Environmental and Social Audit of Oromia Forested Landscape Program from Jan. 2018 to Jan. 2020 Final Draft Report



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Acronyms

A/R Afforestation/Reforestation

CBO Community Based Organization

CDM Clean Development Mechanism

CRGE Climate Resilient Green Economy

DA Development Agents

ESMF Environmental and Social Management Framework

ESMP Environmental and Social Management Plan

ESR Environmental and Social Review

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation

FDRE Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

FGD Focus Group Discussion

GoE Government of Ethiopia

GOs Government Organization

GPS Geographic Information System

GTP Growth and Transformation Plan

Ha Hectare

ILUP Integrated Land Use Plan

KII Key Informant Interview

MEFCC Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

MoU Memorandum of Understanding

NASA National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NGOs Non-Government Organizations

OEFCCA Oromia Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authority

OFLP Oromia Forested Landscape Program

OFWE Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise

ORCU Oromia REDD+ Coordination Unit

PAD Project Appraisal Document

PF Process Framework

PFM Participatory Forest Management

PIM Project Implementation Manual

RED Reducing Emissions from Deforestation

REDD Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

REDD+ Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Plus the

Role of Conservation, Sustainable Forest Management and Enhancement

of Forest Carbon Stocks

RIP REDD+ Investment Program

RPF Resettlement Policy Framework

SA Strategic Assessment

ToR Terms of References

UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Executive Summary

The scope of environmental and social audit of the OFLP covers the years Jan. 2018 to Jan. 2020 with the main objective of assessing and evaluating the environmental and social safeguards performance of the OFLP, including its project/sub-project and activities against the OFLP safeguards instruments, and provides recommendation based on the findings of the assessment.

The implementation of the safeguards activities in the OFLP, RIP and the two legacy REDD+ project/sub-project have a defined procedure. For all the sub-projects, eligibility screenings were carried-out at Kebele levels against the developed OFLP eligibility criteria through proper local community consultations. At Woreda level the eligible sub-project activities were further screened for potential environmental and social concerns. The levels of potential impact for all sub-activities implemented by OFLP and other initiatives (two legacy REDD+ project and RIP) sites were assessed and site specific safeguards instruments such as ESMPs were prepared for activities which have potential impacts.

The safeguard compliance of OFLP REDD+, RIP and the two legacy REDD+ projects were assessed against the safeguard requirements and the results are summarized in the table below.

safeguards requirements	Compliance rating	Description	
Availability of safeguard instruments, GRM	rating	Safeguard tools and other REDD+ implementation related	
manual and C & P plan	Comply	documents available	
Training and awareness creation	Partially	Some focal persons were not trained on safeguard tools and	
Training and awareness creation	comply	REDD+ implementation relevant trainings	
Eligibility assessment, screening and ESMP		sub-project in all woredas were subjected to the process	
preparation and verification process	Comply		
Approval of ESMP	Partially	Site specific ESMP prepared documents not approved by some	
Approval of Esivie	comply	woredas (such as Tikur Inchenie)	
Implementation mitigation measures	Partially	Some of the mitigation measures identified in the ESMP at	
Implementation mitigation measures	comply	local level not implemented	
Resettlement	NA	No project/sub-project activity triggered resettlement	
Engagement	Comply	Stakeholder engaged in sub-project activities at all phases	

Identified benefits from the project includes improved precipitation, Re-appearance of spring-waters, Reduced fire incidences, Increased forest cover, Re-Appearance of wildlife, Generate income, Commitment of members to minimize forest dependence, Enhanced involvement and benefits to vulnerable groups and Attitudinal change towards conservation and rehabilitation.

Key gaps such as resource constraints, alignments of ESMP proposed mitigation measures in other sectors, synergy problem among the sectors at local level, delay of support by officials at district and zonal levels, lack of training at grass-root level and safeguards trained personnel turn-over were identified as impeders of the implementations of the safeguards tools. The study also identified positive impacts of the OFLP which include improved precipitation, reappearance of spring-waters, reduced fire incidences, increased forest cover, re-appearance of wildlife, income generation from the sub-project activities and committed members to detach/minimize forest dependence while it also identified adverse impacts which include impact shifted, wildlife - human conflict and high expectation from carbon credit. Corrective action plan for the identified gaps and impacts was presented.

The Identified negative impact from the implementation of the project and sub projects in the sample woredas includes access restriction in some of the PFM sites induced shift of pressure of deforestation from the interventions to non-intervention sites, Wildlife - human conflict, High expectation from carbon credit, Soil erosion and Access restriction

The security situation of the OFLP in a net-shell has shown only delay of activities and/or move of site within the district but not totally impeded its implementation.

The consultation and participation evidence indicate a greater number of men than women being involved in this activity. The low number of female participants in the consultation and participation is to do with the low number of female household heads in sampled study areas as well as culture of being represented by males in public areas.

Documentation and information dissemination were observed of being performed through training, awareness creation and personal communication.

Green Legacy planation was observed being planted on every open available parcel of lands without following Environmental and Social safeguard protocol. There is disparity between what was reported and actually found on the ground.

During the A/R and PFM site visits, it was noted that there are species-site match problem, mixing of species in plantation, dependence on exotic species, less understanding of the nature of the planted species by the A/R cooperatives member, poly-bag management problem and weeds problem.

Challenges the OFLP encountered and may encounter such as cooperative establishment and restructuring of WIJIB, planting of coffee in natural forest, unsatisfied demand, law enforcement and high expectations by and from sectoral offices were recorded in the report.

Lessons learnt and that should be scaled-up or at least maintained such as enhanced awareness of the community, amicable living within the forest boundary, grievance redressal mechanism and having motto for discharging lofty were also presented in the report.

At the end of the report conclusion and recommendation, references and annex were presented.

1. Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Background

The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) has been involved in the REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) process since 2008 and participant in the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). REDD+ is an incentive mechanism where rewards are provided to parties which take progressive action to reduce emissions from forest lands. The REDD+ strategy has become very relevant for low-income countries like Ethiopia because of their particular vulnerability to climate change effects and low adaptive capacity. Ethiopia recognized the potential roles of the REDD+ initiative to harness the growing challenges of deforestation and strengthen the contribution of the forest sector to achieve economic growth.

Thus, REDD+ is promoted as an integral part of country's long-term Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy. The CRGE baseline scenario showed that agriculture and forestry together contribute 85% of the country's total GHG emissions, out of which emissions from the forestry sector account for approximately 37% (FDRE, 2011). Therefore, one of the four pillars of the CRGE strategy emphasizes protecting and re-establishing forests for their economic, social and ecosystem services. The CRGE sets the target to afforest/reforest 3 million hectares and improve management of 4 million hectares of forests and woodlands.

OFLP is Oromia's strategic programmatic umbrella and coordination platform for multi-sector, multi-partner intervention on all forested landscapes in Oromia. The long-term program will contribute to a transformation in how forested landscapes are managed in Oromia to deliver multiple benefits such as poverty reduction and resilient livelihoods, climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and water provisioning. OFLP would foster equitable and sustainable low carbon development through a series of: (i) on-the-ground activities that address deforestation, reduce land-use based emissions, and enhance forest carbon stocks; and (ii) state-wide and local enhancements to institutions, incentives, information, and safeguards

management to upscale investment (enabling environment), including coordinating and leveraging multiple REDD+ relevant interventions across the regional state.

Activities in REDD+ relevant interventions across the regional state may bring adverse social and environmental risks. Hence the following World Bank safeguards policies were triggered by the OFLP and/or activities: Environmental Assessment Operational Policy (OP)/ Bank. Procedure (BP) 4.01 (OP/BP 4.01), Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04), Pest Management (OP/BP 4.09), Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11), Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12), Indigenous Peoples/Underserved and Vulnerable peoples (OP/BP 4.10), Forests (OP/BP 4.36), and Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37).

This Audit report presents the project background, rational, objectives, methodology and audit findings along with an audit corrective action plan comprising prioritized activities, due date, budget and responsible bodies. The purpose of this audit is to assess the compliance of the OFLPs' sub-project activities, the two legacy REDD+ projects activities and sub-projects under the RIP with the Ethiopian relevant environmental and social laws and regulations, World Bank Safeguard policies and particularly the various safeguard instruments developed for the project by the region. The Audit delves into assessing key program results and achievements as well as the challenges facing the program in terms of environmental and social safeguards risks and impacts management (ESSRIM) implementation for the completed years January 2018 to January 2020

Specifically, all relevant safeguards good practices as well as gaps and challenges with its implementation were identified; and an action plan designed to address identified gaps and challenges.

The audit report informs the subsequent ESSRIM related activities to be implemented in the program in order to inform future direction and decisions.

1.2 Rationale for the assignment

To meet the requirements of the national and regional applicable policies and laws as well as world banks' safeguard policies; Oromia REDD+ Coordination Unit (ORCU) have developed and implementing

safeguard instruments such as Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) including Social Development Plan, Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), Process Framework (PF) and Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) to prevent potential social and/or environmental damage or harm to local communities and increase benefits for them in an equitable manner through conducting environmental and social safeguard audit.

Environmental and social safeguard audit is a management tool consisting of a systematic, documented, periodic and objective evaluation of the performance of the REDD+ project activities with the aim of facilitating the safeguards practices and assessing the compliance of the Project activity with the OFLP REDD+ safeguards instruments, government policies, proclamations regulations and World Bank safeguard policies.

Hence, this audit help to systematically evaluate the REDD+ activities and processes to determine how far these activities comply with the approved REDD+ safeguards tools. To this end, the assessment provides information on the status of REDD+ interventions against the agreed environmental and social principles outlined in the OFLP REDD+ safeguards. Besides, the audit evaluates how the REDD+ safeguards are being addressed throughout implementation of OFLP activities.

1.3 Objectives and scope of the environmental and social audit

1.3.1 Objective

General objective

As stated in the TOR the general objective of the study is to assess, objectively verify and evaluate the evidences to determine whether the Environmental and social performance, process, management system or procedures, applications of safeguards instruments and related information are in conformance with the OFLP Environmental and social safeguard policy requirements and also provide recommendation.

Specific objectives

The specific objectives are to:

Review of the ESSRIM implementation of OFLP activities/interventions, the two legacy
 REDD+ Projects (Bale Mountains Eco-Region REDD+ Project and REDD+ Joint Forest
 Management in the five Woredas of Ilu Abba Bora Zone), and REDD+ investment Program

- (RIP) and others against OFLP safeguard instruments (prepared based on relevant social guidelines, regulations and policy document of the GoE, and World bank Policy);
- Assess any significant environmental and social issues observed to the local communities, including the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, cultural and archeological resources, and livelihoods due to OFLP interventions, two legacy REDD+ project and REDD+ Investment Program (RIP)
- Identify the gaps in implementing the safeguard instruments for OFLP and the environmental and social review of two legacy REDD+ project as well as RIP and evaluate the effectiveness of social management and performance systems of OFLP safeguard instruments;
- Identify and recommend required technical assistance, capacity building training and awareness needed by OFLP staff and relevant stakeholder/implementing partners;
- Identify feasible, cost-effective corrective measures and opportunities for overall improvement of Environmental and social safeguard practices; and prepare clear action plan accordingly.

1.3.2 Scope of the audit

As stated in the ToR the scope of environmental and social auditing encompass the analysis of the actual environmental and environmental and social compliance with legal and policy frameworks in the course of program/ project/sub-project implementation, assessment of the effectiveness of environmental and social impact mitigation and enhancement measures, and assessment of the gaps and the challenge occurred under (a) OFLP grant financing, (b) the two legacy REDD+ projects, and (c) programs/projects (including RIP) implemented outside the implementation Woredas of OFLP's enabling investment Woredas. Regarding OFLP, it has two program components namely; (a) Enabling Investment (Afforestation and Reforestation (A/R)) implemented by Oromia Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authority (OEFCCA) and Participatory Forest Management (PFM) implemented both by OEFCCA and Oromia Forest and Wild life Enterprise (OFWE) in deforestation hot spot Woredas, and (b) Enabling Environment implemented throughout Oromia National Regional State and also the two legacy REDD+ Projects (Bale Mountains Eco-region REDD+ Project, and REDD+ Joint Forest Management in

the five Woredas of Ilu Abba Bora Zone) were assessed in line with the implementation of the environmental and social review prepared in July 2018. REDD+ investment Program (RIP) and other initiatives which are not financed by the OFLP (such as Bale and Ilu Aba Bora REDD+ projects) were assessed in accordance with the OFLP safeguards instruments. This was done through stakeholder consultation with (OEFCCA/ORCU, OFWE, FARM AFRICA, Ethio-Wetlands and Natural Resources Association (EWNRA)) development agents, local leaders and local community and field visit to A/R and PFM sites, and desk review to examine the prepared site specific safeguards instruments in hot spot area and to look at carefully the records and documentation. Accordingly, the following tasks were carried out:

- ✓ Review of documents: A review of implementation documents of OFLP safeguards instruments (ESMF, PF, RPF, SESA, ESMP's for A/R and PFM subprojects)prepared for site specific intervention, OFLP consultation and participation report and minutes,) that help to implement OFLP 's components (enabling environment and enabling investment (A/R and PFM)), the environmental and social review of the two legacy REDD+ project activities and other initiatives (such as RIP and the two legacy REDD+ project of Bale and Ilu Aba Bora);
- ✓ Safeguard instruments: check the availability of safeguard instruments and awareness
- ✓ Asses the understanding, awareness and application of local communities about OFLP and other relevant programs;
- ✓ Grievances redress mechanism functionality: assess the establishment, accessibility and functionality of GRM including community awareness, resolution status, reporting, documentation and review logbooks
- ✓ Labor and working condition: assess labor and working condition in nursery sites, A/R site and PFM;
- ✓ Gender: analyze the gender dimension of the OFLP implementation done so far;
- ✓ Assess adequacy of environmental and social mitigation measures, technical support and monitoring budget;
- ✓ Land acquisition and Voluntary Land Donation (VLD): assess the adequacy of site plan preparation, land acquisition and voluntary land donation process and documentation;

- ✓ Livelihood restoration: assess the strategies implemented by OFLP and/or ORCU to assist the efforts of affected persons and households to improve their livelihood and standards of living or to at least restore, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels, or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of the project implementation, whichever is higher.
- ✓ Vulnerable groups: assess the inclusiveness of vulnerable groups in the community consultation, participation and engagement process including involvement in the formation of cooperatives and associations as well as sharing of project benefits;
- ✓ Compliance status assessment: Assess whether there are safeguards compliance with the OFLP safeguards requirements or not;
- ✓ Identification of gaps: Identify gaps in implementing site specific safeguard instruments (ESMPs) for OFLP subprojects (such as A/R and PFM) and the two legacy REDD+ project and RIP to achieve the objectives of the safeguard requirements; Identification of impacts:
- ✓ Identify any environmental and social impacts (positive and negative) due to implementation OFLP in the hot spot and non-hot spot areas, the two legacy REDD+ project; and REDD+ Investment Program (RIP);
- ✓ Security situation assessment: Assess the implication of the security situation on the environmental and social implementation and monitoring; Propose appropriate mitigation measures for the adverse social impacts and enhancement measures for beneficial impacts if any not addressed;
- ✓ Consultations and Stakeholders Engagement:
 - (i) Consult local communities and other relevant stakeholders in OFLP hot spot areas (Woredas), the two legacy REDD+ projects, and RIP intervention areas regarding their level of engagement and awareness, including safeguard management. And assess the project's efforts to ensure broader community and stakeholders' support. Also, local community members, underserved groups and vulnerable peoples were consulted in inclusive manner in their respective areas and the community groups were encouraged to propose mitigation options;
 - (ii) Assess consultation and stakeholder's engagement process including inclusiveness and gender balance;

- (iii) Assess the nature of stakeholders' engagement (communities, groups, or individuals, and civil society) and relevance of the method used for consultation and participation, with local communities;
- ✓ Documentation and Information dissemination: Assess safeguards instruments documentation and information dissemination process of the program and other initiatives (such as RIP and the two legacy REDD+ project of Bale and Ilu Aba Bora);
- ✓ Safeguards Capacity and commitment assessment of implementing institutions: Assess the capacity (human resource, inputs include finance and logistics) and commitment of OFLP and other initiatives (such as the two legacy REDD+ projects, and RIP), implementing partners and other proponents to ensure safeguards compliance with the OFLP safeguards instruments requirements; and recommend capacity building training and awareness needed if there are gaps;
- ✓ Visited sites: The individual consultants conducted field visits to observe OFLP subprojects, the two legacy REDD+ projects & other initiatives (such as RIP) to obtain first-hand information on environmental and social management status of representative subprojects/project activities as per site specific safeguards instruments prepared for them;
- ✓ Action plan: Prepare a compliance action plan and/or monitoring plan for the OFLP and other initiatives (such as the two legacy REDD+ projects and RIP);
- ✓ Propose appropriate recommendations based on the outputs of the assignment.

2. Chapter 2: Description of the OFLP

The Oromia Forested Landscape Program (OFLP) is a sub-national REDD+ program implemented as pilot for the nation REDD+ readiness activities with the aim to reduce deforestation and net greenhouse gas emissions from land use in all forested areas in the Regional State. OFLP seeks to contribute to sustainable management of forested. Landscapes in Oromia in order to deliver multiple benefits such as poverty reduction and building resilient livelihoods, mitigate climate change, and enhance overall ecosystem services. It aims to foster equitable and sustainable low carbon development through: (i) on-the-ground activities that address deforestation reduce land-use based on emissions and enhance forest carbon stocks; and (ii) state-wide and local enhancements to institutions, incentives, information, and safeguards management to upscale investment, including coordinating multiple REDD-relevant interventions across the region. In fulfilling these objectives, OFLP has a potential to promote integrated low carbon landscape management interventions and contribute to the GTP-II and the CRGE goals in forestry, agriculture and energy sectors. It is indicated in the OFLP Implementation Manual (PIM) that the program will support Oromia Regional State's efforts to achieve its GTP-II and CRGE strategic goals (ORCU, 2017).

The Government has received a grant from the World Bank's Bio-Carbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes to implement the OFLP over the coming five-years. The grant seeks to foster equitable and sustainable low carbon development in Oromia through on-the-ground "enabling investments" that address deforestation, reduce land-use based emissions, and enhance forest carbon stocks, and developing an "enabling environment" through statewide and local enhancements to institutions, incentives, information, and safeguards management to scale up investment. In particular, the grant supports community-centered activities that reduce deforestation and land-use based emissions, as well as enhances forest carbon stocks in deforestation hotspots in selected sites in 51 Woredas of Oromia.

As stated in the OFLP' PAD and ESMF, OFLP has three components. Component 1: Enabling Investments, Component 2: Enabling Environment, and Component 3: Emission Reduction (ER)

payments for verified ERs as they are delivered over a long-term period. The three components of Oromia Forested Landscape Program are briefly described as follows

Component 1: Enabling Investments- it will finance investment in participatory forest management (including livelihoods support and selected nature-based community enterprise development) and reforestation in deforestation hotspots in selected sites of the region, as well as extension services and land-use planning statewide at regional and local levels. This component has three sub components (i.e. Land-use planning support at woreda and community levels; Investment and Extension services; and Forest Management Investment in Deforestation Hotspots (47 woredas)).

Component 2: Enabling Environment - it will finance activities to improve the effectiveness and impact of institutions, incentives (i.e., policies, marketing, BSM), information (i.e., strategic communication, MRV) and safeguards management at state and local levels. This component will enhance the enabling environment to help scale up and leverage action on-the-ground to reduce deforestation and forest degradation. This component has five sub-components (i.e Institutional Capacity Building; Incentives, Information, Safeguards Management, Program Management).

Component 3: Emissions Reductions (ER) Payments - as stated in the OFLP' PAD and ESMF, ER Payments will be made only for emission reductions achieved during the ERPA period. However, the interventions conducive to emission reductions can start at any time. ER payments will be delivered once results are achieved, verified by a third party, and formally reported to the WBG.

In order to implement the described components the OFLP implementation arrangements should involve a range of institutions at regional, and sub-regional levels with discrete accountabilities and decision-making roles. Within the regional state of Oromia, OFLP is led by Oromia Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authority (OEFCCA) with Oromia REDD+ Coordination Unit (ORCU) serving as the OFLP implementing unit within OEFCCA. As the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are often linked to other sectors, OFLP implementation

requires an extensive cross-sectoral policy and investment coordination with relevant sectors to keep forests standing.

The OFLP intervention has the potential to deliver social and environmental benefits that go beyond the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions but may also entail potential risks and impacts to people and the environment. These benefits and risks will depend on a number of factors related to specific regional circumstances. To address environmental and social issues of OFLP intervention, OFLP Environmental and Social Safeguards Risks and Impacts Management (ESSRIM)instruments (ESMF, RPF, PF, SESA and others) have been prepared based on the national REDD+ safeguards instruments, World Bank policy and other relevant national and Oromia regional environmental and social policies and legal frameworks. These safeguards instruments are part and package of the OFLP and their implementation should be integrated with the components of the program.

3. Chapter 3: Approaches and Methods

3.1 Study area

The environmental and social audit of OFLP was conducted in five zones (i.e. Buno Bedele, Guji, Ilu Aba Bora, West Arsi and West Shewa); and in ten Woredas two from each zones i.e. OFLP project implementing woredas (Hidhesa, Bedele, Bore, Adola woredas); the two legacies REDD+ woredas (Ale, Becho, Dodola, Adaba); and RIP woredas (Jeldu & Tikur Inchin) and 20 sites/ Kebeles.

Figure 1 shows the map of the sample Woredas.

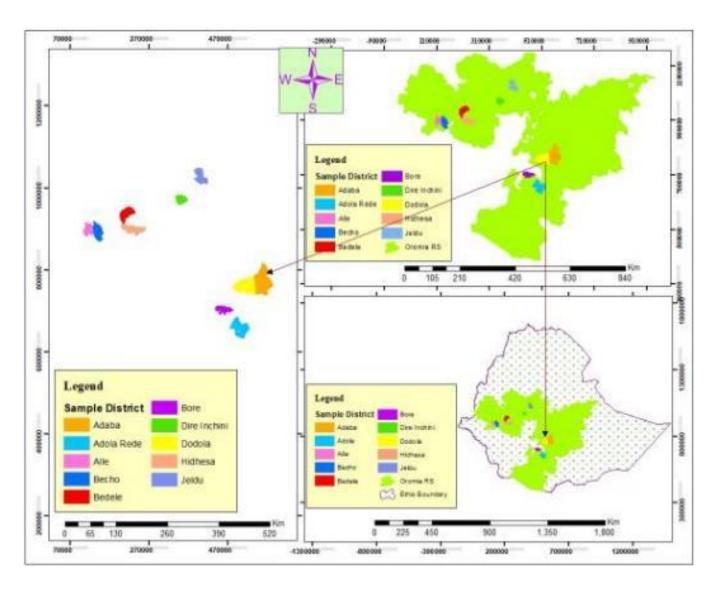


Figure 1: Map of sample district for environmental and social audit of OFLP

3.2 Approach

The environmental and social audit process employed both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods. The qualitative data collection method involved review of documents, records and procedures used in the day-to-day running of the project, key informant interviews and focus group discussion. Consultation with community members and stakeholders were also conducted during site visit. The data collection method utilized questionnaires for the projects at the respective sites to capture environmental and social issues.

Assessment of compliance with relevant documents of OFLP safeguards instruments such as

ESMF, SA, RPF and PF as well as ESR of the two legacy REDD+ projects and RIP, policy and legal frameworks of GoE and World Bank Safeguards Policies were checked. Site specific documents relevant to project/sub-project such as screening report, environmental and social management plan (ESMP) were also checked for their presences and compliance.

Data obtained from one source was validated through triangulation with the other sources. ORCU in advance communicated with data providers, fixed the day and place of meeting and arranged logistic for the field work. The consultant closely worked with and got guidance from ORCU as indicated. The environmental social consultants closely worked together where the findings of the two merged to give one standalone report.

3.3 Ethics of data collection and management

Data collection is central part of environmental and social safeguard audit; during the audit almost all the data were collected through KII, community consultation, FGD, document review and field observation. Data providers were stakeholders who were participated voluntarily. They were informed that the information or data they provide used only as input for the audit report and in no way threaten them because confidentiality and anonymity are maintained. Data collection fully focus on relevant components used as input for the audit and those data or information obtained in due process remain the property of OEFCCA/ORCU and the consultant do not share to third party. Moreover, the following ethical issues were considered during the data collection process:-

- All participants were provided with sufficient information about the audit in order to make an informed decision on their participation;
- All participants in the data collection process were informed about the field work and the audit team got consent from them before the start of the fieldwork;
- The audit team were introduce themselves, explain the reason for collecting data and get permission to take picture of the group and relevant documents from the participants;

- Participants, who involved in data collection process were asked permission and they
 were made aware that their involvement is voluntary. Additionally, they were informed
 that they are free to withdraw from any active data collection process at any point
 without pressure or fear of retaliation.
- The audit team were conscious to manage participant's expectations throughout the data collection and audit process,
- The audit team was remaining neutral and unbiased. Don't let personal preconceptions or opinions interfere through the data collection process;
- The audit team respect the culture and custom of the community;
- Anything that cause physical or emotional harm to participants including conflicting topic were avoided.
- The audit team was respectful of Participants' time and avoids any conflicting issues.

3.4 Methodology

3.4.1 Sampling technique

The audit has deployed both purposive and stratified random sampling techniques to select data/information providers and sources. Purposive sampling was used to select key informants at different levels (region, Woreda and Kebele). Because OFLP recognized and is implementing different activities (hot-spot, non-hot-spot, RIP, ESR sites, etc.) which give opportunity for stratifying them and stratified random sample taking technique was used. Once the woredas are stratified in to OFLP project implementing woredas, the two legacies REDD+ woredas and RIP woredas was done, random sampling methods were applied in order to select the Woredas and Kebeles to give equal opportunities of being selected from the stratum where from data were collected. To ensure accuracy, the sample units that were selected from the stratum was disproportional to the relative size of the population in the stratum. Thus, the strata have formed the basic sampling units from which the Woredas and sites were selected. Due to the prevailing security challenges in Oromia, some of the zones were excluded from forming the sample units for the same.

3.4.2 Sample selection criteria

In determining the number of Woredas and audit sites, the study adopted both disproportionate stratified sampling and purposive sampling methods. The Woredas were selected based on the agreed site selection criteria with ORCU (Table 2).

Disproportionate stratified sampling methods were applied in order to select the Woredas and Kebeles. Hot-spot, non-hot-spot and implementer types were categorized as homogenous classes which samples are taken from the implementers of the project (ORCU, RIP, Bale REDD+ and Ethio-Wetlands). Thus, these were used as criteria for selecting sample sites in order to make inferences to all of them (table 2).

OFLP is a program that implemented to address deforestation and forest degradation identified as hot-spot and non-hot-spot areas throughout the Oromia region. Hot-spot Woredas in Oromia are those identified as high deforestation and forest degradation areas caused by various factors which include subsistence agriculture, mining and infrastructure development among others. Deforestation and forest degradation hot spot areas differ from the non-hot spot areas in term of scale of deforestation & forest degradation and species diversity being affected.

There are different implementers of the REDD+ program/project identified as government and non-government organizations that all are contributing to the overall goal of OFLP. Under the government organization, there are ORCU and RIP operating under OEFCCA while FARM Africa and Ethio-Wetlands are working as non-government organizations. ORCU operates in 51 Woredas, RIP operates in 41 Woredas (where two of the Woredas overlap with that of ORCU's), Bale REDD+ project operates in 11 Woredas and Ethio-Wetlands project operates in 5 Woredas (where all the five Woredas overlap with that of ORCU's), overall there are 101 intervention Woredas of which 10 Woredas are selected using the following criteria.

Table 1: Sample Selection Criteria

	Criteria				Code
Hot-Spot					Α
	A/R				A1
	PFM				A2
	Livelihoods	intervention	implemented	site	A3

(Beekeeping, cook-stove, animal husbandry, etc.)		
Non-Hot-Spot		
	A/R	B1
	PFM	B2
	Livelihoods intervention implemented site	B3
	(Beekeeping, cook-stove, animal husbandry, etc.)	
Management ownership (ORCU, RIP	ORCU	F1
and the two REDD+ legacy projects)	RIP	F2
	the two REDD+ legacy projects	F3

Based on the above criteria, out of 101 intervention woredas two woredas, each from the five zones (Buno Bedele, Guji, Ilu Aba Bora, West Arsi and West Shewa) that are qualifying the sample selection criteria were randomly selected. From each woredas, two sites were also selected.

The sample woredas and sites were selected in consultation with Oromia REDD+ Coordination Unit after the site selection criteria was set. The sampling criteria and Project implementing woredas (for OFLP, RIP, two legacy REDD+ projects) were presented in table 3.

Table 2: Sampling criteria and Project implementing woredas (OFLP, RIP, two legacy REDD+) projects.

	Criteria fulfilled by			
Zone Woreda		Programs/Projects implemented in the woreda (OFLP, RIP, two legacy REDD+ projects)	selected site	
Ilu Aba Bora Ale		OFLP, Ethio-Wetlands	A(A1, A2, A3),F1 and F3	
	Becho	OFLP, Ethio-Wetlands	A(A1, A2, A3), F1 and F3	
Buno Bedele	Hidhesa	OFLP	A(A1, A2) and F1	
	Bedele	OFLP	A(A1, A3) and F1	
Guji	Wadera	OFLP	A(A1, A2) and F1	
	Adola	OFLP	A(A1) and F1	
West Arsi	Adaba	OFLP, FARM Africa	B(B2),F3	
	Dodola	OFLP, FARM Africa	B(B2),F3	
West Shewa	Jeldu	OFLP, RIP	B(B1),F2	
	Tikur Inchini	OFLP, RIP	B(B2),F2	

3.4.3 Documents reviewed and secondary data collected

Secondary data pertinent to the assignments (international, national, regional and local) were reviewed, analyzed and made to fit to the audit report.

The following policy, legal frameworks and other relevant documents were reviewed.

Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (Proclamation No. 1/1995)

- Environmental Policy of Ethiopia (EPE, 1997)
- Draft National Social Protection Policy of Ethiopia (FDRE, 2012)
- Forest policy of Ethiopia (2007)
- National biodiversity policy
- National policy for women
- Ethiopian Water Resources Management Policy (1999)
- Legislation on Expropriation of Landholdings for Public Purposes and Payment of Compensation (Proc. No. 1161/2019)
- Regulations on land Expropriated and payment of Compensation (Reg. No. 135/2007)
- National rural Land Administration and Use (Proc. No.456/2005)
- Forest development, conservation and utilization proclamation no. 1065/2018
- Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No. 300/2002
- Solid Waste Management (Proclamation No 513/2007)
- Labor Proclamation No.1156/2019
- Public Health Proclamation No. 200/2000

Relevant Natural resource related document reviewed

- OFLP ESMF Environmental and Social Management Framework
- OFLP RPF Resettlement Policy Framework
- OFLP PF Process Framework
- National REDD+ and OFLP SESA- Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
- Environmental and Social Review (ESR) of the Bale Mountains Eco-region REDD+ Project and REDD+ Joint Forest Management in the five woredas of Ilu Abba Bora Zone, Oromia
 Regional State, South-West Ethiopia - Phase II Project
- National REDD+ and OFLP GRM Grievance Redress Mechanisms
- National REDD+ and OFLP C & P Plan Consultation and participation Plan
- PAD on a proposed grant to FDRE for the OFLP
- Annual reports regarding the implementation of the ESMF
- ESIA Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

- ESMP Environmental and Social Management Plan
- UNESCO Registered Biosphere Reserve
- Bale Eco-region Sustainable Management Program (BERSMP)
- Participatory Forest Management (PFM) guideline
- Bi-annual and annual Mid-term reports regarding the implementation of the safeguard instruments at regional and woreda level.

World Bank safeguard policy triggered by the implementation of REDD+ Program

- World Bank Policy on Environmental Assessment (OP 4.01)
- World Bank Policy on Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)
- World Bank Policy on Physical and Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11)
- World Bank Policy on Indigenous People (Op/BP 4.10)
- World Bank Policy on Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)
- World Bank Policy on Forests (OP/ BP 4.36)

3.4.4 Data analysis

All the data were analyzed to obtain findings to provide reliable information with a view to understand the compliance of REDD+ Initiative programs with the SESA, ESMF, RPF, PF, Consultation and Participation Plan, site specific safeguard instruments, the ESR of Bale and Ilu Aba Bora (the two legacy REDD+ projects), RIP and other applicable laws in Ethiopia and the region.

4. Chapter 4: Description of Relevant policy and Legal Frameworks, and OFLP safeguards frameworks

Relevant national policies and legal frameworks that are relevant for the environmental and social audit (ESA) are briefly described below. This ESA Report has been prepared based on relevant national policies and legal frameworks. The summary of the legal and policy frameworks including The World Bank Safeguard policies and the OFLP safeguard instruments are presented in the sections that follow.

4.1 The FDRE Constitution

The Ethiopia Constitution issued in August 1995 has several provisions, which have direct policy, legal and institutions relevance for the appropriate implementation of environmental and social protection to avoid, mitigate or compensate the adverse effects of development actions. Articles 14, 29, 31, 35, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44 and 92 of the constitution specifically deal with the right to development, social inclusion gender and environmental rights.

4.2 Social sustainability and development

The 1995 Constitution of Ethiopia articles 14, 29, 31, 35, 39, 40, 41, 43 provide the core principles and frameworks for subsequent proclamations on issues related with social development. These principles and provisions are summarized below, where the details could be referred from the FDRE constitution.

• Social Development

- Provides economic, social and cultural rights in engaging freely in economic activities, choose livelihoods, create and expand job opportunities for the unemployed including to find gainful employment,
- 2) Ensure improved living standards and sustainable development to the nations, nationalities and peoples of Ethiopia,
- 3) Ensures Ethiopians have the right to ownership of rural and urban land, as well as of all natural resources, is exclusively vested in the State and in the peoples of Ethiopia. Land

is a common property of the Nation/s, Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia and shall not be subject to sale or to other means of exchange.

Social protection

The social protection policy of the country defines social protection as being a set of formal and informal interventions that aim to reduce social and economic risks, vulnerabilities and deprivations for all people and facilitates equitable growth.

It provides the framework for the coordination and provision of social protection services in Ethiopia defining the roles and responsibilities of the Government of Ethiopia, at federal, regional and local level to manage a social protection system and fulfill the constitutional right.

Social Inclusion

- 1) Equal access to public social services, with FDRE obligation to allocate resources to provide to the public health, education and other social services,
- 2) Equal opportunities and participation for women with historical disadvantages such as property use, ownership and inheritance, employment and payment,
- 3) Ensure vulnerable groups support and assistance including the aged, children who are left without parent or guardian,
- 4) Ensure Ethiopian farmers and pastoralists receive fair prices for their products,
- 5) Ensure equal rights to women in marriage, eliminate inequality and discrimination.

Social sustainability, community consultation and participation

- 1) Ensure participation and meaningful consultation of the community to enhance the capacity of citizens for development and to meet their basic needs,
- 2) The constitution provides the right to rise opinions without interference and freedom of association for any cause or purpose,
- 3) Protect and preserve historical and cultural legacies, and contribute to the promotion of the arts and sport,

• Gender participation and inclusive development

4) The FDRE constitution article 34 & 35 states about the participation of women in leadership and enhance communication skills.

- 1) The GoE committed to end a historical legacy of inequality and discrimination of women while ensuring participation of women in all economic & social development endeavors.
- 2) Various proclamations on labor, occupational safety and health provided broad areas of social development legal frameworks in Ethiopia.

Therefore, participation of women in OFLP REDD+ initiatives is a constitutional and human right, development right in establishing a socially and culturally inclusive society.

4.3 Policy Frameworks

4.3.1 Environmental policy of Ethiopia

The overall goal of the policy is to promote sustainable social and economic development through the sound management and use of natural, human-made and cultural resources and the environment as a whole, so as to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Based on the objectives of this policy, the initiatives implemented by OFLP have been subjected for Environmental and Social Audit (ESA).

4.3.2 Forest policy of Ethiopia (2007)

The objective of the forest policy is to increase the forestry sector's contribution to economic growth by protecting and developing the forest resource and fulfilling the rising demand of forestry products and services. The objectives set in the forest policy indicate incentives required to encourage groups and individual organizations to be engaged in forest resource development.

4.3.3 National biodiversity policy

The National Biodiversity Policy (NBP) was established in 1998 based on a holistic ecosystem approach to conserve, develop and utilize the country's biodiversity resources. The policy provides for guidance towards effective conservation, rational development and sustainable utilization of the country's biodiversity, and contains comprehensive policy provisions for the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity. In line with this, the ongoing OFLPs'

sub-project are expected to support the conservation of nature including the forest resource as has been required.

4.3.4 Ethiopian Water Resources Management Policy (1999)

The overall goal of the policy is to enhance and promote all national efforts towards the efficient, equitable and optimum utilization of the available Water Resources of Ethiopia for significant socioeconomic development on sustainable basis. The policy aims to ensure access to water for everyone fairly and in a sustainable manner, protect water resources and sources, and promote cooperation for the management of river basins.

The policy also requires water resources schemes and projects to have Environmental Impact Assessment and Evaluation.

4.3.5 Social Protection policy of Ethiopia

The Policy envisages providing coverage to broad categories of society that are in need of social protection focusing on the protective, preventive, promotive and transformative actions necessary progressively to fulfill the constitutional requirement of social protection in the country.

This National Social Protection Policy is nationwide sectoral document as a complete framework leading to coordinated actions to protect citizens from economic and social deprivation. The main objectives of Social Protection Policy of Ethiopia are the following (i) protect poor and vulnerable individuals, households, and communities from the adverse effects of shocks and destitution; increase the scope of social insurance; increase access to equitable and quality health, education and social welfare services to build human capital are the main one.

4.3.6 National policy for women

In this policy it is indicated that government policies, laws, regulations, plans, programs:

• Ensure participation of women in the formulation of policies, laws and programs;

- Ensure participation and involvement of women in implementation and decisionmaking processes; and;
- Ensure equal access of men and women to the country's resources.

4.3.7 Land Tenure Policy

The Constitution of the FDRE (1995) states that the right to ownership of rural and urban land, as well as natural resources is exclusively vested in the State and People of Ethiopia. Article 40 of the Constitution indicates that land is a common property of the People of Ethiopia, and shall not be subjected to sale or to other means of transfer or exchange.

Also, article 4(5) of the Proclamation 94/1994 deals with provision of land for the conservation, development and utilization of state forests or protected areas. However, this can be effective only after the consultation and consent of the peasantry and assurance of their benefits.

4.4 Legislative frameworks

4.4.1 Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No. 300/2002

Ethiopian environmental pollution control proclamations No 300/2002 proves that some social and economic development activities may cause environmental and social harm that could jeopardize project activities. Hence, such normal phenomenon in some developmental endeavors has to be considered in this OFLP Initiatives. The proclamation explains about environmental standards and prohibits pollution or cause to pollute the environment by violating the relevant environmental standard.

4.4.2 Solid Waste Management (Proclamation No 513/2007)

The objective of this proclamation is to enhance the capacities to prevent the possible adverse impacts of solid waste. In this proclamation it is depicted that without obtaining authorization, a person who implements solid waste management project that requires special permit before its implementation as determined in a directive issued by the relevant environmental agency.

4.4.3 Labor Proclamation No.1156/2019

The labor proclamation obliges that an employer shall take the necessary measures to adequately safeguard the occupational health and safety of the workers. To ensure workers safety and job security the need to respect this proclamation has been clearly stated. Under this proclamation the following specific issues have been found relevant and important to be recognized and be implemented accordingly.

Workers should not be subjected to Physical harassment or psychological oppression, discrimination and abuse. All workers should have equal access to jobs on equal terms, irrespective of gender, age, ethnic, political opinion, religion and social origin.

4.4.4 Public Health Proclamation No. 200-2000

This proclamation ensures the availability of occupational health and safety services to his employees. The proclamation also prohibits disposal of solid and liquid waste generated from the activities of the project. Thus, the ongoing OFLP sub-project is expected to obey the requirements of this declaration.

4.4.5 Forest development, conservation and utilization proclamation no. 1065/2018

The Proclamation makes provision with respect to the development, conservation and sustainable utilization of forest resources in Ethiopia. It concerns both private and public forests. The proclamation recognizes four forest tenure categories, namely, private, community forest, association, and state forests. Besides expanding forest tenure categories, the proclamation further elaborated legally recognized buddle of rights for each tenure type.

4.4.6 Expropriation of land holdings for public purposes, payments of compensation and resettlement (proc. no. 1161/2019.)

The proclamation states that compensation and resettlement assistance for the expropriated land shall sustainably restore and improve the livelihood of displaced people. As per the proclamation, the landholder whose land is expropriated shall be paid compensation for 15 years for the property on the land. The amount of compensation for the property on the land shall cover the cost of replacing the property.

4.5 OFLP Safeguard Instruments

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) is a tool that uses a range of analytical and participatory approaches aiming at integrating environmental and social considerations into policies, plans and programs and evaluates the inter linkages with economic and institutional considerations.

SESA supports the design of the national and regional REDD+ policy framework. SESA offers a platform for consultations with stakeholders from the national to the micro-levels (kebele level). SESA is complemented by an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) and Process Framework (PF) which establishes the principles, guidelines, and procedures for REDD+ safeguards.

It is a critical requirement for the REDD+ readiness process and to guide decision making for a successful implementation of the REDD+ in a manner consistent with country's and the region's environmental and social policies, laws and regulations and the World Bank's environmental and social safeguard policies.

Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

The environmental and social management framework (ESMF) prepared by OFLP is intended to provide guiding principles for assessment and management of environmental and social aspects of the program activities to be financed under the OFLP. It will help to systematically identify, predict, and evaluate beneficial and adverse environmental and social impacts of the program activities, designing enhancement measures for beneficial impacts, and implement mitigating measures for adverse impacts.

Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)

The Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) is an instrument to be used throughout the implementation of OFLP project and sub-project activities. This RPF is prepared to address social impacts of OFLP focusing on issues such as acquisition of land resulting from implementation of on the investment that may or will result in loss of property or disruption that affect livelihoods or restriction of access to forest resources. It will be applied to carry out

the preparation and implementation of mitigation measures on any potential negative impacts of resettlement on the community.

Process framework (PF)

The preparation of process framework (PF) report is required because the Oromia regional state is going to implement OFLP project/sub-project activities in protected areas, where access restriction is already there. Moreover, the PF is intended to establish an enabling environment in which the Persons Affected by the Program (PAPs) will be able to participate in mitigating against these negative impacts including the PAPs own input on program activities (e.g. habitat restoration, reforestation and the design of necessary measures to reduce social impacts caused by the limitation in access and setting up process and monitoring plans as needed.

4.6 Applicable World Bank Safeguard Policies Triggered by the OFLP

The Program triggered safeguard polices such as Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01), Natural Habitat (OP/BP 4.04), Forests (OP/BP 4.36), Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11), Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12), Indigenous Peoples/Underserved and Vulnerable peoples (OP/BP 4.10). These policies are briefly described below.

Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01:

The OFLP sub project activities are expected to have significant positive impacts on targeted forested areas. However, OP/BP 4.01 is triggered as some of the local-level activities could have limited adverse environmental and social impacts; these activities could potentially include construction and rehabilitation of physical structures for catchment management such as terracing, micro basin and area enclosures.

Forests OP/BP 4.36:

OFLP project activities in forest lands aim to reduce deforestation, enhance the environmental services contribution of forested areas, promote reforestation and encourage economic development. Overall, the OFLP activities have significant positive impacts on forest, in that the main goal of the program is to reduce deforestation, while contributing to the wellbeing of forest dependent communities.

Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04:

The objective of this operational policy is to ensure that all activities proposed in the OFLP should take into account the conservation of biodiversity. It also restricts the circumstances under which any project can impact natural habitats. Overall, OFLP project activities have significant positive impacts on natural habitats, as it support the maintenance and rehabilitation of forest areas and their function.

Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11:

The policy intended to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts from development projects on physical cultural resources. The physical cultural resources (PCR) refer to movable or immovable objects, archaeological and historical sites, historic urban areas, sacred sites, grave yards, burial sites, structures, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or others that have unique natural, social and cultural significance.

OP/BP 4.10: Indigenous Peoples

The policy requires and mitigate any adverse impacts as well as ensure that these people benefit from the program in a sustainable manner. The World Bank ensures that any project financed by it is not against the underserved peoples' dignity, rights, economic benefit and cultural practices. The Bank further wants to ensure that there is free, prior and informed consultation with the underserved people before endorsing the project.

Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12:

Involuntary Resettlement Operational Policy covers physical relocation, loss of shelter, loss of access to resources or assets and loss of income sources or means of livelihood. The policy aims to avoid involuntary resettlement to the extent feasible, or to minimize and mitigate its adverse social and economic impacts. OPFL project activities such as area closure, afforestation/reafforestation can limit access to forests and forest products, and grazing.

4.7 Applicable Multilateral Environmental and Social Conventions

Ethiopia is a party to a number of Multilateral Environmental and Social Agreements (MESAs). Many of the principles and provisions in these conventions have been well addressed in the national environmental and social policies and regulations.

4.7.1 Multilateral Environmental Conventions (MECs)

Some of the main MECs (such as UNFCCC, UNCCD and UNCBD) are briefly stated below:

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): Ethiopia has ratified the Convention by Proclamation No. 97/1994 on May 2/1994. This Convention takes into account the fact that climate change has trans-boundary impacts. Its basic objective is to provide for agreed limits regarding the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and to prevent the occurrence or minimizes the impact of climate change.

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD): Ethiopia has ratified the Convention by Proclamation No. 80/1997. The objective of the Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of droughts in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification.

United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD): Ethiopia has ratified this Convention by Proclamation No. 98/94, on May 31, 1994. The Convention has three goals: (i) the conservation of biodiversity; (ii) the sustainable use of the components of biodiversity; and (iii) the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. Therefore, due attention will be given to this Convention in any REDD+ initiative where required and feasible.

5. Chapter 5: Key findings

5.1 Environmental and social management procedure for OFLP REDD+, RIP and the two legacy REDD+

The implementation of the safeguards activities in the OFLP, RIP and the two legacy REDD+ project/sub-project have a defined procedure. For all the REDD+, RIP and the two legacies REDD+ projects/sub-projects, eligibility screenings were carried-out at Kebele levels by the development agent (DA)/focal person through proper local community consultations. A focal person from OFWE carried out eligibility of PFM under OFWE concession against the developed OFLP eligibility criteria. At Woreda level the eligible project/sub-project activities were further screened for potential environmental and social concerns by woreda focal persons. The levels

of potential impact for all sub-activities implemented by OFLP and other initiatives (two legacy REDD+ project and RIP) sites were assessed and site specific safeguards instruments such as ESMPs were prepared for activities which have potential impacts. Most of the site specific mitigation measures given in the ESMP were reported of not implemented due to budget shortage and/or alignment of the mitigation measures in other sectoral offices for implementation.

For the identified mitigation measures which were proposed in the ESMP effective implementation:

- All mitigation measures need to be contained within the OFLP/RIP system for budget and implementation
- At least, the budget for the mitigation measures needs to be from the OFLP/RIP even if implementation of the measures urge sectoral offices collaboration

5.2 Compliance status of OFLP safeguards requirements

It is important to disintegrate the safeguard compliance of OFLP REDD+, RIP and the two legacy REDD+ projects than grossly addressing because it enables to see where the compliance and non-compliance fall and thus take action at a point where non-compliance observed. Hence, the safeguards, GRM manual and C & P plan were evaluated from the perspectives of:

- 1. Availability of safeguard instruments, GRM manual and C & P plan in all OFLP implementing sample Woredas were found having these documents in hard copies and thus, are complying with the requirements;
- 2. Training and awareness creation available evidences revealed that adequate trainings and awareness creations were given on safeguard instruments; however, there were focal persons found who did not get training and awareness creation because they were recently assigned due to the turn-over of the former trained focal persons and thus, the requirement is designated as partially compliant;
- 3. Eligibility assessment, screening and ESMP preparation and verification process by Woreda coordinators and focal persons at the time of project formulation -

in this regard all sub-project in all sample Woredas were found **complying** with the requirements of screening and preparation of the ESMP;

- 4. **Approval of ESMP** ESMP of sub projects at Bedele, Dire Inchine and Jeldu woredas have **no clearance /not approved** by the Environment Forest and Climate Change Authority at zone or woreda level. In the other seven sample woredas, both the preparation and approval of ESMP were done by the same organization (i.e. woreda Environment Forest and Climate Change Authority) this indicates that there is conflict of interest. Hence this section is evaluated as a **partial comply**.
- 5. **Implementation mitigation measures** During the document review and field visit of the sub-project sites, we realized that some of the mitigation measures (such as provision of fodder) which requires resource/budget was not implemented. Hence, the safeguard requirements are evaluated as a **partially comply.**
- 6. Resettlement In all project/sub-projectof OFLP, RIP and tow REDD+ legacies in the sample woredas no physical resettlement has been witnessed by the community as well as stakeholders at kebele and Woreda level due to the project interventions. Therefore, there was no relocation and displacement that trigger resettlement action plan (RAP) or abbreviated resettlement action plan (ARAP). Hence, the safeguard requirements are evaluated as not applicable (NA).
- 7. **Engagement** All community members (including youth, women and elderly) are being participating in all activities of OFLP initiatives (i.e. PFM & A/R) starting from the initial consultation up to the current activities. Therefore, this safeguards requirement "engagement" is found to be **complying.**

Table 3: Summary of compliance to OFLP safeguards requirements

safeguards requirements	Compliance rating	Description
Availability of safeguard instruments,		Safeguard tools and other REDD+ implementation related
GRM manual and C & P plan	Comply	documents available
Training and awareness erection	Partial	Some focal persons were not trained on safeguard tools and
Training and awareness creation	comply	REDD+ implementation relevant trainings
Eligibility assessment, screening and		project/sub-project in all woredas were subjected to the
ESMP preparation and verification		process
process	Comply	

Approval of ESMP	Partial	Site specific ESMP prepared documents not approved by some
Approval of Esivie	comply	woredas
Implementation mitigation measures	Partial	All mitigation measures identified in the ESMP at local level
implementation intigation measures	comply	not implemented
Resettlement	NA	No project/sub-project activity triggered resettlement
Engagement		Stakeholder engaged in project/sub-project activities at all
Engagement	Comply	phases

4.1.1. Multilateral Social Conventions

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: (adopted in 1966 and come in to force in 1976, ratified by Ethiopia in 1993): The Covenant together with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights make up the International Bill of Rights. It addresses such fundamental rights as the right to fair conditions of employment, the right to social security, the right to food, clothing and housing, and the right to culture. Ethiopia is a party to the Convention and should be considered in the implementation of the REDD+ initiatives design and implementation.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC): the UNCRC was adopted by the General Assembly in 1989 and Ethiopia ratified the Convention in 1991. The Convention premised on the idea of the "best interests of the child," and the Convention's four main principles are: (1) non-discrimination; (2) devotion to the best interests of the child; (3) the right to life, survival and development; and (4) respect for the views of the child.

United Nations Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): it was adopted by the General Assembly in 1979 and ratified by Ethiopia in 1981. The Convention establishes that discrimination against and inequality faced by women violates human rights principles. It calls on States Parties to actively remedy discrimination against women in several key areas such as marriage, employment, education and religion.

Above all, it is vital to note that these conventions should be considered in environmental and social analyses of any REDD+ initiatives, where relevant and feasible, with a view to minimizing possible adverse impacts and maximizing beneficial impacts.

5.3 Gaps in implementing environmental and social management plan (ESMPs)

Key gaps in implementing risk mitigation measures given in the ESMPs for OFLP sub-project, the two legacy REDD+ projects and RIP are described in the following sub sections.

5.3.1 Resource constraints

During stakeholder consultations (implementing partners, communities) and interviews (implementers of the sub-projects such as OEFCCA, OFWE and the two legacy REDD+ experts) it was indicated that there is either no budget or not adequate for the implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the ESMPs of the project/sub-project. Other than the shortage/absence of the direct cost for the implementations of mitigation measures, there were also absences of logistics (per-diem, transport facility) at woreda level. Resource constraint also refers to lack/shortage of office facilities such as chair, table, computer, printer, scanner and stationery materials. Generally, there is a scanty of resource to implement the ESMPs as reported by respective Woredas.

• Thus, it is recommended to implement the project/sub-project only after ensuring the allocation of budget for each site. At this point, it is not possible to propose ESMP mitigation measure cost as this requires practically done on spot with the impact identification of the specific site pertinent to project type. However, detail material and training requirements indicated by implementers are presented in the corrective action part (section 6).

5.3.2 Alignment of mitigation measures in sectoral offices

Some of the mitigation measures (e.g. improved forage supply, alternate energy sources, etc.) stipulated in the site specific ESMP were aligned with sectors or the budget sought from sectoral and cross-sectoral offices which they did not make their business to address the issues. Thus, mitigation measures proposed to be addressed by sectors and cross-sector offices remained unaddressed or their status not known as they are not reporting to ORCU or its variant at different levels. It is thus, recommended that ORCU and RIP either contain mitigation measures within their systems or have counter-part expert in the relevant sectoral offices along with the budget for the mitigation measures.

5.3.3 Synergy problem

Different activities have been executed by implementing partners both by the project/sub-project and regular budget across the jurisdictions of the region (Oromia) that contribute to emission reduction targets of the OFLP. However, due to the coordination problems in most of the sampled sites, the safeguards instruments of OFLP were not used by sectoral offices for the activities financed by regular budget. Though, common activity plans were developed with implementing partners in most of the woreda, there is a problem of implementing and monitoring its achievements against the target set. The commitments of experts (implementing partners) were low to address the agenda of the REDD+ project/sub-project on their ways to accomplish their duties-they just need to be accompanied by experts from the district environment office. Other offices which do not have activities at the village levels (e.g. Energy Office) need special field arrangement to support the REDD+ project/sub-project which this was not possible due to lack of budget and transport facility. Thus, some activities of the project/sub-project remain unimplemented, especially the mitigation measures outlined in site specific ESMP.

Generally, even if OEFCCA has signed terms with relevant sectoral offices to implement OFLP REDD+/RIP in collaboration, its implementation is weak at the grass root level and hence, needs reassessment on how to establish effective collaboration system including reporting system.

5.3.4 Delay support

The OFLP steering committee and technical working group were established at Woreda level to provide strategic guidance and technical support, respectively during the implementations of activities by OFLP and other initiatives that contribute to the objectives of OFLP (e.g. the two legacy REDD+ projects, RIP and green legacy). However, district steering and technical committee do not frequently meet to give guidance, direction and technical support that help to address outstanding issues timely including the implementation of ESMPs. Thus, it is recommended steering committee and technical working group at respective locations meet monthly to offer direction and technical support respectively when there are and should meet

even when there are no these to evaluate the implementation of the project/sub-project or review outstanding issues.

5.3.5 Lack of training

Capacities building training across the region/jurisdictions at different hierarchy is essential to enhance experts knowledge and skills on OFLP safeguards instruments including GRM. However, as indicated during the focus group discussion and interview in Adola, Bedele, Bore and Alle Woredas trainings on safeguard tools (SGT) is not adequate at all levels. Training on safeguard tools were done at higher level (district and above) for few experts; there is no budget for training on the same at grass-root level including the REDD+ implementing partners for those not trained or when there is a turn-over of the trained ones. It is thus, recommended ORCU offers training on the gaps Woredas indicated through allocating budget proposed in this report in section 6.

5.3.6 High turnover of trained personnel

There were high trained personnel turn-over reported in all the study sites after receiving trainings on safeguard instruments, awareness creation and other OFLP and sub-project level activities. The turn-over of the personnel is both from technical and steering committee at zone and district levels as well as internal (Environment and Climate change Authority at district and zone levels) and external (implementing partner experts). The critical was reported from Didhesa district where 77 out of the 91 trained focal persons were not available during the field assessment.

Trained human resource retaining is key to maintain institutional stability and memory. Thus, OFLP, RIP and the two REDD+ legacy projects have to maintain their trained personnel. For this, human resource management and administration training is proposed as corrective action (section 6) to prevent/reduce turn-over of workers. As OFLP, RIP and the two REDD+ legacy projects have no control over maintaining trained focal person in sectoral offices, they should quickly identify who left the technical team and offer training for the new assigned focal person if has not received it before.

5.4 Identification of impacts

5.4.1 Positive Impacts

5.4.1.1 Improved precipitation

Farmers at different sub-project sites have mentioned that the rainfall intensity has increased and the seasons of precipitation have resumed the old time which they now or heard from their predecessors though this needs a thorough analysis of the meteorological data of the respective areas. The information obtained from the discussants as well as interviewees on change in precipitations is presented in table 3. Positive changes in precipitation intensity and duration by implication would have a positive result on the agriculture production and productivity which again this needs further study.

Table 4: Improved precipitation condition

4	District		Rainfall season	
#	District	Before 4 years	3-4 years ago	Current
1	Hidhesa	December little precipitation	December was too dry	December is cool now
2	Bedele	January/February	May/June	January/February

5.4.1.2 Re-appearance of spring-waters

There are cases where dried-up spring waters emerged attributed to the implementation of the project/sub-project that to do with tree plantings and environmental rehabilitations. Table 4 summarizes the findings to do with this.

Table 5: Re-appeared of spring-waters

#	District	Re-appeared Springs
1	Hidhasa	Lalistu Cooperative
	Hidhesa	AR Site II Coop AR Site II Coop (Ilala Spring)
2	Dire-Inchini	Six in no. with only Roge River named
3	Adola-Woyu	Not named

5.4.1.3 Reduced fire incidences

To initiate grass growth and remove remains of previous year crops, farms traditionally burn their farmlands (technically called *Gay* in Amharic or *Chira* in Afaan Oromo) though this is also

considered as a management practice to add nutrient from the burn-out. The implementation of the OFLP sub-projects in some of the areas (e.g. Hidhesa and Adola) brought a cease to the deliberate setting of fire to manage farmlands. In Hidhesa, they particularly overwhelmingly mentioned cease of the fire is one of the benefits the sub-project brought to them because, they were losing their properties such as coffee when the fire went-out of control.

5.4.1.4 Increased forest cover

There are tangible evidences on the increase of forest covers in the project/sub-project areas attributed to plantations as well as protection of the existing forests. As evidence of this, the *Grevillea robusta* stand from Airport site at Alle District is presented in figure 2. For the forest of the OFLP to increase or at least maintained as it is, it is recommended to plant even more than what is in the OFLP's plan while protecting the existing one.



Figure 2: AR site at Waliin Jirra-Airport 1 at Alle district

5.4.1.5 Re-Appearance of wildlife

Due to the increased forest cover and habitat creation thereof, wildlife such as monkey, baboon and pig re-appeared (e.g. Lalistu Coop in Hidhesa district) after long year of away from the area. The community hoped for the lost lion to come back to its home. However, there were prudent community members who have concern of the adverse impacts of the re-appeared wildlife such as crop damage.

5.4.1.6 Generate income

The OFLP enabled some of the Woredas to generate income from sales of grasses (figure 3A), fattening (figure 3B) and beekeeping (figure 3C). Jeldu and Bedele Woredas are generating income from beekeeping while Jeldu additionally benefited from the sheep fattening and sales of grasses. However, the rest of the district with AR sites that have ample grasses in their respective sites have no market for their grasses or unable to implement animal husbandry due to lack of capital.

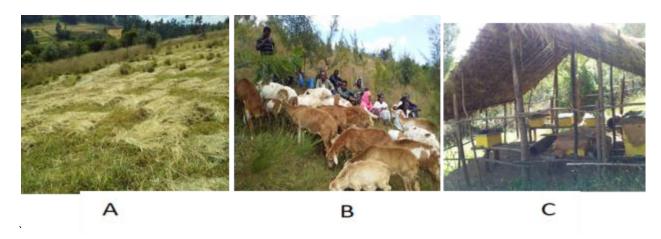


Figure 3: Grasses mowed for sale (A), sheep fattening (B) and beekeeping(C) in Jeldu district

5.4.1.7 Commitment of members to minimize forest dependence

Community members who are engaged in sub-project activities requested support of livelihood options from OFLP which could generally improve their living status and thus, avoid or at least minimize their dependence on forest. The proposed livelihoods options are in most cases similar in each of the site with slight differences in some of them depending on the potential resources they have. Some of the requested livelihood options need the engagement and support of other sectors. Table 5 summarizes the requested livelihood options.

Table 6: Livelihood options requested

					Distr	ict				
Livelihoods							Dire-			
options requested	Adaba	Adola	Alle	Becho	Bedele	Bore	Inchini	Dodola	Hidhesa	Jeldu
Soil and water										
conservation	٧									
Alternate energy										
sources-national										
grid, biogas, solar										
energy and fuel-										
wood efficient										
stove	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧	٧
	livestock,									
	sheep	cattle,			oxen and		Oxen &		Sheep &	
Fattening	and goat	sheep	Cattle	Cattle	sheep	Oxen	sheep		oxen	
Dairy farm				٧	Improved				Improved	
					Modern+					
		modern &			technical	Modern &	Modern &			
Bee-husbandry	Modern	traditional	Modern	Modern	support	traditional	traditional		Modern	
Poultry farming	٧	٧		٧	٧	٧				
Nursery running-										
supply seedling for										
market and own										
planting	٧									
Awareness										
creation	V									
Water pump-for										
fruit production	٧				٧					
Family planning-										
this was										
commented by										
women	٧									
New land for AR		٧								
Modernize the										
farming system		٧							٧	
Tourism and										
hospitality		٧								
Credit for petty										
trading		٧	٧				٧		٧	٧
Income from										
carbon sells			٧							
Coffee farming,										
improved variety			٧						٧	
Potable water										
access creation				٧						

		District										
Livelihoods							Dire-					
options requested	Adaba	Adola	Alle	Becho	Bedele	Bore	Inchini	Dodola	Hidhesa	Jeldu		
Mobile saw mill for												
then				٧								
Fruit trees, of												
improved varieties	٧				٧		٧		٧	٧		
Vegetable	٧						٧	٧	٧	٧		
Access road to AR												
site						٧						
Forage seed,												
improved variety									٧			

5.4.1.8 Enhanced involvement and benefits to vulnerable groups

Though there is no special support to the VG, women were reported of involving in different activities of the sub-projects such as nursery sites, livestock fattening, AR and using of fuel-saving stoves. All the activities are positively contributing to the livelihoods of the VG. Discussants have indicated that use of fuel-saving stoves is more important to them as it has multiple impacts which include reduction of dependence on forest for firewood, reduced expenditure for fuel wood, reduced time for fuel-wood collection and improved health from reduced indoor pollution from smoke.

Organized youth were also reported of being engaged in project/sub-project activities and thus, are benefiting through holding the use right of the communal land in the project area where they take care of the seedlings planted, carry out beekeeping, sheep and oxen fattening by using the grass from the sites. The elderly people are also being involving in different trainings, committee members of the grievance (exercising their authority) and benefiting from project/sub-project activities through cut-and-carry of grass for livestock.

5.4.1.9 Attitudinal change towards conservation and rehabilitation

The project/sub-project enabled of contributing to the attitudinal changes of the community towards conserving and rehabilitating degraded lands and maintaining of landscapes. These have subsequently resulted in reduced deforestation & degradation of existing forest where they contributed to reduced carbon emissions. The regrowth of vegetation including the planted

trees in some of the project areas reduced soil erosion and increased infiltration which this is reported of contributing for the re-emergence of collapsed springs (section 5.4.1.2).

5.4.2 Adverse impacts

5.4.2.1 Impact shifted

It was reported that access restriction in some of the PFM sites induced shift of pressure of deforestation from the interventions to non-intervention sites. The case was being reported in all of the sites with Dire-Inchini district overwhelmingly concerned with this as impact was already shifted from Bola-Roge and Roge-Dega forests to Togo, Roja and Meden forests.

5.4.2.2 Wildlife - human conflict

In all the sites, there are concerns when the planation size increases both in extent of coverage and in height to fully harbor more number of a wildlife as well as species, wildlife dwell on their crops in addition attack to livestock and human. Hidhesa and Bedele Woredas already reported wildlife-human conflict (note: not human-wildlife conflict) with Adola-Woyu district having the idea of turning the threat from the wildlife to opportunity through tourism hunting.

5.4.2.3 High expectation from carbon credit

Project/sub-project instigated community members to have high expectation of income from the carbon credit at Woredas such as Alle, Dire-Inchini, Adola and Bore.

Community members should be given awareness with more emphasize on the immediate benefits obtained from the forest (such micro-climate modification as in the case of Hidhesa and Bedele; spring-water re-emergence as in the case of Hidhesa, Dire-Inchini and Adola-Woyu; cut-and-carry grass as in the case of Jeldu, Adola-Woyu; beekeeping in the AR site as in the case of Jeldu) in addition to the real benefit accrued from carbon credit. It is imperative to culminate the high expectation from carbon credit as soon as possible.

5.4.2.4 Soil erosion

Very slight soil erosion in areas where sites cleared for AR plantations were indicated by discussants and interviewees which this was naturally harnessed with the regrowth of vegetation such as grasses. However, very serious soil erosion in all the land-use types including

plantations as well as natural forests was reported from Adaba district. The attempt made by the FARM Africa and SOS-Sahel Ethiopia through conservation measures to harness the problem has contributed a lot but not solved it yet as the problem is so immense as indicated. Communities currently have about hundred thousand birr they contributed but found too small to solve the problem. Thus, community called upon all concerned organizations including government to join their effort through support of materials and finance in solving the challenge.

5.4.2.5 Access restriction

Airport I AR site in Alle district, Gara Robele in Adola district, Tokuma Kabeto in Becho district and AR Site II in Hidhesa district were established on communal land where the sites were used to provide forest and non- forest products, open access grazing for livestock as well as road crossing them to go from and to the villages. The project/sub-project induced access restriction to the resources utilization, free ride livestock grazing and also prevented access road through them. Communities, however, resolved access restriction to resources through shifting fuel-wood collection site to other site (which actually is an impact shift from one to the other site, section 5.4.2.1), having alternate site (non-AR site) for grazing & allocating own plot for grazing as well as cut-and-carry to the animals while providing alternate road for the access road restriction.

5.4.3 Enhancing the positive and mitigating the adverse environmental and social impacts

Implementations of the OFLP REDD+ sub-projects, RIP and the two REDD+ legacy projects have brought both positive and adverse impacts. It thus, needs to enhance the positive impacts while it is important to prevent or at least minimize the adverse impacts. The following sub-sections discuss how to enhance the positive and address the adverse impacts thereof.

5.4.3.1 Enhancing the positive impacts

5.4.3.1.1 Improved precipitation

Improved precipitation could be the result of AR and/or PFM that will have multifaceted impacts on environment and socio-economic aspects of the community. While the direct and indirect impacts of enhanced precipitation needs in-depth studies, cooling effect is the benefit community enjoyed according to the evidence they provided. Thus, it is of high importance the

project and sub-projects keep planting tree species to bring more magnificent impact than it is perceived now. It would be good if the species is of indigenous one or at least proportionally high in coverage.

5.4.3.1.2 Re-appearance of spring-waters

Re-appearances of dried springs would be a great celebrate for the local community because its socio-economic impact, especially for children and women is high as it save time of fetching and reduce risk of going distance in search of water for the family. Protecting and developing the emerged springs are key for the local community while planting more acreage with selected tree species ensures the sustainability of the springs.

5.4.3.1.3 Reduced fire incidences

Deliberate setting of fire for farmland management tolled forests of the area and assets of the community which now community got restive from it due to the cease of the incidence. This is attributed to the enhanced awareness of the community due to the training and awareness creation given to them by projects and sub-projects. Thus, it is recommended community members to establish fire control brigade, get training on fire control, construct fire-break around the AR and PFM sites and provided with fire suppression materials. The training and material requirements for this is presented in section 6.

5.4.3.1.4 Increased forest cover

Increased forest cover provides multiple opportunities for the community of which non-forest product (NTFP). While planting more areas with diverse tree species of environmental and/or commercial values ensures the perpetuity of the already created/planted forest cover, it is crucial to mix food value trees such as mango, avocado and others.

5.4.3.1.5 Re-Appearance of wildlife

Re-appearance of wildlife attributed to the increase in the forest cover of the respective areas reported the same. Maintaining wildlife needs protecting their habitats in addition to planting more acreage of trees. Wildlife could be the source of income through tourism development which needs working in collaboration with competing agencies such as Wildlife Authority as well as Culture and Tourism Office.

5.4.3.1.6 Generate income

The project and sub-project enabled the community to generate income which in turn will enable them to create asset if sustainability linked to market or add value to the created value (fattening instead of selling grasses). Thus, sustaining the created opportunity through value addition and market link creation is important. Also important to consider is enhancing the entrepreneurship capacity of the community (section 6) and addressing the livelihoods options they proposed believing it enables them generate income and reduce their dependence on the forest as per their request presented in section 5.4.1.7.

5.4.3.1.7 Commitment of members to minimize forest dependence

Community members were observed of having commitment in reducing their dependence on forest when provided by the livelihood options they proposed to be supported with. It is important to minimize community forest dependence as it offers mutual benefit to both the forest and community. Forests get relief from being deforested & degraded while communities health improve from use of alternate sources of energy (clean energy) or at least minimized wood amount which mean reduced indoor smoke pollution. The advantage of decreased forest dependence for children and women is high as it gives opportunity of reduced time of wood collection for fuel. Thus, it is of paramount importance to avail livelihood options which they requested could help them minimize their dependence on forest (section 5.4.1.7). Before offering the support, it is important to make thorough assessment of the feasibility of the proposed livelihood options in the case presented with business in intention than direct support. In such cases, injecting of revolving fund is important to make their livelihoods options/businesses sustainable.

5.4.3.1.8 Enhanced involvement and benefits to vulnerable groups

Vulnerable group needs attention even when they are considered for participation and included for benefit getting. Projects and sub-projects enabled vulnerable groups participate in all activities at all phases of the projects and sub-projects and hence, made them enjoy the benefits from such activities which include animal husbandry, beekeeping. It is important to sustain what is achieved while increasing the number of participants of the vulnerable group and diversifying activities which offer benefit to them is important.

5.4.3.1.9 Attitudinal change towards conservation and rehabilitation

Community members witnessed they have changed their attitude towards conserving and rehabilitating natural resources which change in attitude is one of the key factors to bring change and transform any society. Sustaining awareness creation on nature conservation and rehabilitation is thus, so important while inculcating new areas of awareness creation such as integrating business into nature (section 6 training on entrepreneurship).

5.4.3.2 Mitigation of the adverse impacts

5.4.3.2.1 Impact shifted

In REDD+ project/sub-project implementation, impact shift from REDD+ intervention to non-intervention areas is referred as leakage which must be harnessed. Shift in impact could be due to access restriction to fuel-wood or construction wood or forest use as source of income as means of livelihood in intervention area though it needs in-depth assessment to know the exact causes of to prevent or to the least minimize the problem.

5.4.3.2.2 Wildlife - human conflict

Increase in forest cover creates habitat where disappeared wildlife reoccupy the habitat. The reappeared wildlife attack crops, livestock and human inducing wildlife-human conflict. It is important to turn the threat from wildlife to opportunity through tourism development. Compensating for damaged property can mitigate the impacts from the wildlife.

5.4.3.2.3 High expectation from carbon credit

Inadequate information on the issue and/or heightening expectation to win the community could rise the expectation of the community with respect to benefit from carbon credit. Thus, it is important to subdue the expectation through providing adequate and proper information, enhance awareness of community through training and awareness creation the benefits of forest in addition to carbon benefit.

5.4.3.2.4 Soil erosion

Wide spacing between trees depending on the species canopy open could prevent soil erosion at the early phase of the AR site establishment. Combining of biological measures with physical measures depending on the slope of the site is key to tackle soil erosion. The serious soil erosion incidence reported from Adaba district requires prompt response to the call of the community.

5.4.3.2.5 Access restriction

Project and sub-project activities induced access restriction to resources, livestock grazing and road. Access restriction to resource should be resolved through availing substitutions for the access denied resource (e.g. alternate energy sources for fuel-wood, metal/blocks for construction wood, fodder for livestock grazing) and open alternate road for access.

5.5 Consultations and participation

Consultations and participations (C&P) ensure the successful takeoff and effective implementation of REDD+ sub-projects. For this, ORCU and its variants at different levels had conducted consultations and participations with stakeholders. Government, non-government and communities members (such as vulnerable groups-forest dependents, disadvantaged groups-youth, women, elders) at local level were engaged in the C&P activities on safeguards tools, land soliciting, AR plantation, forest inventory and management plan preparation, PFM establishment, nursery establishment and grievance management and overall implementation of the sub-projects. Consultations and participations engagements were conducted using the language communities understand in the areas (Afaan Oromo) in the form of workshops/meetings and trainings which may be relevant and appropriate at the local level when compared to other methods such as campaign, print-out and electronics. The total numbers of stakeholders engaged in C&P were 3700 of which 3374 were males and the rest females. The low number of females participants in the consultation and participation is to do with the low number of female household heads in sampled study areas as well as culture of being represented by males in public areas.

During C&P engagement, stakeholders posed different questions (such as what benefits the sub-project accrues them and what impacts it induces) and was learnt that their concerns as well as heir inputs were captured as indicated by the discussants and interviewees to be addressed by the sub-project and/or program at higher level. As evidence, minutes of consultation (figure 4A), name and signature of attendants (figure 4B), and photo of participants (figure 4C) from Alle woreda are shown below.



Figure 4: Minutes of consultation (A), name and signature of attendants (B) and photo of participants (C) in Alle Woreda

5.6 Special support to the vulnerable group

Though there is no law or policy in Ethiopia which prompt special support for the vulnerable group, the safeguard tools of OFLP and The World Bank OP (4.12) emphasize the need for special support to them. While it is so, all community members are equally invited to join the different activities of project/sub-project (such as CBO establishment, consultation, participation and engagement and benefit sharing) and are being treated similarly across the board and hence, there is no special support rendered to the vulnerable group. However, the report has presented the participation and benefits vulnerable groups got from the project/ sub-projects in section 5.4.1.8, the decision made to let forest dwellers continue to live in the forest without expanding their holdings in section 5.19.2.

It is important to obey what are stated in the safeguard tools and the Bank's OP with respect to the support to the vulnerable group as distinct from the other community members.

5.7 Gender analysis

Article 34 and 35 of FDRE constitution state that the need for women participation and empowerment while REDD+/OFLP policy is determined to mainstreaming gender in its project/sub-project initiatives. In line with this, OFLP has targeted the establishment of one CBO in 7000 villages throughout Oromia with a minimum of one female and one youth representatives in each CBO. Accordingly, there is a minimum of one female representative in each of the sample Woreda. So far, four thousand five hundred forty (4540) CBOs were established and thus, a minimum of 4540 females are found working with the CBOs at different

capacity. RIP and the two legacy REDD+ projects do not have their own CBO and thus utilize that established by OFLP.

OFLP's commitment to ensure gender equality is a lesson that similar programs or others from the country or otherwise can get experience to ensure gender equality through mainstreaming in development initiatives.

5.8 Documentation and information dissemination

The REDD+ policy on documentation and information dissemination requests public availability and accessibility of publicly disclosed documents. Accordingly, the safeguard tools and other REDD+ relevant documents of OFLP are centrally availed and accessed from the National REDD+ website (https://ethiopiareddplus.gov.et/about-redd/). At local level, REDD+ safeguard tools and relevant documents were observed of archived in hard and soft copies on computer and smart phones. Information is being disseminated through training and awareness creation while materials are being shared mainly in soft copy (particularly cell-phone). Hard copy dissemination of the documents was impaired due to stationery problem for printing or copying them.

It is important to avail hard copies of the safeguard tools and others REDD+ relevant documents in each of the office of the implementing partners to enable focal persons read. The materials must be put at central area of the implementing partner office where current focal person or his/her successor or any interested person access all the time.

5.9 Implementing institutions, safeguards capacity & commitment and implementation effectiveness

5.9.1 Institutional arrangement

As a strategic multi-sectoral government program utilizing diverse financing sources and partner support, OFLP's institutional arrangement is based on the following basic ideas: (a) the institutional setup relies on existing federal and state government structures; (b) clear institutional roles, responsibilities, and procedures based on institutional mandates; (c) multi-sectoral coordination on planning and implementing related projects, activities, and policies critical for the OFLP's success; and (d) Coordinating and leveraging selected associated initiatives (financed by the WBG and/or others).

The OFLP implementation arrangements, led in Oromia National Regional State by the Oromia Forest, Environment and Climate Change Authority (OEFCCA) include relevant institutions at the regional and zonal and woreda levels with specific accountabilities and decision-making roles based on existing mandates. While Oromia REDD Coordination Unit (ORCU) reports administratively to the OEFCCA, the Authority mandated to oversee the forest sector in Oromia, it seeks strategic and tactical guidance from the Oromia Regional State Vice President, given the multi-sector nature of OFLP and land use challenges in the regional state.

ORCU is supported by the National REDD+ Secretariat, and the regional state's multi-sector REDD+ Steering Committee and Technical Working Group which provide strategic guidance and technical inputs, respectively, to guide OFLP implementation. The OEFCCA and sector bureaus including the Bureau of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BoANR), Bureau of Water, Minerals and Energy (BoWME), Bureau of Rural Land Administration and Use (BoRLAU) and Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE) implement and coordinate activities on the ground through their decentralized staff.

OEFCCA, BoANR, and BoRLAU have field staff, woreda experts, and kebele development agents (DAs) who cover forest, agriculture, water, and household energy. Unlike other sector Bureaus, OFWE does not follow the zonal and woreda structure and instead follows its own district structure based on its forest concessions.

OFLP's safeguards coordinators placed at Cluster or Zonal level to oversee the safeguards work of the OFLP woreda coordinators and to ensure that environmental and social safeguards are implemented according to the OFLP environmental and social safeguards instruments.

The OFLP project appraisal document (PAD) offers a long list of key stakeholders, with a wide range of experience, organizational capacity, focus areas, and legal mandates, community, non-governmental organization (such as FARM AFRICA and SOS Sahel) and government structures from the federal to the kebele levels. The coordinated efforts of all of this made the current institutional arrangement of OFLP acceptable and have good start.

As observed during the field work and consultation, sometimes individual institutional interests override that of a collective responsibility. Some of the main challenges include weak multi-

sector coordination, overlapping mandates, inadequate staffing and high turnover especially at woreda level.

Thus, it is recommended that higher level discussion is required to have focused on common vision than individuals, clear the overlapping mandate, procure the required human resource as per the structure of each institution and maintain the procured human resource(through training on human resource management and administration, section 6).

5.9.2 Safeguards capacity and commitment

Owing to the high potential of the forest in the region, experts consulted during the field visits complain that there is not enough and qualified human resource, in terms of number and mix of expertise coupled with high turnover created problem to manage the safeguard issues, facilitate, coordinate and monitor the OFLP activities.

Experts acknowledge that there is lack of resources to ensure the development of afforestation and reforestation (A/R), assisted natural regeneration (ANR) and protection/conservation of the natural forest. These include human resources, particularly experts on environmental and social safeguards, forestry and natural resources management, logistics such as vehicle, motorbike, office and office facilities, stationery materials and others to effectively run the day to day operational activities of the of OFLP.

Moreover, lack of commitment and support from some of government officials and experts for the implementation of safeguard instruments before or during the execution of OFLP activities. For instance, the safeguard coordinator at Guji cluster expected to cover three administrative zones (namely West Guji, Guji and Borena); and each zone covers several woredas coupled with logistical problem and lack of support affects the effective implementation and monitoring the safeguard operational activities of the program. OFLP coordination office at the cluster and woreda levels recognize that they are not giving the support required to the cooperatives at kebele (local level) and this is primarily because of lack of budget, logistics and expertise.

Each OFLP woreda coordinators are expected to cover 5 to 6 woredas and each woreda faced a lot of challenges like staff turnover, mandate over lapping of forestry institutions, late budget transfer from ORCU, lack of budget for awareness creation and mobilization at each operational

woredas and absence of logistics (such as vehicles), office facilities (such as computer, office furniture and stationary).

Thus, it is recommended to:

- Procure human resource as per the structure of the OFLP for the time being (section 5.10.1) and develop new structure that bears the effective implementation of the project/sub-project. Each Woreda for instance revealed to have full-fledged capacity than remotely coordinated by cluster.
- Offer training oh human resource management and administration (section 5.10.1)
 to control staff turn-over
- Discuss at higher level to have clear and non-overlapping mandate by enacting new law/proclamation
- ORCU to plan activities that exactly suits available budget, physical and human resource
- Procure resource as proposed in this report (section 5.10.2)

5.9.3 Implementations and effectiveness

The OFLP's program implementation in the region is led by Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authority (OEFCCA). OEFCCA has the mandate to administer the forest sector in Oromia. OEFCCA is responsible for policy development and enforcement related to forest development; utilization and management of government, private and community forest (excluding farmland trees which falls under BOA); providing expert advice for forest expansion including on topics such as biodiversity conservation, afforestation/reforestation, and forest-related carbon measurement; coordination of REDD+ activities and projects in the regional state; ensuring environmental integrity; and planning and managing core government budget on forest throughout Oromia.

Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE) is a key implementing partner in OFLP owing to its experience with implementing PFM, managing plantations, and managing large concessions where the carbon-rich high forest and deforestation hotspots are located. Moreover, given its dual public and private mandates, OFWE cultivates private sector relationships, which will play an important part in sustaining activities that contribute to the objectives of the OFLP.

The regional state's multi-sector REDD+ steering committee and technical working group provide strategic guidance and technical inputs, respectively, to OFLPs' safeguards implementation. OEFCCA and sector bureaus including BoA, OFWE and Bureau of Rural Land (BoRL) implement and coordinate activities on-the-ground through their decentralized staffs. In the joint annual work program and budget a memorandum of understanding (MoU) is developed among the Oromia institutions to articulate the accountabilities. However, multi-sectoral coordination at woreda level is weak.

Thus, it is recommended to reassess how to establish effective collaboration system including reporting system at grass root level

5.10 Environmental and social safeguards capacity building

5.10.1 Training and awareness creation

Capacity building is a key to the success of the OFLP REDD+, RIP and the two REDD+ legacies which can be perceived from fulfilling the human capacity needed as per the structure of the organization, training of the existing experts, training of community members and partners. Human resource requirement at Woreda level is reported high and diverse, especially for OFLP REDD sub-project. For instance, the OFLP REDD+ Woreda coordinator is responsible to manage REDD+ activities of 5 Woredas in hot-spot and 13 in non-hot spot Woredas. Shortage of experts on safeguard, forest, socio-economic, GIS and finance were also reported as constraint to effectively implement the activities of project/sub-project. RIP has expert on socio-economic, forest and finance per Woreda for the forty intervention Woredas it has and thus, is relatively well staffed compared to OFLP REDD+. Staffing requirements of the project/sub-project is presented in table 6. In Oromia, there are 287 Woredas which the staffing requirement for the region is extrapolated from that of the sample Woredas.

Table 7: Staffing (hiring) requirement

District			Types and nu	mber of experts requ	ired	
	Safeguards expert	Forest expert	Woreda coordinator	Socio-economic expert	GIS expert	Accountant
Adaba	1	1	1	1		

District			Types and nu	mber of experts requ	iired	
	Safeguards	Forest	Woreda	GIS expert	Accountant	
	expert	pert expert co		expert		
Adola	la 1 1		1	1	1	1
Ale	1	1		1	1	1
Becho	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bedele	1	1		1	1	
Bore	1	1		1	1	1
Dire	1				1	
Inchini						
Dodola	1	1		1	1	1
Dhedhesa	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jeldu	1				1	
Total	10 8 4		4	8	10	7

Capacity building for the experts was assessed and the result indicated there is a need to train them on the area of BSP, integrated pest management, GRM, gender mainstreaming, CBO establishment, livelihood options and M&E system. The training needs report of sample Woredas are almost the same for each of the requested training types (table 7). The training capacity of the region can be extrapolated from the sample Woredas presented.

Table 8: Training for experts

District				Title of the tra	ining and num	ber of trainers	S		
	BSP	Integrated pest management	GRM	Gender mainstrea	CBO establishme	Livelihood options	GIS	Human resource management &	M&E system
		plan		ming	nt			administration	
Adaba	7		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Adola	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ale	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Becho	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Bedele	6		6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Bore	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dire	7		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Inchini									
Dodola	7		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Dhedhesa	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Jeldu	7		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Total	64	30	64	64	64	64	64	64	64

Safeguard tools and REDD+ related document as well as The World Bank documents stress the need to train and enhance the awareness of the community on various issues such as alternate energy sources, health care and safety precautions and pest management among the others for the REDD+ to become successful. Accordingly, training and awareness creation of community members on first aid, tree planting & management, GRM, livelihood option, integrated pest management, fire management and VG participation & engagement is proposed as illustrated in table 8.

Table 9: Community training

			Title	of the training and	number of train	ers		
District	First aid	Tree planting & management	GRM	Entrepreneurship (livelihood option)	Integrated pest management	Fire management	VG participation & engagement	
Adaba	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Adola	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Ale	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Becho	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Bedele	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Bore	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Dire Inchini	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Dodola	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Dhedhesa	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Jeldu	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Total	40 40		40	40	40	40	40	

5.10.2 Resource requirement

Resource shortage and/or absence were indicated as one of the factors that affected the implementation of project/sub-project (section 5.3.1 and 5.18.1). List of resources required by each district for office facility, field tools and equipment and transport facility is presented in table 10. The prices of the materials were accessed online for each.

Table 10: Resource requirement by District ORCU offices

							antity	by dist	rict					Price (bir	r)
#	Description	Unit	Adaba	Adola	Alle	Becho	Bedele	Bore	Dire- Inchini	Dodola	Hidhesa	Jeldu	Total	Unit	Total
1	Office facility														
	Laptop	No.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	30,000	300,000
	Desktop	No.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	15,000	150,000
	Printer with scanner and fax	No.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	25,000	250,000
	Stationery	Lamp sum											1	200,000	200,000
	Wifi network	No.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	5,000	50,000
	Solar panel	No.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	25,000	250,000
	Table and chair	Set	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	10,000	100,000
2	Field equipment														
	GPS	No.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	5,000	50,000
	First aid kit for	Set	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	20	750	15,000
	Rain coat	No.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	20	600	12,000
	Field shoes	No.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	20	450	9,000
	PPE for nursery	Person	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	200	1,200	240,000
3	Transport facility														
	Motor bike	No.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	50,000	500,000
	Total														2,118,500

Capacity building of stakeholders with respect to tools and equipment was described in safeguard tools. Fire-extinguisher, inventory equipment and forest management tools are among the few indicated there. Table 12 presents tools community members need for managing planation or forest.

Table 11: Resource requirement for community

					Qua	ntity	by dis	trict					Price	e (birr)	
Description	Unit	Adaba	Adola	Alle	Becho	Bedele	Bore	Dire- Inchini	Dodola	Hidhesa	Jeldu	Total	Unit	Total	Remark
Pick ax		50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	500	250	125,000	25 per
Spade		12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	120	160	19,200	6 per site
Mow		12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	120	75	9,000	
Pruning shear	No.	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	100	430	43,000	5 per site
First aid kit	set	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	80	750	60,000	4 per site
Compass	No.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	20	1,100	22,000	
Measuring Tape	No	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	20	530	10,600	
Fire extinguisher	No.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		1750	35,000	_
Grievance log-book	No	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	80	750	60,000	
Total														383,800	

5.11 Grievance Redressing Procedure

The project and sub-projects have established grievance handling procedure (figure 2) and grievance handling committee pulled from women, men, elders, religious institutions, youth and Abageda. Some Woredas focused on avoiding grievance than resolving (e.g. Derekesi Ho'i CBO in Becho district and Dire Inchini) and others have independent advisors from elders who do not constitute the grievance redressal committee (e.g. Turse Dubo Forest Cooperative in Alle district) while others have a mix of CBO and non-CBO members who are living in the same village of the cooperative as well as individuals from the neighborhood villages (e.g. Lalistu Cooperative in Hidhesa district). However, there is no good experience of resolving complaints arose from the non-members who claimed the AR site belonged to his forefathers now under the AR site of Abdi-Jiregna Cooperative in Bedele district. The grievance mechanism of the project/sub-project is made accessible once in a week in person during the working hours (mostly on Thursday) and in written anytime the grieved person feels convenient. An arrangement can be also made when a grieved person wanted to access the grievance committee as the members are from the local community and are known to one another. Availability and accessibility methods of the system were made to the community through training on GRM and communication during social gatherings.

Feedbacks have indicated that the established grievance system is accessible as shortly described above, is timely responding to the complaint in time bound given (e.g. access denial in 10 days), cost effective (no resolution cost, no travel and associated costs) and is transparent (clear procedure and agenda to address) which is an indication of the existence of functional grievance system in the sub-project areas.

Complaint presented to the grievance committee was recorded and documented for review to give resolution. A complaint that was not addressed or its resolution did not satisfy the griever was taken to the next level for resolution. The decision made at the higher level was made to be effected/ implemented at the local level. There was no delayed or pending complaint observed or reported but under process for resolution. Accepted, processed and resolved grievance case is hierarchically reported from the local to the regional levels.

Generally, the safeguard officers and focal persons at all sample woredas have the knowledge and trained on how to implement grievance redressing procedure. Similarly, community members almost in program implementing woredas/ site (Alle, Becho,Bedele,Dire-Inchini,Hidhesa and Jeldu) are also aware about the grievance redressing procedure and five of them (Adaba,Adola, Becho,Bore and Dodola)have complaint appeal form and only Becho has complaint logbook. Thus, this safeguard requirement is evaluated as partial comply.

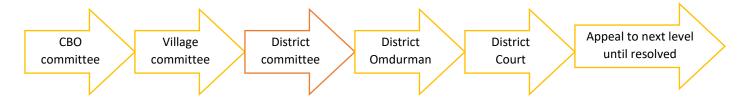


Figure 5: Hierarchy of GRM

Overall, it was observed that REDD+ grievance procedure has no mechanism for entertaining complaint with anonymity and confidentiality.

It is recommended that the GM has to have additional procedure to enable grievance acceptance for the grievers who want to maintain anonymity and confidentiality, train community members on modern GM to enhance their awareness and capacity (section 5.10.1) and avail grievance form and logbooks in areas lacking these.

5.12 Labor and working condition

Nursery workers interview and document reviewed ascertained that nursery workers are working for 8 hours a day and 48 hours a week which is in line with the national labor law. In addition, workers also confirmed that there is no forced labor, no discrimination and no verbal and/ or physical abuse in work places. On the other hand, workers are not provided with safety equipment (personal protective equipment, PPE) like glove boots and work cloth, no toilet and first aid kit observed in all nursery sites in the sample sites. Absences of PPE, sanitation facility and first aid kit have adverse impacts on the safety and health of the workers.

Regarding wage or salary, nursery workers are earning lower than the local industry wage and much lower than the living wage in the area. As illustration, nursery workers at Dedessa, Bedele, Adola and Bore woredas earn 35, 35, 32 and 50 ETB per day whereas the local industry wage for the same woredas were 60, 60, 55 and 50 ETB per day respectively). On top of this nursery workers at Bedele and Dedessa reported that they are not paid on time on a regular basis usually delayed up to 10 to 15 days.

5.13 Land acquisition procedure

The land donation by the community members and acquisition process by the project/subprojects have a defined procedure i.e. community consultation – minutes (figure 5A), Kebele and district environment office check the process and write letter for land administration office (figure 5B) and the land administration office in turn check the whole process and provide title deed or map for the coop (figure 5C). Applicants (be it from communal or private land) log-in the form prepared for voluntary land donation (VLD) along with their family members and/or reveal their consent in written, dully signed and declared it is not with external push that they engage in it (activities of the REDD+ Program). District Land Administration Office makes an inventory of the land (measures the size, identify the current land use type) at the presence of the local administration and community members. The result of the inventory and the verdict given is publicized to the village dwellers with the essence to bring an appeal in 10 days of time after the public disclosure of the issue in case there is complaint. Then consultation is made at village level where the findings of the consultation being sent along the produced documents (logged form, written and signed application) to the District Land Administration Office. District Land Administration Office re-assesses the field condition and issues title deed for the proposed subproject.

Members who want to leave the coop have the right to do so anytime. When the land of he/she who wants to leave the coop is found at the edge (border) of the sub-project site, this is easily done by deducting his/her contribution and issuing of new title deed. When the defaulter's land is found in the middle of the concession of the coop, this is done by exchange of land of equivalent type from elsewhere without compromising his/her benefit accrued from the previous land.

The land allocation procedure for the project/sub-project was observed of transparent and grievance encountered was addressed efficiently. A case in Hidhesa AR Site II is an exemplary one to present where a boundary dispute between the AR site and individual was presented to the CBO which then the case was taken to Woreda Land Administration and Use office for consideration. The Office made re-assessment and found the land of the complainer was

erroneously included in the boundary of the AR, it then issued new ownership maps for both the CBO and the complainer which both accepted the decision made and the grievance resolved.

It was indicated, however, that there are competitions among the different sectorial office with respect to having a particular land (one and the same land) for the use of their respective sectors. For instance, the REDD+ Program proposes a land for AR site while the Agriculture Office for crop production or the Pastoralist Office for pasture land and continues.

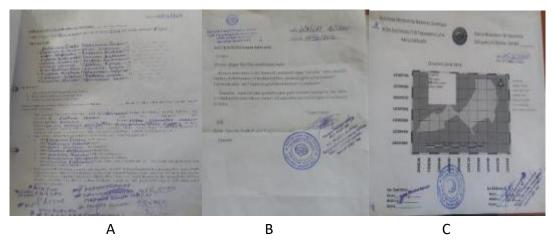


Figure 6: community consultation—minutes (A), Letter from environment office (B) and title deed or map (C) It is recommended OFLP REDD+, RIP, the two REDD+ legacy projects and the green legacy will adopt the World Bank VLD guideline to their context or prepare their own.

5.14 Green legacy

It was reported by the respective sites that the Green Legacy (GL) plantations were carried out by campaign without having safeguards tools and site-maps. The plantations were being carried on private land, communal land, river sides, sites prepared for AR (e.g. Bedele district) compounds of religious institutes and generally on open areas. There were no seedlings prepared for the purpose but taken from government nurseries (such as Environment, Agriculture and Forest Enterprise) and bought from private nurseries. The GL in West Guji Zone has encountered problem due to the non-coincidence of rainfall in the zone with the national schedule. There is a disparity in the acreage of what were reported by the officials and what really exist on the ground and is also though to know the exact acreage as they were reported by the higher officials of the district-experts on the area has no, if any is little, detail knowledge of what is going with the GL.

There is a hope in some Woredas where the district administrators have pledge to make inventory of the planted sites (Adola-Woyu, Becho, Bedele) and produce title-deed over it either to administrator or hand-over to the relevant body.

It is thus, recommended:

- To identify the location of the already planted sites of GL plantation and put under ORCU/RIP/two legacies REDD+ projects and/or community administration which qualify the definition of forest
- Adopt the existing REDD+ safeguard tools of OFLP for managing it
- In the forefront plantings, make GL plantation continuum with known sources of seedlings for ease of management

5.15 Security situation

There were security problems in some of the Woredas which reported at least delayed the activities of the project/sub-projector urged to move the sub-project activities to other sites. The followings were noted from the field works:

- Two (2) PFM sites being implemented by OFWE at Suke-Kuto and Hangadhi in Shakiso
 District moved to Sora district
- Two (2) AR sites in Shakiso district at Suke-Kuto and Hangadhi in Shakiso District moved to Sora District. Seedlings transported to Sora District were planted on the sub-projects sites and the extra seedlings were given to Telecommunication Office for planting as Green Legacy
- In 2019 the Wadera Woreda planned to provide E&S safeguard consultation for 266 households at 4 Kebele. Due to security problem community consultation and PFM delineation in the Woreda were delay
- Minor security cases prevailed which did not affect the activities of the sub-projects but subjected to delay as revealed by Bedele District REDD+ Program office
- In Bore District, the AR site in Denebo Gunguna Ganda/Kebele was moved from where to new site within the district
- There was delay in survival count plan in Sora District due to security challenge.
- Temporary delay in Digo and Chalo villages encountered in Hidhesa district.

Security issues also a problem in Western part of the region including Kellam and West
Wollega where its implications were observed in the delay of local community
consultations, proper preparation and implementations site specific safeguards
instruments including GRM establishments and strengthening.

5.16Site visits

5.16.1 Species-site-match problem

It was observed there are species—site match problems in the AR sites explained by the death of seedlings as revealed by the wide vacant spaces between the survived samplings, dying of samplings (figure 6) and under-performed growth. This may be unnecessary investment from the cost-wise while it poses difficulty in managing only few surviving trees from the forest management aspect.



Figure 7: Dead and dying saplings at Gepa AR site, Hidhesa district

5.16.2 Mix of species in plantation

It was observed that different tree species (such as pinus, cupressues, acacia) that need different management practices and attain their gestation periods at different years were planted together (figure 8) in Buche Kelecha AR site of Bore district.

Close expert supervision and technical support to the community members engaged in the subproject activities are necessary to prevent upcoming mix of different species plantations at a site.



Figure 8: Mixed planation in Buche Kelecha AR site, Bore district

5.16.3 Dependence on exotic species

The species planted in almost all the OFLP, Bale REDD+ and Ilu-Ababor are *Cupuresses lustanica*, *Grevillea robusa*, *Eucalyptus cammendulesis*, *Pinus patuala and Pinus radiata*. The beneficiaries perceived the immediate benefit of the species (economic, social and environmental) accrued from their fast growing-ness as well as biomass productivity. For instance, communities were mentioning the species will bring them economic benefit in a less than of ten (10) years from sales of the trees as they have already experience from their neighborhoods prior to the launches of OFLP. The social benefits perceived are the use of the trees for domestic purpose such as fuel-wood, farm tools and others while the environmental benefits perceived are harnessing of erosion problems and land degradation.

However, the continuous plantations of exotic species plantations over a large tract of lands throughout the sub-project areas could have impacts on the indigenous tree species. There are reports the species used in the program/project area are invasive to Africa including Ethiopia (Chenje, 2006 in: OFLP, 2017).

The species used in AR are also do not open canopy soon and hence, do not enhance undergrowth and regeneration.

• It is recommended to opt for indigenous species for use in the AR sites.

 Wide spacing when planting the exotic species currently under use enables vegetation growth underneath.

5.16.4 Less understanding of the nature of the planted species

It was observed communities that planted non-flowering tree species such as Pinus and Cupressus (e.g. Buche Kelecha CBO in Bore district figure 9) are expecting the species bear flowers (nectar and pollen) to be used for beekeeping. It is thus, required to train community on the different function of the planted tree species with particulars on exotic species (section 5.10.1).



Figure 9: Buche Kelecha CBO AR site Bore district

5.16.5 Poly-bag management problem

Some nurseries were observed of being openly disposing poly-bag wastes (figure 10) which could pose risk to the soil. There were sites also that did not collect the poly-bags after planting the seedlings in the sites this which interferes with the growth of the seedlings while at the same time pose risk to the soil at it does not decompose easily. There are also sites which managed poly-bags removed from the planted seedling by burning (e.g. Hidhessa) which is not a recommended way of managing plastics due to health and environmental concerns. Thus, it is recommended community members be trained on plastic waste management.



Figure 10: Poly-bag open disposal at Anferara nursery, Adola-Woyu district

5.16.6 Weeds problem

Some of the plantation sites were not weeded and hence, weeds were observed of competing with the growth of the plantations for nutrient and moisture resources. Other than competing with the species, for resources, the weeds could harbor pests which could attack the planted species. Lack of time for weeding as well as deliberate allowance to have ground cover in the sites was mentioned as reasons for the presence of weeds in the observed sites.

Training of community on tree planting and management with focus on adverse impacts of weeds is important to enable them timely weed for the multiple function of the purpose.

5.17 Challenges

5.17.1 Cooperative establishment and restructuring of the existing ones

Challenge of interpreting of the Oromia and Federal Cooperative establishment proc. 985/2016. The proclamation stipulates no two similar cooperatives established at the same area. Thus, Cooperative Offices at the district level found difficulty in establishing two and more AR sites in the same area while there are demands from the community.

It sounds there is different interest in the implementing partner office such as OFWE as well as the members of the WaJiB itself in re-structuring WaJiB to suit the needs and demands of the current community members in addition to the prevailing forest conservation approach (carbon trading) as to oppose the utilization. It was learnt that ORCU is awaited by rigorous challenges from the members of WaJiB and stakeholders. Restructuring of WaJiB needs repealing of the old proclamation and enacting of new one and updating of the bylaw of the WaJiB as well.

It is, therefore, recommended to:

- have clear interpretation of proc. 985/2016 from the government law interpretation office
- make timely smooth discussion both at local and higher levels to restructure WaJiB

5.17.2 Planting of coffee in natural forest

Now days, there is misconception that coffee is inherently an agroforestry practice and hence no problem of planting it in natural forest where it does not occur naturally or even planting with the improved cultivars where it naturally is occurring. This, indeed, is not a misconception but an act to encroach forest by the name of agroforestry from the investment side. Adaba, Dodola and Bedele have shown their due concern over the challenges of planting coffee in the natural forests.

Early discussion with political decision makers at higher level is so imperative than attempting through law enforcement as this is a deliberate act from government to encourage investment.

5.17.3 Unsatisfied demand

Within the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy project/sub-project, e.g. AR sites, there are high demanded of seeds (e.g. Becho, Jeldu, Dire-Inchini) both in types (species) and quantity (volume) which were not supplied by the project/sub-project. Therefore, it is recommended:

- to supply seeds based on demand types and volume of community
- to supply seeds from the local sources to ensure better performance of the seedlings as well as plant-outs in addition to cost reduction.

5.17.4 Law enforcement

REDD+ implementation and success are influenced by externalities. of these externalities, stakeholders contribution, especially law enforcement is critical. At district level, it was reported that law enforcement was sometimes setback by individual and institutional level interests (e.g. per-diem and transport availing respectively) which is beyond the capacity of the project/sub-project to meet the demand due to absence of ear-tagged budget and transport facilities respectively.

There is a challenge from the court when natural resources, with particular reference to forest clearing, case presented in pursuant of getting fair judgment due to the following reasons.

- Judges considers the case only when the cleared forest has site map which this is not often
 practical as every parcel of forest land has no map
- The legal case is often taken of more subjective than objective. Thus, interpretation lies in the hands of the judge. For instance, it was indicated tree species other than restricted by decree not to cut (such as Cordia, Hygenia, Podo, Juniperus) are not trees or essentially constituents of forest in the eyes of the judge. Thus, a litigant who was sued of clearing 11ha of forest was let to go free boasting in front of his plaintiffs-giving courage for more forest to clear. In favor of the judge who made the verdict, his boss changed the work place of the judge from Gechi to Hidhessa District.
- Witnesses are videoed and their words are simultaneously minuted when giving their when testifying the case but disparity between the two observed with the intention of flawing the verdict to the deforester and that was what happened in reality.
- Video record taken from the deforested site is not accepted as evidence by the court (even if coupled by individual witnesses)-they need live record of the incident which is often unpractical as the criminal is not doing this in behold of the recorded evidence.
- Even if the criminal is given the 'right' decision, he (because the criminals are all men) develops the sentiment that the deforested site is his property because he was penalized for it. Thus, after the criminal finishes his terms of custody/jail, the sub-project office begins a new battle with him.

However, there are supports from the district administrator to enforce the law rightly though not able to influence all the cases presented to the court.

To avert the challenge encountered from the law enforcement, it is recommended to:

- Push the natural resource sector in general has its law enforcement system
- Push higher officials make political decision to resolve the current high pressure the sector has experienced
- Enhance the awareness of the law enforcers to make them genuinely implement the law

5.17.5 High expectations by and from sectoral offices

REDD+ program has high expectations from the implementing sectoral partners for the implementation of some of the activities, especially the ESMPs activities. However, it seems the expectation remain in vain partly because there are problems of internalizing activities as their own offices and partly implementing the ESMPs needs resources which the sector offices themselves fall-short of the resources even for their own activities.

On the other hand, sectoral offices in all the Woredas have high expectation from the OFLP with respect to per-diem provision when engaged and requested to engage in the activities of the project/sub-projectas well as availing of transport facility for the field works. There is a misunderstanding of the OFLP as an NGO and/or even when perceived as a government program, it is fixed as multi-donor supported program with suffice resources to spill over to the sectoral offices resource constraints.

- Some of the expectation of the focal persons (from sectoral offices) such as per-diem
 payment and transport availing by the project/sub-project are valid when these are not
 provided by their respective sectoral offices. Hence, OFLP should assign budget within its
 system or in sectoral offices for the purpose from own source
- OFLP should make cost benefit analysis of ESMP mitigation measures implementations by sectoral offices respective experts (focal persons) vis-ă-vis hiring experts within OFLP with updated structure or organo-gram

5.18 Lessons learnt

There lessons learned from ongoing OLFP Grants, the two Legacy REDD+ Projects and REDD+ Investment Program (RIP) which should be up-scaled whenever possible or at the minimum maintained at status quo. These lessons are presented as following:

5.18.1 Enhanced awareness of the community

Community members were reported and observed of having some environmental and social awareness due to the trainings as well as information obtained attributed to the implementation of the projects and sub-projects in their areas. Most of those discussed with and/or interviewed were aware of the environmental and social benefits of protecting forest, the benefits of protecting forest especially for women and children (as excellently described by women discussants in Bore district), the awareness community have on first aid training and having first aid kit, The awareness of the community on the contribution of forests in creating good environment, rehabilitating degraded areas, and improving the micro-climate (e.g. Hidhessa. Alle, Adola) is owed to the trainings given as well as the practical learning from the implementation of projects and sub-projects.

The paradigm shift demand in use of energy type from bio-mass to national grid, bio-gas and solar gadgets is very important lessons attributed to the sub-projects implementation in the respective sites visited. Communities were asking immediate availability and catering of alternate energy sources. Project/sub p project beneficiaries have requested supply of fuel efficient gadgets such as Lakech, Gonze, etc. to economize fuel use and enable them save their forests.

5.18.2 Amicable living within the forest boundary

People whom they predecessors were living in the forest and themselves are currently living at the same places have concluded agreement and reached consensus with the government and PFM members to continue amicably living in the forest without dislocation. To mention example, the holdings of community members in Dire-Inchini District, residing in Bola Roge and Roge Dega Forest were measured and informed to amicably live with the forest just like their forefathers without expanding than what they hold now.

5.18.3 Grievance Redressal Mechanism

Some coops have devised mechanism which enable them to avoid or minimum grievance than addressing after it happened. Lalistu Cooperative in Hidhesa district has an exemplary clear grievance redressal procedure with unique grievance handling committee members. What makes unique is that its GRM committee is a mix of CBO members and non-CBO member individual residents of the same village, administrators as well as individual community members from the neighborhood villages in addition elders, religious institutes, women, men and youth representatives from within the village. The mix brought sense of belongingness to the project/sub-projects in addition to building trust among the CBO and non-CBO members.

5.18.4 Having motto for discharging lofty

There is high commitment of implementing the sub-project in some of the Woredas with their own motto to that end. The followings were captured during the field works:

- Nothing will stop us AR Site II Coop in Hidhesa district
- Do good or else do nothing Derekesi Ho'i CBO in Becho district.

Motto gives energy to the determination of the coop which should be replicated across the board in all the project/sub-project sites but with their own one.

6. Chapter 6: Environmental and social safeguards audit corrective action plan

Corrective actions for the identified gaps along the costs of rectifying & monitoring are presented in table 12. For cost calculation, the following assumptions made:

- For corrective action cost calculation, training and material cost were given in section 5.10.2 while other cost calculations were given within the table itself.
- Assumptions made for calculating monitoring cost: 3 persons for 15 days at a cost of 650 birr per day when this is at Woreda level while 850 when it is at zonal/regional level.

Table 12: Environmental and social safeguards audit corrective action plan, intervention and monitoring costs

#	Identified Environmental	Proposed Corrective	Implementation of Corrective Actions			Monitoring plan				
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
1	Gaps in implementing ESMPs									
1.1	Resource requirement by ORCU/RIP/Legacy REDD+	purchase of office and field equipment	Cluster / zone ORCU	2022 budget year 2 nd quarter	See section 5.10.2	Availability of resources	Once	Report, inventory	Regional ORCU	29,250
1.2	Resource requirement by community	Purchase of working equipment	OEFCCA	2022 budget year 2 nd quarter	See section 5.10.2	Resource availability	Once	Report, inventory	ORCU	-
2	Fire incidence	establish committee	OEFCCA	2022 budget year 2 nd quarter		No. of committee	Once	Report	ORCU	29,250
		Construct fire break	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 3 rd quarter	Community mobilization	physical presence	yearly	Inventory	Woreda ORCU	

#	Identified Environmental Proposed Corrective			tion of Corrective			Monitor	ing plan		
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
		procure fire extinguisher (20 pieces)	OEFCCA	2022 budget year 2 nd quarter	See section 5.10.2	physical presence	Once	Inventory	ORCU	
		Training	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 1 st quarter		No. of trainees	yearly	Report, on training check	Woreda ORCU	
3	Income generation	create market link for the asset created	OEFCCA	2022 budget year 2 nd quarter	3 prs* 2days*10 Woredas*8 50 birr= 51,000	Increased income	Once	Report, interview	ORCU	
	generation	value addition (fattening vs grass sell)	OEFCCA	2022 budget year 1st quarter	-	Presence of value added commodity	Yearly	Report, inventory, interview	Woreda ORCU	-
		Train on entrepreneurship	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 in 1st quarter	-	No. of trainees	Yearly	Report, on training check	Woreda ORCU	-
4	Impact shift	Identify the root cause of impact shift (Assessment by ORCU staff)	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 2nd quarter	5 prs* 6 days*1Wor edas*850bi rr + 4500 fuel cost = 30,000	Problem solved	Once	Report, assessment	ORCU	29,250
		Avail alternate source for wood use (fuel, construction)	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 and always	section 5.4.1.7	Presence of alternate	throughout the year	Report, assessment	Woreda ORCU	-
		Provide alternate livelihood options	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 and always	section 5.4.1.8	No of beneficiaries	throughout the year	Report, assessment	Woreda ORCU	-
5	High expectation from carbon credit	provide information on carbon credit	OEFCCA	Begins 2021 4 th quarter	-	Reduced no./absence of claimer	Once	Report, interview	Woreda ORCU	29,250
	credit	Enhance awareness through training	OEFCCA	Begins 2021 4 th quarter	-	No. of aware trainees	yearly	Interview	Woreda ORCU	-

#	Identified Environmental Proposed Corrective		<u>-</u>	tion of Corrective			Monitor	ing plan		
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
		Wide spacing when planting trees	OEFCCA	2 nd quarter	-	Physical presence of planted trees	yearly	Observation, measuring	Woreda ORCU	29,250
7	Soil erosion	Support community with finance, materials and technique		1st quarter 2022	300,000 (For Consultant to study extent of rehabilitati on from		Once, 1st	Report,		
			OEFCCA	budget year	erosion)	Support given	quarter	interview	ORCU	-
8	Access restriction	Avail alternate energy source for wood	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 and yearly	600,000	Presence of alternate	yearly	Report, interview	ORCU	29,250
9	Consultations and participation	Engage community in C&P	OEFCCA	Begins 2022 and yearly	-	No of Consultations	Yearly	Report	ORCU	29,250
10	Special support to the vulnerable group	Adapt The World Bank VLD guideline as commented by reviewer	OEFCCA	2022 budget year	4 prs* 15 days*850bi rr = 51,000	Presence of guideline	Once	Report,	ORCU	-
11	Gender analysis	Ensure gender equality	Woreda ORCU & OEFCCA	2022 budget year	,	Participation of women	Yearly	Report	Regional ORCU	-
13	Implementing institutions, safeguards capacity &	Create Awareness on REDD+ safeguards for government officials		·			,	·		
	commitment and implementation effectiveness	Bovernment ometals	Woreda ORCU & OFECCA	2022 budget year			Yearly	Report	Regional ORCU	-
14	Institutional arrangement	higher level discussion to have common vision	Regional ORCU & OEFCCA	2022 budget year	10 prs* 3 days*10 Woredas*8	Outcome of discussion	Yearly	Report	Regional ORCU	8,500

#	Identified Environmental	Proposed Corrective	-	tion of Corrective			Monito	ring plan		
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
					50birr + 255,000					
		clear the overlapping mandate	Regional OEFCCA	2022 budget year 2nd quarter	-	No mandate overlap	Once	Report, interview	Regional ORCU	-
		procure the required human resource as per the structure of each institution	Regional OEFCCA	2022 budget year 1 st quarter	-	New staff members	Once	Report, inventory	Regional ORCU	
		maintain the procured human resource	Woreda and Zonal OEFCCA	Begins 2022 and yearly	-	No or reduced staff turnover	Yearly	Report, inventory	Regional ORCU	-
		Procure human resource	Regional OEFCCA	2022 budget year 1 st quarter	-	New staff members	Once	Report, inventory	Regional ORCU	-
		Develop new structure	Regional OEFCCA	2022 budget year 1 st quarter	6 prs* 30 days*850bi rr= 153,000	Approved new structure	Once	Observation, new hire	Regional ORCU	29,250
15	Safeguards capacity and commitment	Offer training on human resource management & administration	Regional OEFCCA	Begins 2022 and yearly 1st quarter	-	New staff members	Yearly	Report,	ORCU	-
		Discuss at higher level to have clear and non-overlapping mandate	Regional OEFCCA	2022 budget year 1st quarter	_	No mandate overlap	Once	Report	ORCU	_
		Plan activities based on available resource	Regional ORCU	Begins 2022 & 1 st quarter	-	Plan fully implemented	Yearly	Report, assessment	OEFCCA	-
		Procure resource as proposed in this report	OEFCCA	2022 budget year & 1 st quarter	-	New staff members	Once	Report, observation	ORCU	-

#	Identified Environmental	Proposed Corrective	-	tion of Corrective			Monitor	ing plan		
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
16	Implementations and effectiveness	reassess how to establish effective collaboration system including reporting system at grass root level	OEFCCA	2022 budget year & 1 st quarter	5 prs* 2 days*10W oredas*85 0 birr = 85000	Presence of improved collaboration	Once	Report, interview	ORCU	29,250
17	Environmental and social safeguards capacity building	Offer training	Regional ORCU	Begins 2022 and 1st quarter	-	Trained personnel	Yearly	Report	OEFCCA	-
18	Training and awareness creation	Implement proposed training	Regional ORCU	Begins 2022 and 1 st quarter	-	Implemented training plan	Yearly	Report, on training check	OEFCCA	-
19	Resource requirement	Procure proposed resource	OEFCCA	2022 budget year	-	Procured resource	Once	Report, inventory	ORCU	-
20	Grievance	Provide grievance registration log-book	Woreda ORCU	2022 budget year	-	Issues recorded	Once	Presence of log- book	Zonal ORCU	-
	Redressing Procedure	Create awareness & training on GRM	Woreda ORCU	Begins 2022 and 1 st quarter		No. of trainees aware	Yearly	Report	Zonal ORCU	-
21	Labour and working condition	Revise salary and wage as per the local industry wage	zonal and woreda ORCU	Begins 2022 and yearly	15 prs* 200 days*10W oredas*60 birr = 1,800,000	Amount improved	Yearly	Workers Payroll	Regional ORCU	-
		Provide safety equipment for all nursery sites under OFLP	Zonal & Woreda ORCU	Begins 2022 and yearly 2 nd quarter	(Section 5.10.2) 261,000	No of safety equipment provided	Yearly	Inventory, interview	Regional ORCU	-

#	Identified		-	tion of Corrective ctions			Monitor	ing plan		
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
		Construct toilet for all nursery sites under OFLP	Woreda ORCU	2022 budget 2 nd quarter	2 toilet * *10Wored as*37500bi rr = 750,000	No of toilet constructed	Once	Presence of toilet in nursery sites	Zonal ORCU	-
		Avail first aid kit	Woreda ORCU	2022 budget 2 nd quarter	(Section 5.10.1) 15,000	First aid kit provided	Yearly	Inventory, interview	Zonal ORCU	-
		Train on first aid	Woreda ORCU	2022 budget 2 nd quarter	-	No. of trainees aware	Yearly	Report, on training check	Zonal ORCU	-
		Honor workers as agreed payment time schedule in labor contract	Woreda ORCU	Begins 2022 and yearly	-	No complain of delay	Yearly	Payroll, interview	Zonal ORCU	-
22	Land acquisition procedure	Adapt The World Bank guideline on VLD proposed in the comment by The World Bank Group	Regional ORCU	2022 budget 2 nd quarter	4 prs* 15 days*850bi rr = 51,000	Presence of guideline	Once	Report, observation	Zonal ORCU	
23	Green legacy	Identify the location of the already planted sites of GL plantation	Zonal OEFCCA	2022 budget year	3 prs* 2 days* 10 woreda*65 0 birr = 39,000	Known sites of GL	Once	Report,	Regional ORCU	29,250
		Adopt the existing REDD+ safeguard tools of OFLP for managing it Use known source of	Regional ORCU Woreda	2022 budget year 2 nd quarter Begins 2022 and	4 prs* 15 days*850bi rr = 51,000	Safeguard tools used for GL Seeds supply from	Once	Report, observation Intervew,	Zonal ORCU Zonal &	-
24	Species-site- match problem	seedlings for GL Local tree seed purchase	OEFCCA Woreda ORCU & CBOs	2 nd quarter Begins 2022 2 nd quarter	50,000	local Better performing out-plants	Yearly Yearly	observation Inventory, observation	Woreda ORCU Zonal ORCU	292,500 5,850

#	Identified Environmental			tion of Corrective			Monitor	ing plan		
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
25	Mix of species in plantation	Train community to plant each species separately	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	Section 5.10.1	No tree species planted mixed	Yearly	Report, assessment	Zonal ORCU	29,250
26	Dependence on exotic species	Local tree seed purchase	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	30,000	Increased proportion of indigenous trees	Yearly	Report, inventory	Zonal ORCU	29,250
	·	Wide spacing when planting	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	-	Planted trees	Yearly	Report, observation	Zonal ORCU	-
27	Less understanding of the nature of the planted species	Train community on tree planting and management	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	Section 5.10.1	No. of trainees aware	Yearly	Intervew	Zonal ORCU	29,250
28	Poly-bag management problem	Train community on the impacts of poly bag	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	Section 5.10.1	No plastic waste, no. of trainees aware	Yearly	Report, observation	Woreda Environment office	29,250
29	Weeds problem	Train community on tree planting and management	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 2 nd quarter	Section 5.10.1	No weeds in plant-outs	Yearly	Report, assessment	Zonal ORCU	29,250
30	Challenges									
31	Cooperative establishment & restructuring of	Restructure WaJiB	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	10 prs* 30 days* 2 woreda*85 0 birr = 510,000	WaJiB restructured	Once	Report, interview	Zonal ORCU	29,250
	the existing ones	clear interpretation of proc. 985/2016	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	5 prs* 2 days*850bi rr = 8,510	More than 1 CBOs per Kebele	Once	Report, interview	Zonal ORCU	-
32	Planting of coffee in natural forest	Create Awareness for political leaders to stop the act	Woreda ORCU	Begins 2022, 3 rd quarter	5 prs* 2 days*850bi rr =	No or reduced planting of coffee in forest	Yearly	Report, interview, observation	Zonal ORCU	29,250

#	Identified Environmental Proposed Corrective		-	tion of Corrective			Monito	ing plan		
	Social Aspects /issues	Actions	Responsibility	Time frame	Budget in ETB	Indicator	Frequency	Means of Verification	Responsible Body	Actual cost
					8,510					
33	Unsatisfied demand	Supply seeds based on demand types & volume	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 4 th quarter	-	No complain of seed supply	Yearly	report, interview	Zonal ORCU	29,250
		Supply seeds from the local sources	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 4 th quarter	-	Presence of local suppliers	Yearly	Report, interview	Zonal ORCU	-
		Forest sector has its law enforcement system	Woreda ORCU & CBOs	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	5 prs* 15 days*850bi rr = 63,750	New law enforcement system in sector	Yearly	Report, observation	Zonal ORCU	29,250
34	Law enforcement	Political decision to solve current law enforcement problem	OEFCCA	Begins 2022, 4 th	5 prs* 2 days*850bi rr = 8,510	No. of cases resolved in court	Once	Report, interview	Regional and Zonal ORCU	29,250
		Enhance the awareness of the law enforcers	OEFCCA	Begins 2022, 4 th quarter	Section 5.10.1	No. of cases genuinely resolved in the court	Yearly	Report, assessment	Zonal ORCU	-
	High expectation	Plan within capacity	OEFCCA	Begins 2022, 1 st quarter	-	Plan fully implemented	Yearly	Report, assessment	Zonal ORCU	-
35	High expectation by & from sectoral offices	Assess the cost, risk and benefit of using sector offices in implementing ESMP mitigation measures	Regional OEFCCA	Begins 2022, 1 st	5 prs* 15 days*850bi rr = 63,750	Outcome of the assessment	Once	Report	Regional ORCU	
	Total	magadon measures	JEIGGA	quarter	03,730	-	-	пероп	-	

7. Chapter 7: Conclusions and recommendations

7.1 Conclusions

- Implementation of the OFLP environmental and social management plan (ESMPs) mitigation
 measures has faced gaps due to resource constraints, alignment of mitigation measures in
 sectoral offices, collaboration problem at grass root level, delay support by steering
 committee and technical group, lack of training of experts and high turnover of trained
 personnel
- Implementation of OFLP REDD, RIP and the two REDD legacy projects induced both positive and adverse impacts. The positive impacts include improved precipitation, re-appearance of spring-waters, reduced fire incidences, increased forest cover, re-appearance of wildlife, generate income ,instigation of community members to minimize forest dependence ,enhanced involvement and benefits to vulnerable groups and attitudinal change towards conservation and rehabilitation while the adverse impacts include impact shift from project to non-project intervention areas, wildlife human conflict, high expectation from carbon credit, soil erosion and access restriction
- Analysis of C&P indicated that all community members of the intervention areas (including the VG) participated in different activities of the project/sub-project
- Analysis of the VG has indicated that there is no special support to the VG and hence,
- they participate like any members of the community
- OFLP needs to consider VG differently and offer them special support
- Gender analysis has indicated that OFLP has a policy of engaging at least one female and one youth in each of the CBOs established. So far, 4540 CBOs were established and thus, a minimum of 4540 females are found working with the CBOs
- OFLP safeguard tools and other relevant documents were availed or documented on website and achieved in hard and soft copies. The documents are generally disseminated through soft copies mainly using smart phone
- Safeguards capacity and commitment were suffering of shortage of manpower, trained experts turn-over, shortage, lack of resources and weak collaboration at grass root level

- OFLP has very good GRM combined from traditional and modern with emphasis to prevent complaint; however, it has no mechanism for entertaining complaint with anonymity and confidentiality.
- Nursery sites were observed openly disposed of with plastic wastes
- Community members have a clear mechanism of VLD which made involve family members
 of the donors (to give their consent), village dwellers and government institutions. With
 respect to land-use, it was reported that there exist competing interest among sectoral
 offices
- Green legacy planting was accomplished without having safeguard tools and site maps. It
 was planted in any open areas with seedlings from any source
- Security problems in some of the Woredas delayed the activities of the project/subprojector and thus, urged to move the sub-project activities to other sites
- During site visits, it was observed that there were species-site-match problem, mix of species in plantation, dependence on exotic species, less understanding of the nature of the planted species by community members, poly-bag management problem and weeds problem
- OFLP, RIP and the two REDD+ legacy projects have faced challenges from cooperative establishment and restructuring of the existing ones, planting of coffee in natural forest, unsatisfied demand, law enforcement and high expectations by and from sectoral offices

7.2 Recommendations

- Sector aligned ESMPs mitigation measures (such as forage Agriculture Office, fuel-efficient gadgets in Energy Office, etc.) should be made the component of the REDD+ Program in the up-coming planning time.
- OFLP has a policy for ensuring gender equality which should be scaled-up to other sectors
- OFLP safeguard tools and other relevant documents should be put at central area of the implementing partner office in hard copies where current focal person or his/her successor or any interested person access all the time

- To enhance the safeguards capacity and commitment, it is key to procure human resource, fulfill material resources as indicated in this report and discuss at higher level how to strengthen the weak collaboration at lower level
- OFLP has to have additional GM procedure to enable grievance acceptance for the grievers
 who want to maintain anonymity and confidentiality
- Assigning permanent workers who take care of the sanitation of the nursery including polybag wastes cleaning resolves the poly-bag disposal problems in the nursery. Also, for the polybags left behind in the AR sites, assign women (as this is a light work) who immediately collect and clean the sites out of poly-bags. The collected plastics should be kept in safe places until disposed at authorized site or handled to factory for recycling.
- The competing interests of all sectoral offices on land-use for the respective sectors to be governed by the land-use policy or standard to be set based on the land morphology/topography/suitability of that particular area. The standard to have clear criteria for allocating a land for a particular land use type (forest, pasture, crop, wetland, etc.).
- The locations of the already planted sites of GL have to be identified and put under ORCU/RIP/two legacies REDD+ projects and/or community management when qualifying requirements
- Problems observed during site visits should be addressed through enhancing the awareness of community members and assigning persons who collect poly-bags immediately after planting
- Challenges OFLP, RIP and the two REDD+ legacy projects have to addressed though having clear interpretation of proc. 985/2016, discussion both at local and higher levels to restructure WaJiB, seeds supply from the local sources, natural resource sector, law enforcement system, political decision to resolve the current high pressure the sector has experienced and budget within its system
- Presented environmental awareness from the discussants and interviews result only and need to assess their practical knowledge e.g. forest cover increases of respective area, increased plantations, rehabilitated lands from erosion, fuel-efficient gadgets bought, acquired, etc.

- Community members have mixed sentiment with respect to the re-appearances of wildlife
 which needs to reconcile their different interests by showing them weighted benefit of the
 project/sub-project against the lost opportunities before and after the project/sub-project
 implementation.
- Focal persons who were recently assigned (in places of those resigned, transferred, etc.)
 and have no training on E&S safeguard, GRM manual and C& P plan require to provide
 training and awareness creation to fill the knowledge gap .Also, suggested refreshment
 training and awareness creation for those who already taken the training for refreshing and
 updating them.
- To respond to the livelihood option request of the A/R and PFM group/cooperative members, it needs to make detail potential resource assessment which the livelihoods can be opted for, conduct need assessment of the sub-project involvers, assess market opportunity including value addition & value-chain and training for members before responding to the request.

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1. Background

The Oromia National Regional State Forested Landscape Project (OFLP)is Oromia National Regional State's programmatic umbrella and coordination platform for multi-sector, multi-partner interventions on all forested landscapes in Oromia. OFLP aims to reduce net Green House Gases (GHGs) emissions from the land use sectors across the boundaries of the Oromia National Regional State. The primary geographic areas of OFLP include all of Oromia's rural woredas. OFLP has three components. These components are Enabling Investments, Enabling Environment and Emissions Reduction (ER) Payments. The enabling investments aim to make investments in participatory forest management and reforestation/afforestation in deforestation hotspots woredas, as well as extension services, and land-use planning at local levels. The enabling environment aims to improve the effectiveness and impact of institutions, incentives and safeguards management at all levels. The third component is emission reduction purchase agreement that delivered when results will be achieved and verified by a third party.

The Government of Ethiopia has received a grant from the World Bank's BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes to implement the OFLP over the coming five-years. The grant seeks to foster equitable and sustainable low carbon development in Oromia through on-the-ground "enabling investments" that address deforestation, reduce land-use based emissions, and enhance forest carbon stocks, and developing an "enabling environment" through statewide and local enhancements to institutions, incentives, information, and safeguards management to scale up investment. In particular, the grant supports community-centered activities that reduce deforestation and land-use based emissions, as well as enhances forest carbon stocks in deforestation hotspots in selected sites in 51 districts of Oromia.

The grant will lay-ground to unlocking a BioCarbon Fund commitment to purchase up to 10 million tons of carbon dioxide emission reductions. The Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) is expected to become effective in 2019, for the next 10 years, based on verifiable results in slowing state-wide deforestation and expanding new forests.

OFLP implementation arrangements involve a range of institutions at the national, state, and substate levels with discrete accountabilities and decision-making roles. Within the regional state of

Oromia, OFLP is led by Oromia Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authority (OEFCCA) with Oromia REDD+ Coordination Unit (ORCU) serving as the OFLP implementing unit within OEFCCA. As the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are often linked to other sectors, OFLP implementation requires an extensive cross-sectoral policy and investment coordination with relevant sectors to keep forests standing.

It was agreed at the UNFCCC Conference in Cancun in 2010 (COP16) that a set of seven safeguards should be promoted and supported while undertaking REDD+ activities. In the Durban Agreement, REDD+ Countries required to develop Safeguard Information Systems (SIS) and submit summery of report. Therefore, countries undertaking REDD+ activities need to develop country level approaches that enable them to respond to the safeguards outlined in the Cancun and Durban Agreements.

The OFLP intervention has the potential to deliver social and environmental benefits that go beyond the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions but may also entail potential risks to people and the environment. These benefits and risks will depend on a number of factors related to specific regional circumstances. To address environmental and social issues of OFLP intervention, OFLP safeguard instruments (ESMF, RPF, PF, SA and others) have been prepared based on the national REDD+ safeguards instruments, World Bank policy and other relevant national and Oromia regional environmental and social policies and legal frameworks. These safeguards instruments are part and package of the OFLP and their implementation should be integrated with the components of the program.

The capacity building training was offered to relevant implementing partners drawn from all administrative levels of Oromia National Regional State. The objectives the of the training were to provide guiding principles for assessment and management of environmental and social aspects of the program activities to be financed under the OFLP, to systematically identify, predict, and evaluate beneficial and adverse environmental and social impacts of the program activities, and to design enhancement measures for beneficial impacts, and implement mitigating measures for adverse impacts. Based upon the capacity building delivered, site specific safeguards instruments

were prepared, consulted up on and disclosed; and are being implemented in deforestation hotspot areas of the program.

The environmental and social audit is a management tool consisting of a systematic, documented, periodic and objective evaluation of environmental and social performance, management systems and equipment with the aim of facilitating management control of environmental practices and assessing compliance with an operation's or activity's environmental policies, including meeting regulatory requirements. Environmental audit can help to systematical evaluate of OFLP activities and processes to determine how far these activities and programmes comply with the approved OFLP environmental and social safeguard tools. To this end, the study of environmental audit will provide information on the status of OFLP interventions against the OFLP safeguards instruments (SESA, ESMF, RPF and PF, and Consultation and Participation Plan), which were prepared based on the safeguard standards of the GoE system and the World Bank.

2. Objective

2.1. General objective

The general objective of the study is to assess and evaluate the environmental and social safeguards performance of the OFLP, including its subprojects and activities against the OFLP safeguards instruments, and provide recommendation based on the findings of the assessment.

2.2. Specific objectives

The specific objectives are to:

Review of the environmental and social safeguards implementation status of OFLP activities/interventions, the two legacy REDD+ Projects (Bale Mountains Eco-Region REDD+ Project and REDD+ Joint Forest Management in the five districts of Ilu Abba Bora Zone), and REDD+ investment Program (RIP) and others against OFLP safeguard instruments(prepared based on relevant environmental guidelines, regulations and policy document of the GoE, and World bank Policy);

- Assess any significant environmental and social issues observed/occurred due to OFLP interventions and the two legacy REDD+ project and others, including REDD+ Investment Program (RIP);
- Identify the gaps in implementing the safeguard instruments for OFLP and the
 environmental and social review of the two legacy REDD+ projects as well as RIP and
 evaluate the effectiveness of environmental and social management and performance
 systems of OFLP safeguard instruments;
- Identify and recommend required technical assistance, capacity building training and awareness needed by OFLP staff and relevant stakeholder/implementing partners; and
- Identify feasible, cost-effective mitigation and/or corrective measures and opportunities for overall improvement of environmental and social management practices; and prepare clear action plan accordingly.

3. Scope of the work

The scope of environmental and social auditing will encompass the analysis of the actual environmental compliance of projects/programs(with the OFLP safeguards instruments) in the course of their implementation, through the assessment of the effectiveness of environmental and social impact mitigation and enhancement measures, and the gaps and the challenges(being) occurred under (a) OFLP grant financing; (b) the two legacy REDD+ projects; and (c) programs/projects (including RIP) implemented outside the implementation woredas of OFLP's enabling investment areas/woredas. **OFLP** has two components; namely,(a) Enabling Investment(Afforestation and Reforestation (A/R)) implemented by Oromia Environment and Forest Climate Change Authority (OEFCCA) and Participatory Forest Management(PFM) implemented both by OEFCCA and Oromia Forest and Wild life Enterprise (OFWE) in deforestation hotspot areas/woredas, and (b) Enabling Environment implemented throughout Oromia National Regional State. The two legacy REDD+ Projects (Bale Mountains Eco-region REDD+ Project, and REDD+ Joint Forest Management in the five districts of Ilu Abba Bora Zone) will be assessed in line with the implementation of the Environmental and Social Review prepared before a year ago. RIP and other initiatives (which are not financed by the OFLP) will be assessed in accordance with the OFLP safeguards instruments. Accordingly, the following tasks will be carried out.

- ✓ Review of documents: A review of relevant OFLP environmental and social safeguards instruments (ESMF, PF, RPF, SA, ESMP (prepared for site specific intervention) etc.)that help to implement OFLP (Enabling environment and Enabling investment(A/R and PFM)); and the environmental and social review of the two legacy REDD+ projects; and RIP and other initiatives; as well as safeguards monitoring and biannual/annual reports, among others;
- ✓ Compliance status assessment: Assess whether there is safeguards compliance with the OFLP safeguards requirements, at different administrative levels;
- ✓ Identify gaps in implementing site-specific safeguard instruments (ESMPs) for OFLP subprojects and other REDD+ initiatives (including the two legacy REDD+ projects, and RIP) against the OFLP safeguards instruments to achieve the objectives of the safeguard requirements;
- ✓ Identification of impacts: Identify any environmental impacts (positive and negative) due to implementation of OFLP in hotspot and non hotspot areas; the two legacy REDD+ projects; and RIP and others;
- ✓ Security situation assessment for implementing proposed A/R and PFM subprojects: Assess security issue in some representative woredas specifically related with A/R and PFM hotspot woredas if they are accessible;
- ✓ Propose appropriate mitigation measures for the adverse environmental impacts and enhancement measures for beneficial impacts as per the scope of the assignment;
- Assess consultations: Consult local communities and other relevant stakeholders in OFLP hotspot areas, the two legacy REDD+ projects, and RIP intervention areas regarding their engagement and awareness, including safeguards management, to ensure broader community and stakeholder support of the programs/projects implementations in their respective areas and propose mitigation options;
- ✓ Documentation and Information dissemination: Assess environmental safeguards documentation and information dissemination process of the program and other initiatives at different administrative levels;
- ✓ Safeguards capacity and commitment assessment of implementing institutions: Assess the safeguards capacity and commitment of OFLP and other initiatives (including the two

legacy REDD+ projects and RIP), implementing partners and other proponents to ensure safeguards compliance with the OFLP safeguards instruments requirements; and recommend capacity building training and awareness needed if there are gaps;

- ✓ Site visits: Conduct field visits to observe OFLP subprojects, the two legacy REDD+ projects and other initiatives (such as RIP)to obtain first-hand information on environmental management status of representative subprojects/project activities as per site specific safeguards instruments prepared for them;
- ✓ Action plan: Prepare a compliance action plan and/or monitoring plan for OFLP, the two legacy REDD+ projects and other initiatives, including RIP;
- ✓ Propose appropriate recommendations based on the outputs of the assignment.

4. Methodology

To achieve the assignment/task listed above, the consultant will:

- Conduct desk review of the relevant documents of OFLP(including OFLP safeguards instruments (includes site specific safeguard instruments, ESMF, SA, RPF, PF, etc.), ESR of the two legacy REDD+ projects, and others initiatives (including RIP)and policy and legal frameworks of GoE and World Bank Safeguards Policy etc;
- Conduct meetings, interviews and focus group discussion with concerned stakeholders (OEFCCA/ORCU, OFWE, FARM AFRICA, EWNRA etc. at different administration levels, development agents(DAs), local leaders and local community to get their opinion and reflection on the impact and procedure of safeguard management due to OFLP intervention(Enabling Environment and Enabling Investment) and other initiatives, including the two legacy REDD+ Projects (Bale Mountains Eco-region REDD+ Project, and REDD+ Joint Forest Management in the five districts of Ilu Abba Bora Zone) and REDD+ Investment Program (RIP), among others;
- Conduct field visits to gather relevant information (such as physical, environmental and social) from selected program intervention/implementation sites, including A/R, PFM and the two legacy REDD+ Projects; and identify safeguards issues in the respective sites clearly.

5. Supervision and Responsibility

The consultant will work under the direct supervision of the Oromia REDD+ Coordination Unit and will also receive technical support from the EFCCC, OEFCCA and the World Bank task team members. The consultant organizes the report and conduct field visit to the intervention areas together with the consultant hired by ORCU for social audit. In addition, the consultant will work closely with the social consultant whose contract will run along with this consultancy. The findings of the two assessments will be combined into a single document to provide a clear picture of how Environmental and Social Safeguards Management is exercised by the Oromia Forested Landscape Program, the two legacy REDD+ Projects and other initiatives, including RIP.

ORCU will facilitate field visits, meetings for the consultants, provide relevant information/documents on the Program as well as will engage through each consultative process.

6. Deliverables

The consultant will prepare and submit:

- Inception report including a detailed methodology, suggested contents of the report, and action plan on how to conduct the study, roles of the individual consultant, and other relevant information for achieving the objectives of the assignment, among others;
- 2. Draft environmental and Social audit report;
- 3. Final environmental and Social audit report

7. Schedule

The timeframe for the consultancy assignment is three months from the date the of contract signature. See table below for further information.

The man-days required to deliver the consultancy assignment would be as follows:

Activity	Timing/Deadline
Preparation and submission of an inception report	5 working days after the contract signature
Submission of the detailed draft environmental and	30 working days after the submission of
social audit report	the inception report
Submission of the revised draft environmental	10 working days after receiving
audit and social report, including minutes of	consolidated inputs/comments from
consultations with stakeholders	relevant stakeholders
Present final report on a validation workshop (half	Two weeks from submission of the revised
or one day)	final report
Submission of final report incorporating inputs	2 weeks after validation workshop
from the validation workshop	

8. Qualification and Experience

- The consultant should have Msc/MA degree in Environmental science, Environment and Development, Forestry, Natural Resource Management and related field with related experience in environment audit (Environmental Audit);
- The consultant should have Msc/MA degree in Social science(sociology, Developmental study social work, , and related field with related experience in social audit, social assessment and social impact assessment (Social Audit);
- Minimum of 10years of related work experience in field of reconnaissance survey,
 experience in auditing of environmental management system, experience in ESIA;
- The consultant are capable of addressing all the government and world bank safeguards policies triggered by the program;
- The consultant should have the ability to analyze a range of environmental issues in relation to Natural resource management;
- Experience in working with minority groups (underserved groups) and vulnerable peoples of Ethiopia;
- Experience in data analysis, both quantitative and qualitative;
- Excellent analytical and report writing skills.

Annex 2: Data collection tools

KII at Regional level

1. Review of safeguard instruments availability, implementation & awareness

- Are the environmental and social safeguards implemented to manage the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities? If yes; what safeguard tools were being implemented?
 What can be said about safeguards implementation status in the region?
- Do you think the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities implemented in the region comply with the relevant national and regional legal frameworks? Yes / No. Describe your evidence?

2. Implementation gap

- Are there any gaps in implementing the safeguard instruments for OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities? What are they? What capacity gaps attributed for these?
- How can the observed implementation gaps of the safeguard instruments be improved?

3. Impacts of OFLP, RIP and the two REDD+ legacy projects Implementations

- Did the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities bring significant environmental impacts? If yes, what are the positive and negative impacts and risks?
- What measures did your organization take to avoid or mitigate the negative impacts?
- What measure did your organization take to maintain and enhance the positive impacts?

4. Consultation and participation

• Did the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities prepare/customize and implement C & P Plan? If yes, what are the major consultation issues that ORCU addressed during the planning and implementation stages of the REDD+ project activities?

5. Grievances redress mechanisms

• Is a (functional) grievance redressing mechanism (GRM) for OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects established to address complaints/grievances? If yes, explain how it works?

6. Capacity Assessment

- Is there a capacity gap in implementing OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities?
- How can the capacity gaps to implement the safeguard instruments be improved?

7. Information dissemination

 How the information regarding OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities and its safeguard accessed and disseminated to information/data seekers and the public at different levels?

8. Security issue

- Is there any security issue that affects the implementation of the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities in the region? Explain the problem?
- If No, is there a loop hole of opportunity of implementing OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities under such insecurity condition? Explain if any
- Is it possible to implement the REDD+ project activities assisted by government law enforcers without cost being incurred from ORCU?

Thank you for your time and contribution!

KII at Woreda level

1. Safeguard instruments availability, implementation & awareness

- What types of REDD+ Project activities/initiatives are being implemented in your Woreda?
- What do you know about the safeguard tools of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities?
- Are safeguard tools for the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities properly prepared, implemented and monitored? Explain

2. Impacts of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities implementation

- Are the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities commencing to bring significant impacts?
- If yes, what are the positive and negative impacts and risks?
- What measures did you take to avoid or mitigate the negative impacts?
- What measures did you take to enhance the positive impacts?
- Are OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects activities carried-out in or near to cultural, historical and protected areas (such as parks, wildlife reserve areas, etc.)? If yes, what are negative impacts encountered? If so, what measures are being taken?
- Would the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities increased influx of labour into your Woreda and generate impacts on environment? If yes, describe.

3. Land acquisition and voluntary land donation(VLD)

- Describe how land use would be affected by REDD+ project activities?
- Is there a case of private or communal land donation for the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities? What is the process? what is the process of land acquisition? Is there is a gap? If yes, describe them.
- When there is land acquisition by OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities, is there a practice of preparing and implementing RAP which include land compensation to resettle the issues? If yes, what types of land acquired and what types of land (grazing, open, forest/shrub/bush, etc.) of land given as compensation? If No why? Explain

4. Cross-sectoral Issues

- What agricultural production enhancement activities were/are being carried-out as part of the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities? How were they planned and implemented?
- Did the implementation of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities consider alternate energy sources? What or which alternatives?
- Did the implementations of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities consider climate smart agriculture and climate smart livestock?

5. Security situation assessment

- How can the security situation of the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities areas be accounted?
- Is there security challenge preventing OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities from being implemented?
- Is there a loop hole of opportunity of implementing OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities under such insecurity condition? Explain if any
- Is it possible to implement the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities assisted by government law enforcers without cost being incurred?
- Under the worst case, is relocating of OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities to secure areas feasible? Explain

Thank you for your time and contribution!

FGD at Woreda level

1. Implementation

- From your observation and follow-up, which of the safeguard tools of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities are implemented effectively and which are not? Explain why
- What can be said generally regarding the overall safeguard tools compliance with respect to the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities in your Woreda?

2. Implementation gaps

• What implementation gaps did you observe with respect to the implementation of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities? Why did the gaps happen? How to manage these observed gaps? As a stakeholder and implementer, what is your contribution to correct the gaps?

3. Impacts

- What environmental and social adverse impacts you observed due to the implementation of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities? Why did the adverse impacts happen?
 What could be the mitigation measures of these adverse impacts?
- What environmental and social positive impacts you observed due to the implementation of REDD+ project activities? How to maintain and enhance the positive impacts?

4. Consultation and participation

• In your Woreda, did you participate in OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities starting from the planning phase to implementation? If yes, what environmental concern raised by then? Were these environmental concerns addressed?

5. Information access and dissemination

• In your Woreda, how do stakeholders access the information/data/documents relevant to the implementation of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities and safeguard tools? Any challenge to access the information/data/ documents?

6. Grievance redressal mechanism

 Did the OFLP/RIP/the two legacy REDD+ projects/ activities create grievances over the use of resources and ownership rights? If yes, describe • Did the Woreda establish grievance redressing mechanism? Explain how it works?

7. Land acquisition and donation

 Did the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities created land competition with local community?

8. Capacity and role

- In your Woreda, is there anything that refrain stakeholder from fully engaged in the implementation/support/ contribution of/to the OFLP/RIP/the two legacy REDD+ projects/ activities and safeguard tools? What is this? How to overcome this?
- As implementers and stakeholders, what technical support do you need to play your role?
 Also what capacity building do you need?

9. Tree Nursery Establishment

- Did the establishment of tree nurseries for OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities involve the removal of vegetation including trees? Which species and what hectarage? Where?
- Did compensation planting carry-out for the removed vegetation due to tree nursery establishment? Which species and where? What size?

10. Afforestation-Reforestation

- Which of the tree species, exotic or indigenous, planted so far for OFLP/RIP/ projects or activities? What type of land used for plantation (individual land, communal land, or government land)? Describe area (ha) of afforested/reforested land. By whom for what purpose (use table)?
- Were the A/R done so far according to the integrated land use plan?
- Assisted natural regeneration sites (area closure, watershed management, etc.
- Kindly explain the before and after intervention of the assisted natural regeneration sites in relation to the implementation of the safeguard tools thereof?
- How did the poly-bags from the potted seedlings manage after planting?
- Are women and youth members and beneficiaries of A/R CBOs?

11. Forest Management

- Were the survival of the out-planted seedlings be related to the implementation of safeguard tools? How?
- Were the planted-out seedlings fertilized? What chemical and what dose?
- Were forest fire incidences increased or decreased after the REDD+ project implementation?
 Why and how? If increased, where?
- Do the implementations of OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities fulfilled fire management and prevention facilities? Where do what availed?
- Did you involve in the construction of forest firebreak lie?
- Were the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities done so far improved the local weather condition (micro-climate change)?
- Are women and youth members and beneficiaries of PFM CBOs?

12. Biodiversity Management

• What do the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities contribute to the followings? Explain how

Prevented/reduced deforestation

Prevented/reduced degradation

Protected wildlife species

Prevented/reduced illegal logging

Prevented/reduced grazing in the forest

Prevented/reduced mining in the forest

Improved connectivity or prevented fragmentation

- Frequency or intensity of forested land conversion to agricultural or other land-use increased or decreased after the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities intervention?
- Were incidences of wildlife poaching increased or decreased after the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities intervention?

 Were invasive species introduced because of the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities intervention? Which one or what are they?

13. Land-use Planning

- Did OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects give training to local community (including women and youth) on land-use planning? What did they benefit from the training?
- Describe the land use and ownership rights/ use right of the site before the intervention of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects activities?

14. Law Enforcement

- Are existing forest related laws enforced by relevant offices strengthen the implementation of safeguard tools? What gaps exist, where? How to resolve the gaps?
- Were the frequency or intensity of Illegal acts (deforestation, hunting/poaching, mining, settlement, grazing, etc.) increased or decreased after the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities intervention or implementation of the safeguard tools? Why?

15. Security issue assessment

- What external factors exist (e.g. security, etc.) that hinder the implementation of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities and the safeguard tools?
- What do you recommend for the overall improvement of the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities and the safeguard tools implementation?

Thank you for your time and contribution!

FGD and interview at Kebele Level

1. Safeguard instruments implementations

- Are you aware of the OFLP safeguards instruments?
- Are all the safeguard instruments being implemented? If not all, which were not implemented?
- What can be said about environmental safeguards performance status of the OFLP/RIP/
 the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities?
- Are there any gaps in implementing the safeguard instruments for OFLP/RIP/ the two
 REDD+ legacy projects or activities? What are they? Why happened?
- Are OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects activities carried-out in or near to cultural, historical and protected areas (such as parks, wildlife reserve areas, etc.)? If yes, what are negative impacts encountered? If so, what measures taken?

2. Impacts of OFLP, RIP and the two REDD+ legacy projects Implementations

- Did the implementation of OFLP/activities and its safeguard tools bring any positive environmental impacts? What are they? Why they happened?
- Did the implementation of OFLP, RIP and the 2 REDD+ legacy projects and their safeguard tools bring any adverse environmental impacts? What are they? Why they happened?
- How can these adverse environmental impacts be managed?
- How can these positive environmental impacts be maintained?
- How can the observed implementation gaps of the safeguard instruments be rectified?

3. Grievances redress mechanisms

- Are the community members aware of the existences of functional GRM?
- Is the GRM accessible for all member of the community including the poor, elders and women?
- How do you manage when there is grievance with OFLP/RIP/the two legacy REDD+ projects?
- Is conflict resolution committee established at Kebele level?
- Was the established GRM Committee included all community members (the poor, elders, women, youth including civil societies and NGOs) and adequately represented them?

4. Land acquisition and voluntary land donation (VLD)

- When private or communal land is needed for REDD+ project (such as A/R or ANR, Nursery), what is the process of land acquisition? Is there is a gap?
- Is there a case of private or communal land donation for the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities (such as A/R or ANR, Nursery)? what is the process? Are women, youth and/or vulnerable involved in the process?
- What risk mitigation/minimization measures have been devised to deal with adverse impacts of private or communal land donation for the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities?
- Is the implementation of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects/activities affecting the social cohesion between the different community groups in the project areas (agricultural, pastoral, and agro-pastoral)? If yes, how so? If no, how so?

5. Documentation and information dissemination

 Are the OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects or activities safeguard documents available in soft and hard copies to all who need?

6. Capacity and commitment assessment of implementing institutions

- What capacity building packages (such as trainings, office and field equipment) you
 received from OFLP/RIP/ the two REDD+ legacy projects with respect to the
 implementation of safeguard tools? Are women, youth or vulnerable people beneficiaries
 of the CB packages?
- What support do you need from OFLP/RIP/the two legacy REDD+ projects for the implementation of safeguards?

Thank you for your time and commitment!

FGD1 at community level

- What do you understand about the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects activities implemented in your locality?
- How did OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects activities impact you (positive and adverse)?
- What role do you have for OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects activities implementation?
- Did you and your community are well informed about this project before the commencement of the project at your locality? If yes?
- How did you have been informed?
- Did you participate in the planning and execution of sub-project development at your locality? What environmental concerns you raised by then? Were these concerns addressed?
- Did you encounter any conflict during the implementation of the project? List them; and how do you solve it? Please describe.
- Do you have any comment regarding the OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects activities being implemented at your locality?
 - Thank you for your time and commitment!

¹ Ensure adequate inclusion/representation of underserved and forest dependent people in the FGD sessions in consultation with Kebele officials, DAs and CBOs/cooperatives.

Document and field verification Checklist

OFLP REDD+ project - Environment and Social Safeguard Compliance Assessment for the year Jan 2018 to Jan. 2020

Region	Zone	Woreda
	Site	

1. Safeguard instruments availability & awareness

S N	Safeguard Instrument	Availa	bility		reness ation	Evidence / gap
		Availa ble	Not avail able	Imple mente d	Not implem ented	
1	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA)					
2	Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)					
3	Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)					
4	Process Framework (PF)					
5	Grievances Redressing Mechanism (GRM)					
6	Consultation and Participation Plan (C & P)					

2. The Project/ sub-project comply with the requirements of REDD+ Environmental and Social Safeguard Instruments implementation

SN	Environment and Social Safeguard	Status	Evidence/ Gap
	Compliance Requirements	Comply/	
		Not	
		Comply/	
		NA	
		102	
1	Project / sub-projects implemented during		
	Jan 2018 to Jan 2020 were screened against		
	the safeguard instruments at planning		
	stage.		
2	Environmental and social management		
	plans (ESMP) were prepared, when required		
	and approved by the relevant authority.		
3	Environmental and social impact		
	assessment was conducted when required		
	and approved by the relevant authority		
4	Mitigation measures given in the ESIA or		
	ESMP were implemented		
5	Abbreviated resettlement action plan		
	(ARAP) was prepared when required and		
	approved by the relevant authority.		
6	Resettlement action plan (RAP) was		
	prepared when required and approved by		
	the relevant authority.		
7	Resettlement action plan were		
	implemented before the commencement of		
	the project		

3. Detailed Information on Project/sub-project Environment and Social Safeguard instruments implementation

SN	Name of	ESMF implem	nentation a	& Decision	RP	F implement	ation & Decis	ion
	Sub-	Categorizatio	Date	Date ESIA	Recomm	Date	Census	RAP/
	project	n/ Schedule:	accept	or ESMP	endation	Approved	Survey &	ARAP
	impleme	1=Requires	ed &	complete	(RAP,	by	Land	complete
	nted	ESIA	Approv	d &	ARAP or	Relevant	Inventory	d and
	During	2= Requires	ed by	Approved	no	Authority	complete	implemen
	Jan 2018	ESMP	Releva	if any	further		d	ted
	to Jan.	3= No	nt		action to		(Yes, No,	(yes, No,
	2020	potential	Authori		be taken)		NA)	NA)
		impacts	ty					
1								
2								
3								

4. Grievance Redressing Mechanism

NS	Grievance Redressing mechanism	Yes/No	Evidence and clarification
1	Did OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects experts at		
	regional, Zonal and Woreda levels get capacity building		
	training on how to implement GRM?		
2	Is awareness raising on GRM were conducted for local		
	community where OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy		
	projects being implemented		
3	Did you establish conflict resolution task force at		
	Woreda and Zonal Levels		
4	Did you establish conflict resolution committee at Kebele		
	level		
5	Have you prepared grievance case registration logbook?		
6	Were all the grievance raised recorded?		
7	How many issues raised during the last two years?		
8	Is the mechanism accessible for all member of the		
	community including the poor, elders and women?		
9	Were all the grievance raised resolved?		
10	Is there is written documentation available?		

5. Consultation and participation

NS	Consultation and participation	Yes/No	Evidence and clarification
1	Was consultation and participation plan in place?		
2	Was the consultation process under taken timely and		
	appropriately according to the plan?		
3	Was the consultation process engaged all members of		
	the community including women, elderly and poor?		
4	Was the consultation activity considered the culture		
	of the community?		
5	Were public consultation activities under taken at all		
	levels? (regional, zonal, Woreda and Kebele)		
6	were the community /public consultation activities		
	under taken minuted and documented		

6. Technical Capacity Assessment

6.1 Preliminary Technical Capacity and Staffing Assessment with Regards to Safeguards of the Woreda

S/N	Capacity	Factors to be Considered	Current	Evidence/ Gap
	Areas		Status	
1		Does the Woreda have the technical skills required		
		to fulfill its mandates & address safeguard issues?		
		Does the Woreda have the knowledge needed to		
		plan and implement mitigation measures?		
		Does the Woreda have access to relevant		
	Specializ	information/resources?		
	ation	Did the Woreda fulfill required number of		
	ation	employees at different offices/units		
		Does the Woreda keep informed about the REDD+		
		Safeguard instruments /policies/competencies		
		requirements		
2	Training	Does the Woreda have a training and development		
	&	plan and budget on REDD+ Safeguards training?		
	Develop	Have staffs been trained on REDD+ Safeguards?		
	ment			

6.2 Capacity Status of OFLP/RIP/the two REDD+ legacy projects at Office, Woreda and field levels for implementing safeguard instruments

Existing	capacity to	o impleme	ent safegua	rd instrument	ts at Office, Woreda	and field and gaps
				identified		
	Existing capacity to implement safeguard instruments					Remark
No o	No of focal No of focal		No of focal persons at Kebele			
pers	ons at	persons a	at Woreda	or f	ield office	
regior	nal level					
Existing	Required	Existing	Required	Existing	Required	

Annex 3: Attendance

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Attendance Sheet Environmental Audit of Oromia Forested Landscape Program for Jan. 2018- Jan. 2020

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Attendance Sheet Environmental Audit of Oromia Forested Landscape Program for Jan. 2018- Jan.2020

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2	ATUL Getachen	EFCCA	EXPORT	0917097068
3	Komel Hasen	Lup	FOCE	0917601566
1	Mohammed Yoduf	EFCCA	Focal	0913458442
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6	Reta Yadeta	Agri & NRs	Focel	0991334979
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Attendance Sheet Environmental Audit of Oromia Forested Landscape Program for Jan. 2018- Jan. 2020 Region Oromia Zone W. [Att.] District Dobala P.A. Full Name Organization representing Title/Responsibility Telephone Amana Robe Taco District devit from Captainter Taski ex 109203255335 Amana Robe Taco District General following programs for the programs of the

Annex 4: Summary of meetings/consultations with stakeholders

Adaba

Two key issues that to do with forest were stressed both by the community and the district experts: soil erosion in the forest and dependence on forest for energy. Soil erosion is one of the main challenges the district has ever faced in all the land use types including forest land. The rigorous attempts made by FARM Africa and community could not yield harness the soil erosion problem and hence, called upon for the helps of government to make interferences.

The visited sites of Bucha and Wosha communities have indicated that they had received training on tree plantings, forest management and fuel-efficient gadgets as well as alternate energy sources such as biogas and solar energy sources for lamp, hand torch and mobile charging. They communities had dully mentioned the training convinced them of the use of alternate energy sources as it saves their forest; however, not used of them due to their absence on the market and also their non-durability when available and hence, requested government and/or NGOs operating in the area supply alternate energy sources of known sources and quality. Community members stressed high for technical support on the construction of biogas facility because they have livestock that supply cow dung used as input in the facility.

WaJiB (Waldaa Jiraatota Bosonaa), which means Forest Dwellers Association, was organized 30 persons on 360 ha of natural forest (12ha/person) seems dividing the community members into two. Members of the WaJiB believe it is the organization that enabled to protect the forest to date while the non-members complain it contributed to the decline of the forest mentioning that the forest coverage of the then and now is quite different i.e. high forest cover by then than now. The non-members of WaJiB mentioned it is not a democratic institution as it failed to include female members and replacement of the members upon leave (due to death, old age or any other factor) and hence, called for the need to restructure it. However, restructuring of WaJiB is not an easy task as it needs enacting of new law or amending or repealing of the proclamation which established WaJiB as well as updating of the bylaw of the WaJiB

With respect to livelihood options for those engaged in the forest management (AR or plantation or natural forest), they proposed the REDD+ program support them on, soil and water conservation, alternate energy sources(biogas, solar energy and fuel-wood efficient stove), fattening(livestock, sheep and goat), beekeeping(especially on the rehabilitated Mount Wosha), poultry farming(has experience of keeping chicken at backyard), nursery running(supply seedling for market and own planting), awareness

creation(specially soil and water conservation practices to those who were resistant on it during the previous works on Gana-Bontu Dry River), water pump-for fruit production and family planning(this was commented by women) until the managed forest will enable generate income to sustain their lives.

The understanding of the community that communal resource management with exclusion of segments of a community (such as some men, women, new generation) resulted in the degradation of the forest in addition to become a line that created rift between the member and non-member is a lesson that can be learnt from Adaba site.

Adola

The cluster coordination office of OFLP is located in Bore district which lacks centricity for the three zones it coordinates- Borena, Guji and West Guji. majority works or activities of the OFLP, estimated at fifty per cent (50%) by experts, is found in Guji Zone while the remaining thirty (30%) and twenty (20%) per cents respectively found in Borena and West Guji respectively. however, the cluster coordination office is maintained at the area where less volume of the activities are running. The challenge, which emanated from project implementation manual (PIM) which proposed the same, resulted in resource, time and energy wastage as indicated by the experts.

According to the district OEFCCA, trainings on safeguard tools (SGT) were given only at the center (Bule Hora), but not at zone and district levels, for 2 days which was not enough to cover the entire safeguard tools, GRM, consultation and participation and others. To solve problems that to do with trainings, the district has indicated it distributed training and other materials (safeguard tools, GRM, C&P) to all in hard and soft copies. High turnover of the safeguard tools trained personnel in REDD+ program implementing partners both for the technical and steering committee.

Implementation of the ESMP mitigation measures was challenged due to shortage of budget, resource (office and field), and transport facility. The allocation of the ESMP mitigation measures in sectoral offices was also found one of the bottle necks for the implementation of the same. It is also not known whether sectoral offices have implemented the ESMP mitigation measures or not as they are not reporting to district OEFCCA.

It was observed that the AR sites were so much challenged by termites i.e. the saplings (out-planted trees) were overwhelmingly attracted by termites. Law enforcements were so weak revealed by the fact that only 2 out of 400 cases lodged to court had given verdict.

Community members in Adola have interest to engage in petty trade such as coffee, butter, teff, fattening (cattle, sheep) beekeeping (modern and traditional) and poultry husbandry and thus, need credit for these. The quest for getting alternate energy sources such as biogas (biogas is not known in Adola area while fuel efficient stove is known only by few members), solar gadgets and connection to hydro-power line is high to reduce their dependence on biomass energy. They underlined they need immediate response for their demand to make them stay in the sub-project activities which they otherwise will the sub-projects.

Members of Boke Barko Coop have indicated that there are unprotected scattered natural forests adjoining to their site and other places which they want to include into their AR site. They want the site to be under the supply of non-timber forest products, NTFP (grass, beekeeping, etc.) as well as tourist destination area to enhance their livelihoods. Tourism development is thought due to the rehabilitation of the sites and re-appearances of wildlife. For the tourism development, they want training on tourism and hospitality and infrastructure development in the site which includes lodges and other service rendering centers, access road to the site and electrification. They also requested to get support to modernize their farming system using machines such as tractor and combiner.

Gara Robel was an overgrazed and degraded communal land before consensus was reached to use as AR site. Due to the sub-project, access to livestock free grazing and road to human were induced temporarily which these were addressed through having alternate site (non-AR site) for grazing, own plot grazing as well as cut-and-carry and creating alternate road respectively. Gara Robele is rehabilitated and many community members who were resistant to join the CBO for long showed interest to become member of the AR site CBO. However, the founder and who labored too much to rehabilitate the degraded site refused to include them until valuation of the asset they created after the establishment of the site will be carried out by professionals. This is a valid claim of the fonder community because they invested their money, time and energy to create that asset while others were observing from outside as to whether the sub-project succeeds or fails and then claim to jump-in just upon success.

The tree nursery in Adola has disposed waste-polyethylene bags in the compound where visually spoiled the site in addition to its long term pollution impacts to soil. The nursery was not fully equipped with tools and equipment necessary to run it at full capacity and did not provide with personal protective equipment. Workers of the nursery revealed their salary/ wage is low compared to the local industry salary/wage. It was indicated that the nursery is often short of budget and was not provided with the required amount and types of seeds from local sources to match to the agro-ecology of the area.

Green Legacy project in Adola district has faced challenge due to the non-overlap of the rainy season of the GL campaign time with that of the rainy season of the two Guji Zones.

The State of emergency and the security problem in Wadera and Shakiso (Suke-Kuto and Hangadhi sites) districts challenged at least the timely implementation of the activities of sub-projects. Consequently, activities in Suke-Kuto and Hangadhi sites were moved to Sora District.

Alle

Alle district office has indicated that there are communities members who have interest but did not become members of the CBOs due to financial constraints to buy share and pay registration fee of the CBO which is as low as 100 birr (0.41 USD at the exchange rate of March 2021) which OFLP has to solicit source of fund or design mechanism how this segment of the community members embraced by the program.

Trainings and awareness creations on safeguard tools (SGT), GRM, consultation and participation and others. Training materials were distributed to all in hard and soft copies. High turnover of the safeguard tools trained personnel in REDD+ sub-project implementing partners were observed. The district has proposed additional trainings with special focus on GIS and GPS.

Discussion with Alle district office disclosed that the REDD+ program was not understood equally across the board within and among government executive organs and implementing partners. Some understood REDD+ is a full-fledge and self-complete project/sub-project that needs no technical, financial and material support from sectoral offices, others understood as an NGO and still the remaining as joint of government and non-government (GO-NGO) sub-project of multi donor support which this challenge has to be addressed becoming transparent to stakeholders on budget issues and becoming open on working procedure. It is also important to give awareness to fill the understanding gap of the stakeholders, especially the implementing partners.

Alle district Cooperative office has indicated it encountered in establishing CBOs due to the interpretation of article in proc. 985/2016 which states no two similar cooperatives established at the same area.

Site visits and consultation were made with Turse Dubo Forest Cooperative, Airport I AR Site and Alle district experts. Airport I AR site was established on communal land while Turse Dubo Forest Cooperative AR site was by pulling individual community members and hope to pull more lands when

the following conditions fulfilled: REDD+ support their livelihoods until they generate income from the AR sites or alternate income source plus when the AR site will be proved rewarding. Communities clearly spelt out a tea plantation business are highly rewarding after 3 years of establishment and may turn their endeavor to tea planation when the expectation of REDD+ will not be met. The understanding of the community on REDD+ is so high which they described it as 'REDD+ is all about how people harmoniously live with nature/forest'.

The livelihood support option proposed by the community include fruit trees, beekeeping(modern), coffee planting(improved variety),livestock fattening and credit to run petty trading. There is heightened expectation of community on income from the carbon credit which should be calm down through awareness creation and training.

Depending on the experience they got in the previous year that planted and benefited from *Grevillea robusta*, Airport I AR Site community planted the same and has envisaged of having mobile saw mill to convert the plantation to timber when matured.

The local or village level administration was reported of having commitment in enforcing law and supporting the full-fledge implementation of the REDD+ Program but law enforcement at district level was sometimes setback by individual and institutional level interests (e.g. per-diem and transport availing respectively) which is beyond the capacity of the program to meet the demand due to absence of ear-tagged budget and vehicles respectively.

Alle district, in Turse Dubo Forest Cooperative, has advisors out of their Kebele administration (i.e. from neighboring Kebeles) who neutrally serve the purpose of grievance redressing which this should be learnt by others to amicably solve grievance within and out of the CBOs.

Communities in Alle district have high understanding of competitive advantages of business such as tea plantation vis-a-vis tree planting. They have indicated they will calculate the benefit from the tea planting and tree planting and then engage in one which gives them more benefits. REDD+ has to, therefore, a competitive land-user to survive in the area

The members Turse Dubo Forest Cooperative have the roles such as planting, weeding, fencing, guarding, pitting which each members engage on the respective activities by rotating from time to time.

Becho

Becho District has indicated that project is challenged by infrequent visit to the site (only 2 experts for the vast sites of the district), absence of access road, absence of transport facility, communication gaps due to COVID-19 lockdown and frequent interruption of internet. Inadequate as well as inappropriate seeds supply were another challenge the project has faced. *Pinus patula*, for instance mentioned has never been planted in the district before and was challenged by absence of mycorrhizal soil that affected its survival and performance as well. Similarly, the performance of Grevillea robusta is very poor while *Cupressus lusitanica* was cracking. Generally, Becho district REDD+ office has indicated that the seeds supplied from Shashamene did not do well while that supplied by SLM from the local area doing well.

Becho district has indicated that Etho-Wetland gave awareness training on PFM and ORCU on REDD+ in January 2018 (2010EC) and no other trainings given since then. Thus, there is training gap which the gap tried to be solved by individual effort through reading the materials were impaired by language.

Site visits and discussion were carried out at Tokuma Kabeto AR Site, Derekesi Ho'i CBO and Becho district experts. Tokuma Kabeto AR Site was nearly an abandoned communal land due to degradation that was changed to AR site. Communities at Tokuma Kabeto AR Site felt their environment changed from highland to low land due to degradation and hence, have determined to totally reverse the condition through tree planting. Grasses grown in Tokuma Kabeto AR Site were wasted because some of the members do not have animals to feed or have market for it. Members of Tokuma Kebeto AR site would not access their site during rainy season as the road is of only dry season road.

Derekesi Ho'i CBO, who has the motto *do good or else do nothing*, is Ethio-Wetland coordinated REDD+ Legacy project where thirty three per cent (33%) of the CBO members are women with people who have been living in the forest from ancestors let to live without dislocation and expanding the holdings. Members of Derekesi Ho'i CBO indicated they use the house of the CBO chairperson for keeping their documents as they do not have office.

Members who pulled their individual plots for AR were denied of participating in communal land that was changed to AR site in Tokuma Kebeto AR site. Thus, individuals who pulled their private lands have decided to withdraw in pursue of maintaining the benefit they get from communal land and/or participate in the CBO that will be established on communal land. The challenge came from the Coop establishment proc. no. 985/2016 that prevents the establishment of two or more similar CBO in one area and prevents the involvement of a person in more than one CBO.

There were complains that seed supplies were not based on the request submitted according to the agro-climatic condition of the area. Consequently Grevillea *robusta* planted at Derekesi Ho'i site has performed low. Members of Derekesi Ho'i COB indicated their effort has stopped the deliberate fire setting that swept forest, improved forest of their areas, rainfall onset resumed the old way (now February which was moved to May) and intensity and duration also re-maintained, human and animals disease prevalence and incidences deceased.

Proposed support on livelihoods include fattening (sheep and ox emphasized), dairy husbandry, beekeeping, poultry farming (especially for the women group members), potable water access creation, alternate energy source supply (electricity from the national grid, solar power) and fuel efficient stoves and forest based technology (which they did not name or know any but think of ease life). Communities have indicated that they would totally lift their dependence on the forest provided that they will be supported on the proposed livelihoods option and also get market for the non-timber forest product (NTFP) found in the forest such as coffee and spices such as ogiwo/korerima(*Aframomum korarima*).

Green Legacy Project in Becho district were carried on private land, communal land, river sides, compounds of religious institutes and on open areas without having safeguard tools. The extent it cover is not known as it was reported only by higher level officials at each levels.

Grievance committee is working on grievance prevention than settling and pre-committee addressing by elders who are not members of the CBO.

Members of the Derekesi Ho'i CBO indicated their bylaw has included the culture and values of the community. Kobo, traditional forest management practice which made the forest to survive to date, was made part of the bylaw.

In Becho district, new members to an already established CBO are welcome after calculating the expenses of the founder members, valuing the labours of the members so far expended on the work in monetary value and paying the share amount equal to what the founder members paid.

Bedele

In Bedele district, site visits and community consultation were carried-out in Abdi Jirenya Cooperative, Bigiltu Gudina Odo Coop and Bedele district.

Available evidences indicated that trainings and awareness creations were given on safeguard tools (SGT), GRM, consultation and participation and others. Training materials were distributed to all in hard and soft copies. High turnover of the safeguard tools trained personnel in REDD+ sub-project implementing partners were observed. The district has proposed different types of training which were given in the main report of this report.

Bedele District OEFCCA office has highlighted there is high deforestation rate in the district with an estimated deforestation-AR net resultant zero. Planting of coffee in the natural forest has got impetus from the investment office due to the notion which puts forward 'coffee farming is an agroforestry practice'. Overlap of activities of the sub-projects with that of the implementing partners, e.g. planting for green legacy on the sites identified for the AR of REDD+ sub-project was mentioned as a challenge encountered in 2020. Bedele District OEFCCA office has indicated that Sangota Forest is not included in the REDD+ program because it needs relocation of people from the forest (deployment of Resettlement Action Plan, RAP) which government has to do this.

Land is acquired from government, community (communal land) and private in a procedure well developed for REDD+ project/sub-project. Volunteer-ness and participation of with family members to disclose their consent is what comprises the core of the land acquisition process from the individuals interested to pull land for the REDD+.

Abdi Jirenya Cooperative is organized on Boqa Forest and degraded land found at the foot side of Boqa Forest. Members of Abdi Jirenya Cooperative protect the forest and has given usufruct right on non-timber forest product (NTFP) which coffee is the main constituent of the forest while at the same time are planting trees on the degraded land found outside of Boqa Forest. Oromia REDD+ Program supports the coop for the AR site while World Vision Ethiopia supports on both the natural (Boqa Forest) and plantation sites by a management practice termed as Farmers Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR). FMNR is simple and low cost management of non-planted trees and shrubs with the goal of increasing the value or quantity of woody vegetation on farmland.

The commencement of the REDD+ project in the visited sites were brought of positive impacts which include improved precipitation (with regained intensity, duration and season), frequent deliberate fire setting to initiate new grasses.

Community proposed livelihood option until they able to generate income from the AR site include fattening(oxen and sheep), dairy farm(improved variety), poultry(with women in mind to run it), alternate energy sources(including connection to national grid, biogas and solar sources), fuel efficient gadgets, water development(from well to run backyard vegetables), apiculture(modern coupled with technical support), fruit Trees(improved varieties) and flour mill.

Biqiltu Gudina Odo Coop members indicated they engaged in the REDD+ Program because they are seeing their highland climate weather is turning to lowland in front of their eyes. So, are determined to reverse the condition through tree plantings in more areas of their village and beyond.

It was indicated that there were community members who did not become the CBO members due to financial capacity to pay registration fee, membership contribution and share purchase. To solve the problem, they were allowed to become a membership by looking forward they pay when they have money or pay from the benefit to be accrued from the AR scheme which this is a very genuine thinking under normal condition. However, the attempt made to make the financially constrained persons member of the CBO became futile when the considerate persons declined after seeing the condition of the AR scheme, i.e. when not performing well.

Members of the Biqiltu Gudina Odo Coop indicated the seeds supplied by the project and they planted (Cuppressus *lustanica* and *Grevillea robust*) were not and will not be their choice as they stated. Plastics from the seedlings planted were originally disposed in the AR sites where later collected and burnt.

The plantation for the green legacy was reported of characterized by low survival rate, absence of management, no ownership, not having safeguard tools, a one-time campaign with no later phase follow up and known of no acreage. It was indicated that the Agriculture Office pledged it delivers the site to the Environment Office for its management after dully identifying, delineating and producing title deed for each site; however, this was not done so far.

Bedele District OEFCCA office has indicated that forest related administrative and legal issues are more of the duty of OFWE and thus, any problems from this perspective is the responsibility of OFWE. Law enforcement in Bedele district was reported of facing multifaceted challenges which include absurding witnesses with cross question to make them quit their witnesses, manipulation of the statements of the witnesses including total alteration by government litigant to deliberately change the verdict and the same case being interpreted differently and thus given different degree of decision making presumably the legal issues subjective.

Bore

Sites visited and consultations were carried out at Buche Kelecha, Gotu Bukisa CBOs and Bore district office.

According to Bore district OEFCCA office, training on safeguard tools were carried-out at higher levels (district and above) for few experts; there is no budget for training on the same at grass-root level including the REDD+ implementing partners for those not trained or when there is a turnover of the trained ones.

Bore district ORCU has recognized it is more important to invest on forest encroachers or deforesters through training and awareness creation than taking the case to law enforcers because law enforcers perceive forest encroachers or deforesters as their best business client. Law enforcers and administrators in Bore district have different definition for forest than that formally known by government. Their definition is quite different from that given by Environment, Forest and Climate Change Commission of Ethiopia, for instance they never recognized the existence of high forest and thus, defined high forest as shrubs and shrubs as open land. Once their cases presented to the law enforcers, encroacher and deforester were observed of developing the sentiment of owner of the occupied land or forest cleared site, especially when coerced for it.

The district office has revealed that there is a wrong perception and understanding of REDD+ project even by the implementing partners. They (implementing partners), were observed of comparing benefit package from REDD+ project with that of EU and FARM Africa projects.

It was learnt that he whereabouts of the vehicles assigned for the project are not known; thus, any failure to REDD+ project could attribute to absence of transport facility or the abuse use of the facility designated for the district.

Bucha Kelecha CBO has a bylaw which constituted of business idea on beekeeping, fattening, poultry farming and supply of alternate energy sources for the community. Bucha Kelecha CBO members emphasize beekeeping as their top priority because Bore district is known as one of the major honey supplier areas of Ethiopia, especially white honey from the nectar of *Schefflera abyssinica* tree species. The CBO members are expecting of pollen and nectar for beekeeping from non-flowering plant species (such as Pinus and Cupressus) which they planted and looking forward of planting the same. The CBO observed of demanding more lands for AR sites and erecting of sign boards on the site.

Members of the Bucha Kelecha AR sites have no tools and equipment (hoeing tools, pick-ax, spade, panga/slasher and those including for trees/forest management) for managing planted out trees and hence, requested fulfillment of the same. The coop has a plan of managing the planation for carbon sell while getting non-timber forest products, NTFP, thereof. The lands used for AR are of communal in all the visited sites of Bore District.

Bucha Kelecha CBO members highlighted their effort for realizing the REDD+ project is challenged by the absence of road to the sites. They indicated that the low survival of the planted out was attributed to the long distance transporting of the seedlings. The planted out seedlings need watering to make them survive the tough dry which need road for transporting water to the site.

It was observed at Gotu Bukisa AR site that there were planting of the same space on the same site with different spacing. At some points, plantings were done on less than 1mx1m spacing while at some points on 2mx2m spacing. Gotu Bukisa CBO was not legalized or got legality from the Coop office, though functional during the visit, and thus the members were organizing their documents to get licensed /legalized by the competing agency.

The AR site coupled with the water-fall in the area water fall (Gotu) was proposed to be the tourist destination area of Bore District. Thus, they need facilities for tourist such as lodge, access road, training members on hospitality.

The cooperatives in the two toured sites of Bore district (Buche Kelecha, Gotu Bukisa) were planted tree seedlings which performed very well. Bucha Kelecha AR site was observed of recently deforested land planted with Pinus patula, Cupressues lustanic, Acacia decurrensis and Grevillea robusta being mixed (unblocked) that will make the management and utilizing (if any) very difficult as they need different management practices and have different gestation periods.

Absence of livelihood option or meager access to it mentioned as one of the key factors that urge withdrawal of members from the CBO or refrain their active participation in the activities of the CBO or formation of new CBOs on forest related activities. Thus, CBO members proposed support on tourism facility, beekeeping (backyard and AR site), fattening (backyard and AR site) and poultry (backyard and AR site) as priority area of livelihood support they need.

There are several plots of more than half (0.5) hectare planted for the Green Legacy on abandoned, degraded and eroded lands without having safeguard tools or having no maps for the sites.

With respect to security challenge from the district, it was reported that there was delay in survival count plan in Sora District and no other activities affected.

Dire Inchini

The REDD+ project was the first ever project brought to Dire-Inchini district which by no means the community as well as the local government want to hear the failure of the project. However, community has indicated that major tasks done in Dire-Inching district which include forest demarcation and resources assessment were supported by the technical committee and nearly no support from steering committee. The technical committees are of multidisciplinary in their profession and are committed to offer required support. Thus, community members have indicated that the unleashed support from the technical committee and presence of non-arable land that could be converted to AR sites are the major opportunity they need to utilize. The community in Dire-Inchini has the motto the *power of being organized* to accomplish their works.

Training and awareness creation were given to experts, community members and government representatives from executive organs on the safeguard tools, C&P, GRM, PFM and overall issues relevant to sub-projects. It was indicated that the different participants of the training and awareness creation were given their feedbacks on the issues they were trained on and also identified activities to participate in the sub-projects. As it was worked per the given feedback, the implementations of the projects have brought positive impacts which include recovering of bamboo forest, harness of soil erosion and good weather restoration. The intervention has also brought beekeeping practices to widespread in several of the villages which the practice was limited only few villages before the commencement of the project. However, it was indicated that community members need additional trainings on nursery establishment and management, beekeeping (modern and transitional), construction of beehives (modern and transitional), fruit trees and vegetable production.

Membership for CBO is all inclusive and is open to all community members whose age is equal or greater than eighteen, willing to buy share and positively contributes to the success of the CBO. Due to this open access opportunity of becoming member of CBO, Bola-Roge PFM that had 20 members upon establishment has grown to 35 by the end of 2019. However, it was indicated that there are influential community members who were still not become member of the PFM at Bola Roge forest. So it was

indicated, it needs to allocate extra time and resource to convince them and bring on board for the PFM membership.

PFM members claimed their work has brought several impacts both on the forest and community which include the followings:

- Change of planting of species –began planting with exotic and then shifted to indigenous e.g. from Cupressus to Hygenia
- > Decrease of deforestation by about 60 per cent as estimated by PFM members
- Decrease of charcoal making and lumbering
- > Of the 32 springs which were dried due to deforestation, 6 of them from Roge site were restored

Communities have indicated that they have some challenges that to do with AR which is include access road to the AR site for planting, protecting and managing the plant out. They tried to solve it through labour for constructing it which was not turned to success due to few numbers of the members of AR CBO to cover all the length on difficult terrain. Members also contributed money to construct the road but that was too little to cover the construction cost and hence requested support from the program including all interested to stand by the side of the sub-projects. There are PFM and AR members who produce honey and fruit but could not find market for their produces. So they beseeched government to find outlets for their produces.

There are 34 community members who are the members of the FM residing in the forest from ancestors to date. These people were let continue to amicably live there without expanding their current holdings. One point, however, mentioned was to issue map of the current holdings of the farmers so that it is possible to monitor whether they expanded their holding sizes or not.

Community members have clearly indicated that the REDD+ project in the project area has shifted deforestation to non-project areas. They for instance mentioned that the protection of Bola Roge forests by PFM brought impact on the forests of Togo and Roge while the protection of Roge Dega forest brought impact to Togo & Meden forest. Due to impact shift, the forests at Togo Meden and Roge sites are nearly to disappearing that needs urgent interference by government

Women were registered for training on cook stove and have been waiting for long the realization of the same.

Community members highlighted they need support on solar energy gadgets (preferably on credit), energy efficient stoves, fattening and loan (to run petty trade).

The main implementation gaps were indicated that establishing of CBO which took longer time (took longer time to convince community members, especially Bola Roge), absence of strong support from executive organ (court police Administrator reluctant to support), weak relation of technical and steering committee, turnover of technical and steering committee.

Dodola

Dodola district is the cluster coordination center for five districts (Dodola, Adaba, Kokosa, Nansabo and G/Asasa) being located in Dodola Town. The cluster has indicated it is tough to coordinate five districts with the available human and material resources. It is, therefore, indicated that human and material resources have to be fulfilled to effectively implement the project/sub-project.

The study has confirmed that different trainings which include safeguards, GRM, C&P and OFLP/RIP/REDD+ legacy were given to experts and stakeholders. Safeguard tools in hard and soft copies were given to all districts regardless of their participation on training or not with the objective of reaching those interested in reading the materials would be reached.

Interviews made with nursery workers have indicated that there is no discrimination or forced or child labour. Workers also mentioned there is no work place violence and harassment. However, they complained of low salary and wage payment and absence of provision of personal protective equipment.

Community requested the program suport them on livelihood options such as vegetable production. They also requested to be supported on aulternate energy sources which they listed were connection to the national grid, biogas facility construction, solar energy apparatus availing and fuel-wood efficient stove vegetable provision. FARM Africa and SOS-Sahel Ethiopia has supported them on fuel-efficient stoves but that were few compared to the number of community members who want to get it.

Community members in Dodola district have high expectation from the carbon trading. They have a plan, set in mind but not transferred into written plan, they will build social infrastructure and also individually use for their investment the money that will be obtained from the carbon credit.

During discussion on the restructuring of WaJiB with community members, it was learnt there were two groups- who support restructuring and those not. Founder members of the WaJiB were resistant to the restructuring because restructuring will bring more number of people to join which may decrease the benefit they are getting. On the other hand, the non-WaJiB community members need restructuring of

it indicating the CBO has alienated them for years without participating and getting benefit from the resource at their doors. WaJiB was accused of failing to replace members who left it for various reasons (decease, age, leave of the area) even from the family of those who left it. For restructuring WaJiB, it needs convincing the members, updating the law and by-law

Hidhesa

The sites visited were Lalistu Ar site, Hidhesa AR site II and Hidhesa district office which runs both PFM and AR activities.

Trainings and awareness creations on safeguard tools (SGT), GRM, consultation and participation and others. Training materials were distributed to all in hard and soft copies. High turnover of the safeguard tools trained personnel in REDD+ sub-project implementing partners were observed. The district has proposed different types of trainings which were given in the key finding section of this report.

Hidhesa District is managing the poly-bags removed from the planted seedlings by burring on the site which is not the way to manage but by collecting and temporarily storing in safe places until transported to areas where recycled or safely disposed at authorized site

With respect to the implementation of the sub-projects, the office has reported that it has encountered challenges which include high turnover of the trained staff members of the implementing members. As an example, 91 focal persons trained since the launch of the program where 77 of them not available during the field assessment.

There was access restriction reported for livestock to free grazing and road to nd from the villages. Restriction to grazing was solved through allocating alternate land for grazing as well as cut-and-carry from the AR sites while restriction to road was addressed through allocating alternate roads.

With respect to land acquisition, communities have clearly defined process and procedure where applicants (be it from communal or private land) log-in the form prepared for land donation along with their family members. Then consultation will be made at village level where the findings of the consultation will be sent along logged form to the District Land and Environment Office. The Land and Environment Office assess the field condition and issues title deed for the proposed program. DA is performing screening for eligibility with a minimum of fifty per cent (50%) of the residents being available during the process. Members who want to leave the coop have the right to do so anytime. When the land of he/she who wants to leave the coop is found at the edge (border) of the sub-project

site, this is easily done by deducting his/her contribution and issuing of new title deed. When the defaulters land is found in the middle of the concession of the coop, this is done by exchange of land of equivalent type from elsewhere without compromising his/her benefit accrued from the previous land.

The district has indicated that there are challenges with respect to implementing of the sub-project which are outlined as follow:

- Absence of synergy from implementing partners. Even OEFCCA of other departments that shares
 the same vision with that of ORCU has misunderstanding towards the REDD+ Program as
 discussed with the OEFCCA staff members.
- Of the implementing partners, only Agriculture and Livestock Office has activities in the same
 village with the REDD+ Program. So others need special field arrangement to support the REDD
 + sub-project which this is not possible due to lack of budget and vehicle. Thus, some activities
 of the project remain unimplemented.
- District steering and technical committee do not frequently meet to give technical support and address outstanding issues timely. It was reported that there committee members have different attitudes towards the program and also understandings of it (program)
- Budget and support for mitigation measures expected from implementing partners where themselves reported of having no enough budget and capacity (both human and material).
 Thus, some plans remain unimplemented, e.g. improved forage supply.
- Development agents (DA) and community members from remotely located villages (the minimum 65km from the center) and in-accessed due to road did not come to the center for training and other sub-project agenda discussion.

No security problem encountered Hidhesa District that permanently impaired the implementation of the sub-project or that urged shift in program location; however, temporary delay in Digo and Chalo villages encountered which are solved during the field assessment for this assignment.

There is a good support from the administration with respect to law enforcement than at the start of the project. However, there is a challenge from the court when natural resource base, with particular reference to forest clearing, case presented in pursuant of getting fair judgment.

- There was reported support gap from the court in a way that it considers cases only that has site map which this is not often practical because every parcel of forest land has no map
- The legal case is often taken of more subjective than objective. Thus, interpretation lies in the hands of the judge. As an example, it was indicated tree species other than restricted by decree

not to cut (such as Cordia, Hygenia, Podo, Juniperus) are not trees or essentially constituents of forest in the eyes of the judge. Thus, a litigant who was sued of clearing 11ha of forest was let to go free boasting in front of his plaintiffs-giving courage for more forest to clear. The bosses of the judge, who made the verdict, changed his working place from Gechi to Hidhessa District. To add more, witnesses were videoed and their words are simultaneously minuted when giving their witnesses but disparity between the two observed with the intention of flawing the verdict to the deforester and that was what happened in reality.

• Video record taken from the deforested site is not accepted as evidence by the court (even if coupled by human witness)-they need live record of the incident which is often unpractical as the criminal is not doing this in behold of the recorded evidence.

Even if the criminal is given the 'right' decision, he (because the criminals are all men) develops the sentiment that the deforested site is his property because he was penalized for it. Thus, after the criminal finishes his terms of custody/jail, the sub-project office begins a new battle with him.

Lalistu Coop, found in Gepa Village at a very place called Gara Chobte (Gaara Cobxee) has planted *Cupressus lustanica* which most of them were observed of dying may be due to species site selection problem as explained by the members but needs to investigate the exact cause of it. Community member have divided ideas on the re-appearances of the wildlife. One group has afraid of the threat from the wildlife while the other the group has perceived it as an opportunity that should be tapped.

Hidhesa AR Site II Coop is found in Hidhesa District, in Sobo village at a very place called Tulu Boke runs its activities on the communal land which hey want to expand as land available. The land was planted with *Cupressus lustanica* and *Grevillea robusta* which has shown very stunted growth. Hidhesa AR Site II Coop members the motto 'nothing will stop us' to realize the objective.

Hidhesa AR Site II Coop members explained that AR has brought back Ilala spring water that dried up long years ago, has changed the micro-climate (December was too dry until 2018 and getting wet by 2020) and reduced death of livestock and equines. The members of the Coop have mentioned the subproject has enhanced the socialization of the community. They said they have more affection to each other and to those out of the coop now than before the program launched. They are yearning to see each other frequently as they mentioned.

Hidhesa AR Site II Coop has good experience of solving complaint submitted by the non-coop members. The case was a boundary dispute between the coop's AR site and an individual. The complaint had logged the case using the application form and then the coop handed-over to the district Land Administration and Use Office to resolve the issue amicably. The Land Administration and Use Office

then re-assessed the area and identified that land of the complaint was erroneously added to the concession of the Hidhesa AR Site II Coop where adjustments made with the issuances of new certificates of holdings to both the griever and the coop.

Jeldu

Experts from the district OEFCCA and focal persons from sectoral offices had indicated that they received trainings on safeguard tools and other REDD+ related documents. It was observed that the training materials and attendances of the trainees were documented in Jeldu district OEFCCA office. It was indicated that the district had distributed training materials and relevant documents to all sectoral offices in hard and soft copies to help all interested can be reached.

Jeldu district has indicated that there is high interest by community members to engage in REDD+ subprojects through establishing CBOs. However, this interest was impaired by the shortage of land. CBO that were already established and operating need more land than they hold now to intensify their activities and were observed of dealing with government to include adjoining lands; however, budget would be a constraint to even if they may succeed in getting the lands.

Nursery sit is not fully equipped with tools and equipment, workers were not provided with personal protective equipment and the salary/ wage is compared to the local industry wage as claimed by workers. It was indicated that there is budget shortage to run the nursery and supply inputs for seedling rising (e.g. forest soil, sand, and labour).

ESMP mitigation measures proposed by RIP project but aligned in other sectors to be addressed remained unaddressed or their status not known as is not reported to ORCU or its variant at different levels.

In Jeldu district, all community members were informed to become CBO members and those who are interested joined the BOs. Community members have proposed alternate energy sources (national grid, biogas, solar energy and fuel-wood efficient stove), credit for petty trading, fruit trees (improved varieties) and vegetable seedlings supply as means of livelihoods support.

Lands for the AR sites were acquired from government and communal which were mostly remnant forests and some of them degraded. Community members and Kebele administrator discuss over the land use allocation in their village and determine which land to use for what purpose. Then the minute and signature of the community recorded and a letter is written to district OEFCCA when land is decided to use for forest/plantation/rehabilitation of degraded sites. Based on the letter from the Kebele administration, the district OEFCCA request Land Administration and Use Office approval of the same

and offer of site maps/title deed. It was observed that the district Land Administration and Use Office had issued 21 AR and nursery site maps to district OEFCCA which are used for RIP implementation. Some of the lands were being degraded which fully rehabilitated after began being managed under AR. CBO members planted the sites with *Grevillea robusta, Casuarina equisetifolia, Acacia albida* and *Cupresses lustanica* in open areas, kept free of interference where degraded due to erosion and maintained the remnant species to restore to the natural environment. The eroded areas within the AR site were also maintained using physical measures such gabion terraces. The rehabilitated lands are under use for livestock and fattening (oxen and sheep), beekeeping. The grasses were cut and prepared for sell to generate income for the members.

Road accesses to the AR sites were mentioned as one of the major constraint to transport seedlings to and grass from the site. Budget to run the activities, office facility including stationery and transport facility were also indicated as challenge the district has encountered to effectively implemented the subprojects.

There is no security problem encountered impaired the implementation of the sub-project or that urged shift in program location.

Annex 5: List of table referenced

- Plantation sites in reports of districts
- Membership fee
- Different committee in report of Kebele
- Livelihood table of Adaba
- Forest cover of different sites in districts (Dodola, Dire-Inchini, etc.)

Annex 6: List of map referenced

- Map of individual plantation sites filed by coops
- Map of plantation sites in reports of districts

Annex 7: Photo of discussant, key interviewee



Discussion with community in Dire-Inchini district



Discussion with community in Becho district, Tokuma Kabeto Coop



Discussion with Community, Adola District, Gara Robele Coop



Interview with key informant, Jeldu district



Discussion with focal persons, Bore district