

**RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

**FOR MASTER OF ARTS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**TITLE OF THE THESIS: TO ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF COMMON INTEREST GROUPS IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERINGMENT OF RURAL WOMEN AND YOUTH: THE CASE STUDY OF DIGELU TIJO DISTRICT OF ARSI ZONE IN OROMIA NATIONAL REGIONAL STATE, ETHIOPIA.**

**RESEARCH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ART IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**STUDENT NAME: ADAMU ABEBE JIRU**  
**ENROLLMENT NO: ID1361623**

**NAME SCHOOL: SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION**  
**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY MAIDAN**  
**GARHI, NEW DELHI – 110068**

**NAME OF ADVISOR:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**JANUARY, 2018**  
**ADDIS ABEBA, ETHIOPIA**

**PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF M.A.(RD) PROPOSAL FOR APPROVAL**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and Address of Guide:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name and Address of the student:** Adamu Abebe Jiru  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Enrollment No.:** ID1361623

**Date of Submission:** January 2018

**Name of the study center:** St. Mary University (Addis Ababa,  
Ethiopia)

**Title of the project:** To Assess the Significance of Common Interest Groups in Socio-Economic Empowerment of Rural Women and Youth: The case study of Digelu Tijo district of Arsi zone in Oromia National Regional State of Ethiopia.

**Signature of the student** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved/Not Approved** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** : \_\_\_\_\_

## Table of Content

Introduction .....	1
Statement of the Problem .....	4
Objective of the Study .....	5
General objective of the study.....	5
Specific objectives.....	5
Research question.....	5
Significance of the Study.....	6
Scope of the study .....	6
Sampling.....	7
Tools of data collection and procedure .....	8
Method of data analysis & presentation .....	8
Organization of the thesis.....	8
Research work plan.....	9
Research Budget Plan .....	9
Limitation .....	9
List of References.....	10
DECLARATION .....	11

## **Introduction**

Ethiopia's economic growth is highly dependent on agricultural development. This is because 80% of its population live in rural areas and eke out their subsistence from small scale agriculture (CSA, 2013). Agriculture remains the main economic source engaging the majority of the rural work force. Despite the diminishing farm size and increasing population pressure, the agriculture sector has continued to heavily dominate the rural economy. So, agriculture is the center of growth strategy because it is the main stay of Ethiopian economy contributing about 42.9% of the GDP, 80% of employment and 90% of the export and 96 percent of the total area covered by major food crops was owned by smallholders (MoFED, 2014).

Having all these importance, agriculture continues to face a number of problems and challenges. The major ones are adverse climatic conditions, lack of appropriate land use system resulting in soil and other natural resources degradation, limited use of improved agricultural technologies, the predominance of subsistence agriculture and lack and/or absence of business oriented agricultural production system, limited or no access to market facilities resulting in low participation of the smallholder farmers in value chain or value addition of their produces (Bezabih, 2010).

According to the 2010/11 Household Income, Consumption and Expenditure Survey (HICES), the proportion of poor people living below poverty line in the country is estimated to be 29.6%. In this context, the population below the poverty line stood at 30.4% in rural areas and 25.7% in urban areas. (MoFED, 2010). The above figure clearly indicates the extensiveness and high intensity of poverty in rural areas especially among deprived and vulnerable group of the community.

To tackle this poverty the government has adopted the agriculture-centered rural development program as a major strategy expected to assist in the realization of the country's economic development objective. The basic objective with regard to economic development of Ethiopia is to build market economy in which the economy grows rapidly and extends to broad based growth in which the majority of the population is able to benefit.

The main manifestation of the participation of farmers in rural development comes in the form of production and investment activities carried out on their own plots in their own time, resource and by methods freely chosen by them. Energies and resources of the people can be mobilized only when they are organized, or when they have effective and well-functioning organizations of their own (MoFED 2003).

Based on this understanding, the government and rural development programs such as Agricultural Growth Program/AGP/ has contributed significantly in the realization of organized population participation at grass

root development initiatives. In this regard in past five years in Digelo Tijo woreda, 23 women CIGs and 20 youth CIGs totally 43 CIGs were organized themselves in groups on sheep fattening, seed production and bee keeping business activities. In total these CIGs have a total of 801 members out of which 426(53%) are female members (WANRO Report, 2017).

So this research paper assesses the significance and challenges of rural community in tackling this poverty by organizing themselves in a common interest groups/CIG/ to resolve their social and economic problems. These efforts by rural poor population gives them not only considerable social and economic empowerment but is also a clear manifestations for the actual participation of the vast majority of the population in the over whole development endeavors of the country. It is this inclusive development approach that totally guarantees the final implementation of Ethiopia's development strategy in reducing and finally eradicating of poverty among its population and finally addresses development issues as a whole.

Common interest group (CIG) is defined as a small group between 10-20 farmers belonging to the same village who voluntarily agree, to engage in an investment focusing on different sub project such as crop (cereal and horticultural crop), livestock and rehabilitation of natural resource. They can be formed along some common interest, such as production of the same commodity (cereals, oil crops, legumes, vegetables, milk, beekeeping, cattle fattening, seed multiplication honey and other Agro processing), water use, marketing, agro forestry and etc.

A farmer common interest group is a small group organized or formed by a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 farmers belonging to the same village who voluntarily agree, with the endorsement of the respective Kebele Development Committee (KDC), to engage in an investment focusing on different sub project such as crop (cereal and horticultural crop), livestock and natural resource activities. In other words, CIGs are members of different social classes who lives within one common area and organized as one group in accordance with their common problems and interest and agree to use their resource in common to improve their income and livelihoods. The CIGs will prepare group sub project proposal based on the area of investment selected by the members.

Thus Farmers' group sub projects are group based investment proposals that are planned along value chain to generate income for interest group members which benefits the group. Any property created belongs to the group and is maintained by them. Planning and implementing of this type of sub projects will be the responsibility of the group members.

These groups will be the key instrument for social mobilization and community-level institution building. Exchange visits between groups having common interests will be supported to promote group-to-group and farmer-to-farmer learning. By working in groups, farmers will have improved access to public services and facilitate linkages with markets to move towards a market orientation in farming operations. Empirical studies suggest that collective action among smallholder farmers can enable them attain economies of scale and hence improve their participation in markets (Okello, 2005). Capacity and skills of group leadership as well as members will be enhanced. To increase the involvement of women and youth in production and productivity establishment of CIG focused on women and youth.

**Women common interest group:** The group of women consist of both women headed households and women within male headed households, who are expected to have common development constraints and volunteer to be organized together to act up on their common problems to improve their livelihoods .

**Youth common interest group:** Youth represent a large and diverse category of people who face their own particular constraints to improve their livelihoods. The category includes both young female and male (age group 18-34 years) that have left school or graduates or any other within the mentioned age categories but remain living with their parents or youths household working at various activities for maintenances and living in the community.

Their major objectives are: to promote group enterprise as a means of income generation for group members, to empower women and youth by increasing their involvement in production and productivity through improving access to resources, reducing the risk and providing technical support for self-help development, to introduce and familiarize new technologies easily to farmers through farmers organized in groups (CIGs), to build the capacity of farmers groups to increase production and productivity that will contribute to addressing their problems and to increase the confidence of farmers in taking the initiative in analyzing their situation, solving their own problems. (AGP CIG Guideline. 2014) However, as observed by Aheibwe (2013), rural development cannot take place simply as a result of empowerment of the poor through supporting self-reliance and underlining popular participation par se but by addressing the obstacles faced by the rural poor such as inappropriate policies, missing or uncompetitive markets, weak rural infrastructure, inadequate processing opportunities and financial services, among others.

Cognizant of this fact, this study tries to assess the effectiveness, significance, performance, opportunities and challenges in organizing, strengthening and supporting of rural CIGs among different implementing agencies so

as to improve their effectiveness and sustainability. In addition the study explores the implementation capacity of the concerned stakeholders, so as to understand the root causes of their success and failure, and come up with practical solutions that can be executed in all rural development initiatives.

### **Statement of the Problem**

As mentioned in the introduction above, almost 80% of the total population lives in rural areas. Among these more than half (51%) of the total population are women and 46% of the total population fall in the economically active group of the population that include youth women and male (BoFED, 2011).

Having huge share from the total population especially women and youth in rural areas, these sector of the population are not in apposition to actively participate and become beneficiary of the development as the population is growing annually by 2.6%. Even if Ethiopia scores in decreasing the number of population below poverty line, the absolute number of poor (about 25 million) has remained unchanged over the past fifteen years (MoFED, 2013).

So new development approach has to be devised or the existing strategy has to be implemented successfully to accommodate the growing need of this rural poor population in an organized form in the overall rural development strategy of the country.

This why the need of organizing and strengthening of CIGs in rural areas has got especial attention in some rural development programs like AGP which is aligned with the governments five year development plans(GTP I &II).

But despite considerable support given by the government many established CIG are not dismantled or are weak or not functional in their field of activity as expected. Thus, this study targets to assess the significance and different factors that affect the performance of CIGs.

In addition, in organizing and strengthening CIGs in rural areas, there is a serious shortage of studies conducted with a specific objective of analyzing the significance and problems of CIGs operated by women and youth in terms of personal, socio-cultural, economical, legal/administrative matters and organizational-related diverse challenges.

Therefore, this study will aim at filling the knowledge gap in the area by studying the significance and role of organizing CIGs in empowering women and youth socially and economically in particular in Digelu Tijo woreda.

In addition the findings and recommendation of this study can give vital information/input to the policy makers in general and to all stakeholders at all level, to have fundamental information and knowledge on the

significance and role of organizing CIGs of rural poor people (women and youth) who have a common desire to generate livelihood options and significantly contribute to the overall socio-economic empowerment and rural business development that can help in the overall rural commercialization strategy implementation of Ethiopian government.

Hence, this study will analyze the significance of organizing common interest groups and their contribution to the socio-economic empowerment of their members in Arsi zone, in particular in Digelu Tijo wereda.

### **Objective of the Study**

#### **General objective of the study**

The study is designed to assess the significance and role of organizing Common Interest Groups in socio-economic empowerment of rural women and youth population in creating resilient and vibrant rural business organizations and finally in alleviating rural poverty in Digelu Tijo woreda.

#### **Specific objectives**

Cognizant of these facts, this study will have the following specific objectives:

1. To identify the effectiveness of organizing CIGs in increasing and sustaining the income and livelihood of rural women and youth in the particular study area.
2. To assess the performance status, extent of participation of its members (women and youth) and to examine the major challenges of CIG to sustain their livelihood.
3. To suggest appropriate and remedial policy measures and areas of emphasis in organizing and supporting CIGs.

#### **Research question**

Based on the above objectives, this study attempts to address the following research questions:

1. What are the significance and role of organizing CIGs in providing socio-economic empowerment of women and youth in the study area?
2. Does participation in CIGs lead to increased women and youth empowerment in the study area?
3. What are the major challenges and factors that significantly affect CIGs contribution to empowerment of women and youth in the study area?
4. What policy measures are in place to organize and strengthen CIGs in rural areas sustainably?



### **Significance of the Study**

As a new rural development initiative approach by the government and some development programs like Agricultural Development Program/AGP/, CIG are being organized and strengthened in rural areas to fundamentally change the livelihood of poor farmers especially focusing on women and youths. But this endeavor is not worth paying as these rural organizations are not in position as expected from them due to challenges that originates from organizational or structural, social, cultural, and economic factors.

Thus this kind of assessment is very important and worth researching on the ground that it gives feed back to the status, success and failure of organizing CIGs in rural areas. As well, it gives timely information to the public, other program implementers and beneficiaries to successfully sustain the development of CIGs in rural areas as well.

Thus the outcome of this research will be used as a stepping-stone for further study. It will also provide background information for policy makers, government institutions and NGOs working on rural development.

The main purpose of this paper is to contribute to the knowledge base about the significance of organizing and sustaining CIGs which are a major means/tool for the expansion of agricultural commercialization in rural areas.

Generally, the study has the following significances:

- It can be one input in the overall promotion of CIGs and empowerment of their members to sustain their livelihood and to develop as a business entity in the rural areas.
- It shows what areas of support to be given and alignment needed by the public offices of the Digelu Tijo woreda and the region at large to alleviate the problems that CIG face and to scale up best practices of these grass root rural business organizations.
- Finally the study may also help governmental, rural development organizations and non-governmental organizations to envisage/provide alternative policy recommendations/suggestions that will be practical to enhance women and youth empowerment through the development of CIGs.

### **Scope of the study**

Digelu Tijo is one of the 24 districts of Arsi zone. The district is found in the south western part of the zone and shared boundary line with Tiyo in the north part, Hetosa district in the north eastern part, Tena district in the eastern part, Shirka in the south east part, Limu Bilbilo and Munesa districts in the southern part. The total area of the district is 927Km<sup>2</sup> and divided into 26 administrative units of which 23 are Farmers Associations

and 4 are urban administrative units. The capital town of Digalu Tijo district is Sagure, located at 24km from Asella (capital of the zone).

Digalu and Tijo district is divided in to two agro-climatically zones; namely Highlands (Dega) 78% and mid-altitude (Wena Dega) 22%. The annual rainfall ranges from 800-1200mm and the annual temperature is from 10 to 20oc. The rainfall pattern is bimodal and almost all parts of the district receive high and erosive rainfall during the main rainy season with long wet period. The main rainy seasons are Meher and Belg season starts from February and Extended to April.

The topography of the district is mainly characterized by undulating plain, high mountains like Galema and Boraluku, dissected lands and hills. The altitude of the district ranges from 2500 to 3,560m. The highest peak is Boraluku Mountain estimated to be about 3,560m. The elevation of the land gradually decreases from Galama Mountain Ranges to the southern part of the district.

The district has perennial rivers, such as Ketar, Ashebeka and Gusha. These rivers cover the total length of 78km with in the district. Local farmers are using these rivers for traditional irrigation. Generally speaking, the district has high surface water potential. (Arsi Zone Profile: BoFED, 2011)

Based on the 2017 Population Projection of Ethiopia for all regions at Wereda level from 2014 – 2017, the estimated projected population of the district is 183,483 of which only 12% are urban dwellers. From the total population of the district, 50.7% are females, which is 51.4% for urban and 50.6% for rural. About 88% of the total population is living in rural area. Most of the population that lives in the district depends on agricultural activities. (CSA, 2013)

### **Sampling**

From 23 kebeles in the woreda, 16 CIGs are purposely selected from 11 kebeles which are based on the year of their establishment and which are also above two years since their establishment. Subject to resource availability such as cost, time, labor, availability of data and the significance of the research topics, the interviewed respondents were identified by using purposive sample method. In addition the researcher gives high attention for data collection techniques to be carefully selected and employed to get accurate result and generalization about the population.

### **Tools of data collection and procedure**

For this research both qualitative and quantitative data will be collected. The qualitative approach will use key informant and focus group discussion while the quantitative approach will be employed household survey. To do this a structured and semi-structured interview questionnaire will be used as a basic tool of data collection from sample household member's survey. Together with the members' interview administration; semi-structured interview will be conducted with focus group, officials and senior experts at all levels and field experts and development agents of the study area. The basic purpose of the interview is to assess and identify the significance and challenges of CIGs to sustain their livelihood. As cited above, the primary data will be generated from key informant interview, focus group discussion and household survey while the secondary data will be collected from websites, public organizations at all level and CIGs reports and documents.

### **Method of data analysis & presentation**

To meet the intended objective of the study, the data gathered from different sites will be first edited, tailed, coded and summarized. The quantitative data summary will go through different descriptive statistical tools such as tables, bar graphs and pie charts followed by the corresponding interpretations while the quantitative data will be summarized in a report form. The analysis won't merely depend on numerical measurements; it will also include respondents' perception on issue. Finally, a discussion on basic findings will be made so as to draw conclusion and recommendations.

### **Organization of the thesis**

This research paper is organized in five chapters. Chapter one deals with background, problem statement, objective and significance of the study. Chapter two contains the literature review part. Chapter three and four deal with the methodology, results and discussion of the research, respectively. Finally, chapter five presents conclusion, recommendation and policy implications of the study.

### Research work plan

SN	SN	Time Line																											
		DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				March				April				May							
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4				
1	Topic selection	■	■																										
2	Proposal preparation			■	■	■	■	■																					
3	First draft proposal submission								■																				
4	Final proposal submission									■	■																		
5	Training of enumerators											■																	
6	Data collection													■	■	■	■												
7	Data analysis and report writing																	■	■	■	■	■							
8	First draft Submission of thesis																									■	■		
9	Final Draft Submission of thesis																										■	■	

### Research Budget Plan

SN	Budget Expenses Types	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost Ethiopian Birr	Total Cost (ETB)	Remark
<b>1</b>	<b>Individual Expenses</b>					
1.1	Supervisor	#	2	2,000	4,000	(2*250*4)
1.2	Development Agents/Data Collectors	#	10	1,200	12,000	(10*150*8)
<b>2</b>	<b>Material &amp; other expenses</b>					
2.1	Duplicating Paper		4	150	600	
2.2	Pen	# of packet	1	250	250	
2.3	Photo Copy expenses	-			300	
2.4	Printing Expensed	-			1,500	
<b>3</b>	<b>Communication &amp; Transport Expenses</b>				<b>10,500</b>	
	<b>Total Cost</b>				<b>29,150</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Contingency Cost (10%)</b>				<b>2,915</b>	
	<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>32,065</b>	

### Limitation

- The understanding and expectation of the respondents about the data collected may have an impact on the quality of the data.
- The experience and skill of the enumerators to keep the consistency of the information on the spot.

## List of References

- Central Statistical Agency (CSA), 2013, Population Projection of Ethiopia for All Regions at Wereda Level from 2014 – 2017, Addis Ababa, August.
- CIA World Fact book, June 30, 2015, [https://www.cia.gov/.../the-world-fact book/](https://www.cia.gov/.../the-world-fact-book/)
- CIRAD, 2003. 'INDONESIA: Empowering Rural Producers Organization' Technical Report, May, 2003 <https://www.researchgate.net>
- Dr. Joy Deshmukh-Ranadive, 2004. Women's Self-Help Groups in Andhra Pradesh Participatory Poverty Alleviation in Action, New Delhi, India
- Ethiopia, Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA), 2013/2014 Annual Report: Transforming Agriculture in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.
- Ethiopia, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), 2010, Agricultural Growth Program (AGP): Program Implementation Manual (PIM), Addis Ababa, December.
- Ethiopia, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), 2015, Agricultural Growth Program II (AGP-II): Program Implementation Manual (PIM), Addis Ababa, June.
- Ethiopia, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), 2005, Ethiopia Participatory Poverty Assessment 2004-05, Addis Ababa, October.
- Ethiopia, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), 2010, Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) 2010/11-2014/15, Addis Ababa, September.
- Ethiopia, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), 2012, Ethiopia's Progress towards Eradicating Poverty: An Interim Report on Poverty Analysis Study (2010/11), Addis Ababa, March.
- Ethiopia, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), 2014, Growth and Transformation Plan Annual Progress Report for F.Y. 2012/13, Addis Ababa, February.
- I. Stubbs, B. Mwangangi, P. Muiruri, S. Mwangangi, 2010 'Strengthening the Viability of Common Interest Groups for Agribusiness Development.' National Agriculture & Livestock Extension Program (NALEP), June 2010
- Kelly Edmiston, 2017. "The Role of Small and Large Businesses in Economic Development" Small Business Economics, vol. 21, no. 3, pp. 285-88. ([www.KansasCityFed.org](http://www.KansasCityFed.org).)

- Millie Biruma Abaru, Anthony Nyakuni and Gideon Shone.2006. Strengthening farmers organizations The experience of RELMA and ULAMP, World Agro-forestry Center, Working Paper, Nairobi, Kenya
- MoFED 2006. Ethiopia: Building on Progress- A Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) (2005/06-2009/10), Volume I: Main Text. Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), FDRE, Addis Ababa 24.
- Moseley, Malcolm J. (2003). Rural development: principles and practice (1. publ. ed.). London [u.a.]: SAGE. p. 5. ISBN 0-7619-4766-3
- Okello, J.J. (2005). Compliance with International Food Safety Standards: The Case of Green Bean Production in Kenyan Family Farms. PhD Dissertation, Michigan State University
- Tom Anyonge, Steven Jonckheere, Monica Romano, and Ambra Gallina, 2013, Strengthening institutions and organizations, published by IFAD, Rome, Italy.

#### **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that the dissertation entitled: ***'TO ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF COMMON INTEREST GROUPS IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERINGMENT OF RURAL WOMEN AND YOUTH: THE CASE STUDY OF DIGELU TIJO DISTRICT OF ARSI ZONE IN OROMIA NATIONAL REGIONAL STATE, ETHIOPIA.'*** submitted by me for the partial fulfillment of the M.A. in Rural Development to the Indira Gandhi National Open University, (IGNOU), New Delhi is my own original work and has not been submitted earlier either to IGNOU or to any other institution for the fulfillment for any course of study. I also declare that no chapter of this manuscript in whole or in part is lifted and incorporated in this report from any earlier work done by me or others.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Enrolment No.: ID1361623

Name: Adamu Abebe Jiru

Address: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Place: St. Mary University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Date: January, 2018

**I. Questionnaire to be filled at Kebele level by members of CIGs**

**(You can use Afan Oromo where necessary)**

**1.1 General Information**

1.1.1 Date : \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.2 Peasant Association/kebele \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.3 Name of the enumerator \_\_\_\_\_

**1.2 Respondent's Socio-Economic Characteristics**

1.2.1 Respondent's name \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.2 Sex \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.3 Age \_\_\_\_\_ Years.

1.2.4 Religion \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.5 Marital status a) Married \_\_\_\_\_ b) Single \_\_\_\_\_ c) Divorced \_\_\_\_\_  
Widowed \_\_\_\_\_ d) Others (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_.

1.2.6 Do you have a position in PA? Yes I have \_\_\_\_\_ No I don't have \_\_\_\_\_  
If Yes, your position in PA (Peasant Association)? \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.7 Do you have a position in PC (Primary cooperative)? Yes I have \_\_\_\_\_ No I don't have \_\_\_\_\_  
If Yes, your position in PC? \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.8 Educational Level

a. Illiterate \_\_\_\_\_ b. Read & Write \_\_\_\_\_ c. Primary Level \_\_\_\_\_ D. Secondary Level  
\_\_\_\_\_ E. Certificate \_\_\_\_\_ F. Diploma \_\_\_\_\_ G. Degree & Above \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.9 Total number of your family size is \_\_\_\_\_ (Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_)

1.2.10 Do you have farming plot/land of your own or of your family? a. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b. No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, owned land ha. \_\_\_\_\_ Rented farm land Ha \_\_\_\_\_ Total Land Ha \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.11 Specify the main sources of your family income. a) Crop \_\_\_\_\_ b) Livestock  
\_\_\_\_\_ c) Both \_\_\_\_\_ Off-farm activities \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.12 Livestock you/your family own (TLU): Oxen \_\_\_\_\_ Cow \_\_\_\_\_ Sheep \_\_\_\_\_ Goat  
\_\_\_\_\_ Horse \_\_\_\_\_ Mule \_\_\_\_\_ Donkey \_\_\_\_\_ Poultry \_\_\_\_\_ Others..../pig,  
camel \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.13 For how long (in years) have you been a member of the CIG? \_\_\_\_\_ years/months

1.2.14 Does your CIG have a management committee? a. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b. No \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.15 What is your position in CIG? a. Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ b. Accountant \_\_\_\_\_ c. Cashier \_\_\_\_\_ d. Secretary  
\_\_\_\_\_ e) Member f) other \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.16 Do you have any other occupation/job in addition to CIGs activities? a. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b. No \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.17 Benefit acquired by organizing in CIGs.

1) High \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Moderate \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Low \_\_\_\_\_ 4) Nothing \_\_\_\_\_ 5) No Answer  
/Response\_\_\_\_\_.

2) What type of benefits?

---

---

---

1.2.18 On what type of business activities have you been organized?

---

1.2.19 Who identified your business type/activities of your CIG? a) Members \_\_\_\_ b) Coop organizers/DA c) Your family\_\_\_\_\_

1.2.20 Does your CIG have Business Plan? a. Yes\_\_\_ b. No\_\_\_\_\_

1.2.21 Do you know the content of the business plan? a. Yes\_\_\_ b. No\_\_\_\_\_

If no why? \_\_\_\_\_

---

1.2.22 Who prepared the project (Business Plan) you are organized around? \_\_\_\_\_

---

1.2.23 Have you started executing the business you have been organized on? a. Yes\_\_\_ b. No\_\_\_\_\_

---

1.2.24 If not yet started the business what could be the major problems?

---

---

1.2.25 Source of initial capital for your business.

a) Members contribution/savings \_\_\_\_\_ b) Credit \_\_\_\_\_ c) Grant \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.26 Do you have by-laws/guidelines? Yes\_\_\_ b. No\_\_\_\_\_

1.2.27 Do you have a regular meeting of your group? a. Yes\_\_\_ b. No\_\_\_\_\_

1.2.28 When is your regular meeting/its frequency? \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.29 Do you have a set of records relating to your financial transaction, membership register, minutes book, etc. for the management of your group? a. Yes\_\_\_ b. No\_\_\_\_\_

1.2.30 Do members save monthly according to their by-law? a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b. No \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.31 Does your group have a saving account in the nearby bank? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No\_\_\_\_\_/Micro finance institutions? a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b)No\_\_\_\_\_

1.2.32 Have ever got credit from your CIG? A) Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If no, why?

---

1.2.33 Have ever received dividend from your CIGs' annual business profit? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_



If no, why?

---

1.2.34 Is there a change in your life after joining CIG? a) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.35 If yes, what are the changes you have in your life/family?

1) Construct new houses \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Sending students to school \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Buy new house in the town \_\_\_\_\_ 4) Buy livestock for breeding \_\_\_\_\_ 5) Purchase productive assets \_\_\_\_\_ 6) Purchase ox \_\_\_\_\_ 7) saved money in the bank \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Others specify: \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.36 If no, what are the reasons for no change in your life/family? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

1.2.37 What is your monthly average income before joining the CIG?

a) <100 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ b) 101-200 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ c) 201-300 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ d) 301-400 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ e) 401-500 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ f) ≥ 501 Birr \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.38 What is your monthly average income after joining the CIG?

a) <100 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ b) 101-200 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ c) 201-300 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ d) 301-400 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ e) 401-500 Birr \_\_\_\_\_ f) ≥ 501 Birr \_\_\_\_\_

### 1.1 Institutional Support

1.1.1 Is there any government, private, non-governmental organization working on CIGs development in your area? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.2 If yes can you mention the name of the organization and some of its activities working on CIGs?

1.1.3 Do you have extension service access? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.4 How many times in the year 2008/09 you have been visited by the Coop organizers/ development agents? a) Frequently \_\_\_\_\_ b) Very rarely \_\_\_\_\_ c) None \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.5 Do you get timely and integrated technical support from government institutions? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.6 Do you think the technical supports you got from the Coop organizer/development agents are sufficiently helped you and your organization/CIGs? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If no to question 1.2.5, indicate some problem areas/deficiencies? \_\_\_\_\_

---

1.1.7 Do you get market information about prices and demand conditions of agricultural inputs and outputs? 1. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.8 If yes indicate the source of information \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.9 If there is a productive credit given by different Banks and other micro-financial institutions?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_.

1.1.10 Are you a member of primary cooperative? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If no why? \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.11 Are you a member of RuSACo? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.12 Do you get some kind of help/service from your primary cooperative? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If no why? \_\_\_\_\_

## 1.2 Marketing Services

1.2.1 How do you sell your produce if any? a) Sell on the farm \_\_\_\_\_ b) Sell at the market \_\_\_\_\_ c). Use both methods \_\_\_\_\_ d). Others specify \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.2 What is the average distance of your business from district market? \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.3 What is the means of transportation of the produce to the market? a). Human labor \_\_\_\_\_ b). Draught animals' \_\_\_\_\_ c). Carts \_\_\_\_\_ d). Vehicles \_\_\_\_\_ d). Others \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.4 Did you get reasonable price for your produce at the place you used to sell to? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

1.2.5 1.2.5 What do you think are the possible cause of the problem (for low or unattractive price)?  
A). Surplus production \_\_\_\_\_ b). Low demand for the produce \_\_\_\_\_ c) Lack of market information \_\_\_\_\_ d) others specify \_\_\_\_\_

1.2.6 To whom do you sell your produce most of the time? A). Consumers \_\_\_\_\_ b). Retailers \_\_\_\_\_ c). Cooperative \_\_\_\_\_ d). Traders \_\_\_\_\_ e). Processing industries/ institutions \_\_\_\_\_ f). others specify \_\_\_\_\_

## 1.3 General Outlook/Opinion (You can use Afan Oromo where necessary)

1.3.1 Do you believe that being organized in CIG and becoming a member has benefit?

a. Yes \_\_\_ b. No \_\_\_

If YES, what are the benefits?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1.3.2 In general, do you believe that the members of CIGs will overcome their commonly felt problems by working together such as establishing CIGs in the future?

1. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ 2.No \_\_\_\_\_

If No, what is/ are the possible reasons?

- Lack of awareness/Know how to manage CIGs \_\_\_\_\_
- Lack of commitment by the members \_\_\_\_\_
- Lack of support from the government \_\_\_\_\_
- Misuse of the resources by some individuals \_\_\_\_\_
- Lack of responsibility for common work \_\_\_\_\_
- Others specify \_\_\_\_\_

1.3.3 Would you be willing to contribute money to improve the performance of the group?

2. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ 2.No \_\_\_\_\_

If No, what are the possible reasons?

- I don't trust the management body \_\_\_\_\_
- I can't afford \_\_\_\_\_
- The government should improve it \_\_\_\_\_
- Others/ specify \_\_\_\_\_

1.3.4 Do you want to continue to be a member of CIG? a) Yes \_\_\_ b) No \_\_\_

If no why? \_\_\_\_\_

1.3.5 Mention some contributions/benefits of being organized in CIG/SHG?

- Increased Income \_\_\_\_\_
- Created Jobs \_\_\_\_\_
- Increased production \_\_\_\_\_
- Empowered members \_\_\_\_\_
- Nothing \_\_\_\_\_
- Others \_\_\_\_\_

1.3.6 Please mention major social and economic challenges/problems associated with CIGs' development activities in your area? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1.3.7 What are your personal problems of being organized in CIG? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1.3.8 Are there other cultural and religious barriers to participate in CIG? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

1.3.9 How do you think that the above listed challenges/problems (Ques. 1.3.6, 1.3.7 & 1.3.8) can be improved? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1.3.10 In your opinion what policy & strategic measures have to be taken for the success and strengthening of rural CIGS? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**II. Checklist for Focus Group Discussion: Points to be covered during Focal Group Discussion(FGD) GENERAL QUESTIONS**

- 1) The major activities undertaken by members of Common Interest groups. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) The benefits/contributions of being organized in CIGs \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Do CIGs have organizational guideline to organize them? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Is there basic skills, knowledge and common understanding among public organizations related to organization of CIG at all levels? Yes \_\_\_\_\_. No \_\_\_\_\_  
If no, why?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5) The challenges faced by CIGs
  - a. Family Challenges
  - b. Social Challenges
  - c. Cultural/Religious Challenges
  - d. Organizational/ structural challenges, and others...
- 6) Their opinion to resolve their problems and solution to strengthen CIGs \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Measures to be taken to organize and strengthen CIGs by the government \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8) Measures to be taken by the community and other stakeholders \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**III. Checklist for Development Agents(DAs), Woreda, zone and regional experts and officials(key informants)**

**GENERAL QUESTIONS**

- 1) Do you know that CIGs are organized in rural areas of the woreda/zone/region? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Do you think that CIGs must be organized in rural areas for over all rural business development in the woreda/zone/region? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Do CIGs have organizational guideline to organize them? Yes \_\_\_\_\_No \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Is there clear roles and responsibilities of different public organizations in organizing and supporting CIGs in rural areas? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

If no, why?

---

- 5) Is there basic skills, knowledge and common understanding among public organizations related to organizing of CIG at all levels? Yes \_\_\_\_\_. No\_\_\_\_\_

If no, why?

---

- 6) The major activities undertaken by members of Common Interest groups.\_\_\_\_\_

---

- 7) The benefits/contributions of being organized in CIGs\_\_\_\_\_

---

\_\_\_\_\_.

- 8) The challenges faced by CIGs
  - a. Family Challenges
  - b. Social Challenges
  - c. Cultural/Religious Challenges
  - d. Organizational / structural challenges and others...
- 9) Their opinion to resolve their problems and solution to strengthen CIGs\_\_\_\_\_

---

\_\_\_\_\_

- 10) Measures to be taken to organize and strengthen CIGs by the government\_\_\_\_\_

---

\_\_\_\_\_

- 11) Measures to be taken by the community and other stakeholders\_\_\_\_\_

---

## IV. Questionnaire to be filled at Wereda level offices (Woreda ANR and CPA,)

## 1. General Information of the Wereda

- 1.1. Region \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ Woreda (district) \_\_\_\_\_ Kebele \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Total Population of the wereda: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Urban Population \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Rural Population \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Total House \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.2. Total kebeles \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3. Total Area of the Wereda (Ha)
- 1.3.1. Total Cultivated Land/Area
- 1.3.2. Total Uncultivated Land/Area
- 1.3.2.1. Forest Land \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3.2.2. Grazing Land \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3.2.3. Bush & Shrubs \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3.2.4. Wet land/ Swampy, rugged, mountain \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3.2.5. Coffee Land \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3.2.6. Others \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4. Livestock Population (TLU)
- 1.4.1. Cattle \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4.2. Sheep \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4.3. Goat \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4.4. Horse \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4.5. Mule \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4.6. Donkey \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4.7. Poultry \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4.8. Others..../pig, camel \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.5. Total Multipurpose primary cooperative in the woreda \_\_\_\_\_.
- Total members \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.6. Total RuSAACos in the woreda \_\_\_\_\_.
- Total members \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

2. Total CIGs in the wereda from 2007-20010EFY?

CIGs	Total Groups	Male	Female	Total
Established				
Existing				
Functional				
AGP/Government Supported				
Promoted to primary Cooperatives				

3. On what type of activities/business/sub projects are the CIGs engaged

3.1. Total CIGs

SN	Type of Sub Projects	Total CIGs						
		Established	Started Functioning	Not Started Functioning	AGP/Government Supported	Initial Capital (Birr)	Current Capital (Birr)	Promoted to Primary Coop (Registered)

3.2. Women CIGs

SN	Type of Sub Projects	Women CIGs						
		Established	Started Functioning	Not Started Functioning	AGP/Government Supported	Initial Capital (Birr)	Current Capital (Birr)	Promoted to Primary Coop (Registered)

SN	Type of Sub Projects	Women CIGs						
		Established	Started Functioning	Not Started Functioning	AGP/Government Supported	Initial Capital (Birr)	Current Capital (Birr)	Promoted to Primary Coop (Registered)

### 3.3. Youth CIGs

SN	Type of Sub Projects	Youth CIGs						
		Established	Started Functioning	Not Started Functioning	AGP/Government Supported	Initial Capital (Birr)	Current Capital (Birr)	Promoted to Primary Coop (Registered)

### 3.4. Institutional Support

Name of Organization	Type of Support			
	Training/Skill Development	Provision of Working Capital in Grant	Credit	Others
Government				
NGOs				
AGP				
Coops/Microfinance & Credit Institutions/Bank				
Individual lenders & Others				

### 3.5. Capacity building support by different Public Organizations

Type of	Years



Training	2006			2007			2008			2009		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total

**3.6. Financial/Budget support/grant given by government/AGP**

Type of CIGs	Years					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total

**1.1. If there is a productive credit given by different Banks and other micro-financial institutions?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_. Please indicate the amount by each CIGs.