boto zone only. There is also nug production but this is not as popular as a source of income. Women are also involved in teff and red-per production but this has been declining due to the poor quality of crops the result of the quantity of rain. Moreover, women stop trading in red-pepper since the last two years when the crop failed from kolera infection. Due to this reasons, farmers drop out planting red-paper in the Kebele. Farmers are sticking to growing maize and it is becoming the major important cash crop in the community.

### Second most important cash crop sold by a ‘midlewoman’ trader

There are no second most important crops in the community but wheat, barley, teff, fava bean could be considered as the most important grain in the market. Moreover, Vegetables like onion and tomato is most important cash source for women in the Kebele.

### Middlewoman trader’s activity

There is no middle woman trader in the community as most of the women engaged in the same type of trader activity on irregular base. And there is no difference in the type of crops these petty traders sell e.g. such as maize, barley, teff, wheat, beans, nug and some vegetable.

### Most important cash crop sold by small trader

There is no difference between women traders and cash crops in the community. However, all respondent agreed maize is the most important cash crops in the community.

### Second most important cash crop sold by small trader

The respondent mentioned that the introduction of irrigation scheme is very important in attracting women's involvement in trade in the Kebele. Vegetables are becoming the second most important trading crops in the community especially for women as many women start getting involved in onion, tomato and carrot trading. This supports many women to generate their own income and support their household.

### Small trader’s activity

There are many women who are engaged in petty trade but not regularly. Women sell crops when they face a shortage of money to cover household consumption. They sell to the larger traders and at the petty market. There is no fixed price in the market. And according to the respondent, many of the small traders finance themselves by taking credit from neighbours. She did have any education.

### Most important cash crop sold by self-trader

She sells crop to the large trader and Tibe market but not regularly. She said there are many women who sell crops to large trader and nearest market but it is not on regular base. Selling crops is male’s role but women sell crops especially maize crops to support their family consumption. There are wheat, barley and sorghum traders in the community but they are from Boto Zone. She has been trading crops since she got her independent household. She said that there is a big change in crop market price. It is increasing every year and large demand since traders collect crops from farmers to sell to the largest markets in Addis Ababa, Ambo and Nazareth. There is a better access to transport crops to the nearest market following the improvement of the road and the introduction of mule carts. This has helped promote trading in the community which was not common in the past. She did not earn profit as she involves in petty trade and the profit is not significant. There is no tax and licence for self-trading activity. There is no problem in trading these crops since she sells only to be able to buy household consumption goods rather than to make profit.

### Second most important cash crop sold by self-trader

Maize is the only important cash crop in the community but there are some community members from Boto zone who are involved in barley, wheat, sorghum, beans and peas trading in the community. There is no specific time of the year for trading these crops but they trade after the harvesting season and when she face gap in her household's consumption goods.

### Self-trader’s activity

Self-traders did not have specific season to engage in trading. They sell crops after harvest time when they demand to exchange their crops with other household consumption goods such as oil, salt, coffee and sugar. There is a big change in the quality and quantity of crops they harvest since the last five years. The quality and quantity of crops has been decreasing due to the irregularity of rain in the area. This affects both their consumption and their trading activity. There was no transportation in the area but now there is mule cart transportation in the community which is used by some of the self-traders. However, most women did not use transportation to take their crops to the market or to larger traders' shops. Self-traders do not pay tax. To improve their trading, the self-trader suggested that access to credit service and reduction of price on fertilizer is critical to promote farmers to increase their production and their livelihood income.

## Livestock trading

### Livestock trade

She bought five sheep, two oxen and three cows but all are local breeds. She sells them during holidays and high price season. She buys from Tibe market and sells to Tibe Hotels and other customers. The price is not fixed. So during holidays, the price is very high. She does not have licence and she doesn’t pay tax. She finances her trading by taking credit from her husband as he is the largest crop trader in the community. She started livestock trading in the last five years. As she said, she observed a big change since she started in terms of price fluctuation. The livestock price is increasing every year. She wants to improve the livestock trading and would like to access improved high-bred livestock in the Kebele and a specific market for selling fattened cattle.

## Livestock products

### Women traders in livestock products

There are four women involved in trading butter. They collect the butter from Oda Haro, farmers, and sell in Sheboka and Tibe market. There are few people who sell honey to large traders. There are about 5 people in the community including the three shops that collect eggs from the farmers and sell to larger trader.

### Interview with livestock trader

She said she has been involved in selling butter since the last ten years. She sells throughout the year but sometimes she stores the butter to sell it during higher price season. She collects the butter from the farmers in the community and outside the community. She usually collects the butter from different farmers as it depends on their supply capacity. She has one major customer but she sometimes could sell to different customers. She said that her buyers take the product out of the community and sell it to big cities such as Addis Ababa, Ambo, Guder and Ginichi. She made about 5,760 ETB profit in last twelve months. She said she used her profits to finance the buying of more butter she also takes credit from neighbours sometimes. She did not face any big problem but she said that the price fluctuates seasonally. So because of this price decreases in the summer season. She doesn’t pay tax but she pays 10 ETB per week for the premises she uses during the market day. Her household depends on farming and livestock. She has three cows but she cannot get butter from them as they are local breeds and shortage of fodder. Though she doesn’t sell livestock regularly, she has sold a cow for 1,800 ETB in the last two years.

## Micro, small and medium enterprises

There is maize thresher machine in the Keble. However, there is no livestock processing enterprises, medium-sized productive enterprise, small, subsistence productive enterprise and activities in the Kebele so far.

### Skilled production

There are around 6 people who are involved in carpenters’ activity part time and full time in the community. They are involved in making products like beds, chairs, tables, cupboards and they participate on house construction. There is no pottery in the community. There is one person engaged in blacksmithing. He also makes tillers and knives He is doing this part-time. There are four people who are involved in making baskets for crop storage/gotera and they are doing this part-time. There are also some women who do products such as sefed (traditional basket) for household good not for the market. There are four women who engaged on spinning activities but they are part-time. There is no enterprise established by these skilled workers and no small enterprise building in the community.

### Livestock and products production

There are no people who buy cattle and shoats to distribute to other people to fatten. There are no individuals or co-operatives involved in the commercial production of livestock products including milk, eggs and honey except those households who produce a small amount of milk in a traditional way for household consumption and butter production in the community.

There is no change in livestock products. Milk is still not common in the community as a commercial production but butter is becoming the important source of income particularly for women. But the quantity is very small since the community is dependent on traditional cows and has only a small source of fodder.

### Local drinks and food production

The respondent reported that there are at least about 20 women in the Kebele who are engaged in small scale Areki production for the market. Among this number some of the women retail Areki after they buy from relatively better producers both in quantity and quality. Most woman who produce Areki are also involve in making and selling tella. She said nobody is involved in selling food in the community except some people who sell soft drinks from their retailer shops in the Kebele. There are three shops which sell soft drinks in the Kebele with other consumption goods like sugar, salt and palm oil.

### More detail on areki production

She said most of the women who are involved in Areki production including her produce Areki throughout the year. She mentioned she produce twice a month which is 12 litres per month. Sometimes she buys Areki from other producers and sells it to her customer. She mentioned that local farmers are her customers. There is no specific market for selling Areki but women sell it from their home. She doesn’t have licence and she doesn’t pay any tax. She mentioned that no one has licence in production and trading of Areki in the community. As the respondent explained, most of them buy the inputs wheat, maize and Hope from the petty market. She mentioned that most of the people who are involved in Areki production finance their inputs from the profit they make and by borrowing from neighbours. She said they use the profit to cover household consumption and other contributions like iddir. However, the profit is not that much so she is not motivated to expand the business. There is no common seasonal difference in selling price of Areki i.e. the price of smaller glass Areki / locally called melekiya/ and glass of tela are 3 birr and 2 birr with 25 cents respectively.

She said the trader sets the price according to the price of her inputs. She covers the entire works by herself and has never employed people. But her children support her in collecting wood and fetching water from the stream. She estimated that she makes 100 ETB profits from 12 litres. She explained the profit is not significant as the inputs are getting very expensive for Hops costs 50 Birr but 3 years ago cost 20 birr. Also the price of the grain mill is very expensive such as 7 and 8 ETB. The major problem that hinders her business is shortage of source of fuel. Since government restricted cutting trees there is no wood and fuel unlike before. She uses crop residual and wood but it is not easily accessible. The other problem she mentioned is she feels tired doing Areki production and she assumes it harms her health as she spends the whole day with fire and overloaded with work during the distillation time.

### Non-farm women producer co-operatives

There are no people in the community who buy cattle and shoats in order to distribute to other people to fatten. There are no individuals or co-operatives involved in the commercial production of livestock products including milk, eggs and honey except those households who produce small amount of milk in traditional way for household consumption and butter production in the community.

There is no change in livestock products. Milk is still not commonly produced commercially in the community but butter is becoming the important source of income particularly for women. Nevertheless, the quantity of milk is very small since the community is dependent on traditional cows and a small source of fodder.

### Natural resource sale

According to the informants, selling wood and charcoal has been very common in the community. However, following the government intervention in natural resource protection, the number of people engaged in selling wood and charcoal has declined. There are also few people who are engaged in selling eucalyptus wood and it is becoming the main natural resource to get cash in the community. Eucalyptus wood is important for house construction and it is considered as a big asset in the community.

* In general, there are about 20 people involved in selling wood including fire wood. There is a regulation in the Keble but no strict punishment on those who are involved in the business because it is considered as their main income source especially for those landless and poor people.
* Those households who are engaged in selling eucalyptus get the natural resource from their own land. However, those engaged in wood and charcoal production get the wood from the Keble tree-covered area. There is no strict action taken against them but the Keble provides them with advice.
* There is no legal charcoal making process in the Keble.

There are about 40 people who are involved in illegal charcoal making activity. Most of them depend on charcoal processing and selling activity as the main source of their livelihood.

### Petty production

There is no petty production in the community.

### Service enterprises

There is no service enterprise in the community. However, there is one maize thresher. There are three local retailer shops and few irrigation pumps who give service in the community.

### Food-processing services

There is no grain mill in the Keble but there are two Keble members who own grain mill in Tibe town.

### Hospitality services

There is no local hotel, restaurants and café in the community. But there are three tea and biscuits houses and local drink houses the service is provided from in the owners’ living room. Soft drinks and packed water can be found in the smaller shops. There is no separate house for these businesses in the community. There is no price competition on all items. There is no employee for this business rather it is covered by the business owner or their family members.

### Health services

There is no government or private clinic and pharmacy in the Kebele. There are nine people who are known as traditional medical practitioners in the community. Some of them are popular for their treatment such as bone settler, ye’ebid wusha (disease caused after bitten by a sick dog), kintarot (haemorrhoid), yesew qusil (human wound), yekebit qusil (cattle wound), yeferes qusil (horse wound), yesew qatelo (burned of individuals), yensisat qatelo (burned body of animals) etc. There are no veterinary shops but people access the service from the nearest Tibe town. People go to Tibe with their livestock to get vaccination service once every six month and they also go during any sudden chronic diseases.

### Shops

There are three shops in the Keble. They sell kerosene fuel, oil, salt, sugar, lentils, onion, soap and powder soup, soft drink, packed water, charcoal, keys, hand batteries, tea, and hair oil and so on. It is changed now, previously it was only limited types but now there are variety of household consumption goods including, pulses, wheat flour, oil, pulses and so on.

### Leisure services

There are five local football fields including school football fields and there is a handball field in the school. Beside this, there are no play stations, billiard and so on. Moreover, some young people particularly young men go to Tibe town to watch television i.e. premier league football game. Generally, there is no entertainment and recreation service in the Keble. However, Children and young people go for swimming in the Keble River which is not common for girls.

### Petty services

There is one shoe-shiner in the Keble but he is not busy as people do not regularly seek his services. There is no lottery ticket service in the Keble. There are no mobile phone repairs and charging services rather people go to Tibe town when they need a mobile charging service. They pay 2-3 birr to fully charge their mobile. However, there is watch, shoes and umbrella repairs in the kebele.

### Transport services

People use their own pack animals to transport materials. There are about 200 people who use donkey as a means of transport and there are about 45 mule carts for transportation service. There are 2 people who own bicycles in the community.

## Government support for non-farm activities

There is no government support for non-farm activities. The government does not provide credit, land, input and any other important resources to support non-farm activities in the community. There is no government demand and enforcement for business license and tax particularly on those petty non-farm activities yet. There is no specific training or advice provided for people involved in any of non-farm activities.

## Non-farm employment

There are five people in the Keble and about 3 people at the Woreda level who got non-farm employment doing formal jobs including Keble elementary teachers, manager, Woreda cabinet, Woreda education bureau, Woreda agriculture office etc. There are about 10 people who are educated and employed further away. There are about 30 people who are contract workers in the China road construction company-constructing the road from Benishangul region to Addis Ababa