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**“PROGRESS TOWARD THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN”
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2016**

<p align="center">Programme Title & Project Number</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme Title: Accelerating Progress Toward Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in (<i>Ethiopia</i>) • MPTF Office Project Reference Number:¹ 00092000 	<p align="center">Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</p> <p>(<i>Ethiopia</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Direct Beneficiaries: 2,374 smallholder rural women farmers and agro pastoralists and 125 government experts (45 female and 80 male) ▪ Indirect Beneficiaries: 3,104 community members (female 2,779 and male 375) 						
<p align="center">Participating Organization(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO, IFAD UNWOMEN, WFP 	<p>The strategic result is to secure rural women’s livelihoods and rights in the context of sustainable development and the SDGs.</p> <p align="center">Implementing Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Federal: Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA); Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MoANR); Federal Cooperatives Agency, Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation (MoFEC); Ministry of Education (Department of Functional Adult Literacy); Land Administration Agency.</i> • <i>Regional²: Oromia and Afar Regional and District Level Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (BoFEDs); Farmer/Pastoralist Training Centres (F/PTC); Bureaus of Women and Children Affairs (BoWCAs); Bureaus of Agriculture (BoAs); and Bureaus of Cooperative Promotion Agencies (BoCPA)</i> • <i>Non-Governmental Organizations: Society for Women and AIDS in Africa-Ethiopia (SWAA-E), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Land Administration to Nurture Development (LAND) Project and Organization for Women in Self-employment (WISE)</i> 						
<p align="center">Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: MPTF Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> <table> <tr> <td><i>UN Women</i></td> <td align="right"><i>130,536</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>FAO</i></td> <td align="right"><i>278,741</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>WFP</i></td> <td align="right"><i>878,979</i></td> </tr> </table> <p>Agency Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> 	<i>UN Women</i>	<i>130,536</i>	<i>FAO</i>	<i>278,741</i>	<i>WFP</i>	<i>878,979</i>	<p align="center">Programme Duration</p> <p>Overall Duration 5 YEARS</p> <p>Start Date (<i>15/10/2012</i>)</p>
<i>UN Women</i>	<i>130,536</i>						
<i>FAO</i>	<i>278,741</i>						
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¹ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number are as follows: ETHIOPIA: 00092000; GUATEMALA: 00092001; KYRGYZSTAN: 00092002; LIBERIA: 00092003; NEPAL: 00092004; NIGER: 00092005; RWANDA: 00092006

² Ethiopia is administratively divided into 9 regional states and chartered cities, zones, Woreda (districts) and kebele (wards). Of the 9 regional states RWEE JP is working with two of them namely Afar and Oromia where 4 districts are targeted during the programme period.

IFAD 11,000 ³ Government Contribution Other Contributions donors) SDG-Fund 1,500,000 TOTAL:
Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval. Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i> Mid-Term Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>

Original End Date (14/10/17)
Report Submitted by <input type="checkbox"/> Name: Funmi Balogun <input type="checkbox"/> Title: Deputy Country Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Participating Organization (Lead): UN Women <input type="checkbox"/> Email address: funmi.balogun@unwomen.org

ACRONYMS

AWP	Annual Work Plan
BoAs	Bureaus of Agriculture
BoCPA	Bureau of Cooperative Promotion Agencies
BoFED	Bureau of Finance and Economic Development
BoWCA	Bureau of Women and Children Affairs
CCs	Community Conversations
CPAs	Cooperative Promotion Agencies
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DAs	Development Agents
EFY	Ethiopian Fiscal Year
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
F/PTC	Farmers/Pastoralist Training Centres
GRB	Gender-Responsive Budgeting
GTP	Growth and Transformational Plan
HLSC	High-level Steering Committee
HEWs	Health Extension Workers
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAs	Income Generating Activities
LAND	Land Administration to Nurture Development
MoANR	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
MoFEC	Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation ⁴
MoWCA	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
MPTF	Multi Partners Trust Fund
MSEDAs	Medium and Small Enterprise Development Agencies
PMC	Programme Management Committee
PMF	Performance Monitoring Framework
RWEE JP	Rural Women Economic Empowerment Joint Program
RUSACCOs	Rural Saving and Credit Cooperative Organizations
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SWAA-E	Society for Women and AIDS in Africa-Ethiopia
ToT	Training of Trainers
TWG	Technical Working Group
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistant Framework
UNRC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WEAs	Women Entrepreneur Associations
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
WISE	Organization for Women in Self Employment

³ IFAD has already disbursed the fund for the Programme launching workshop conducted on 14 November 2014.

⁴ The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is now changed to Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation.

NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The annual report covering the achievements of the Joint Programme from January - December 2016 is compiled reflecting on the strategies, processes and approaches employed to bring about the results to date. Accordingly, as a result of the various efforts put into the joint programme by all the participating United Nations agencies, the federal and regional level government implementing partners, the following major results were achieved.

- Through trained 47 (female 27 and male 20) Agricultural Development Agents (DAs) (32) and Health Extension Workers (HEWs) (15), 82 per cent (1,964) of the targeted rural women have received agriculture and nutrition related trainings as well as individualized and group based technical services.
- With the training provided to date on household food reserve control and management and the house-to-house technical support provided by DAs, 5 per cent (113) of the targeted rural women have enhanced their capacities on household food reserve management.
- During the reporting period, a remarkable increase was reported in the women savings portfolio and in accessing credit services, which in turn has helped them to multiply their assets. Through the skill trainings and financial access created by the Joint Programme, 38 per cent (900) of the targeted rural women are able to diversify their sources of income. Moreover, 13 per cent (319) rural women are able to fulfil educational materials for their children attending school. In addition, 600 rural women have a bank account with the support of the Cooperative Offices of the targeted districts with saving balances ranging from 400 Birr (17 USD) to 3,000 Birr (130 USD). 64 rural women were also able to join Ekub⁵.
- Particularly through the general income generating activities (IGAs) and basic business skills trainings, 55 per cent (1,313) of rural women (900 from Oromia and 413 from Afar) have enhanced knowledge on basic financial and business management, entrepreneurship, saving and credit management and leadership concepts.
- With regards to creating access to agricultural inputs, a total of 266 quintals of grain and vegetable seeds and 500 apple seedlings have been procured and partially distributed to the three programme districts of the Oromia region. The seeds distributed serve a dual purpose, where with the training on nutrition enhancement and certain IGAs and business skills it is expected that the food and nutrition security of the targeted women will be enhanced significantly and their livelihoods diversified.
- The programme has also procured technologies such as 6 water pumps, 2 maize sheller and 15 bee hives with its objective to enhance income diversification through women friendly technologies.
- Because of the specific gender awareness creation campaign conducted by the Joint Programme, 21 per cent (499) of rural women in Oromia region are reported to have participated in house-hold decision-making involving the sale of assets like cattle and rental of land.
- Through the individual level leadership trainings, exposure visits, Community Conversations (CCs) and awareness creation campaigns, 3,104 community members (female 2,779 and male 375) were reached to change their attitudes towards gender issues.
- Through the collaborative efforts of the Joint Programme with relevant government sector offices and other international organizations, a functioning and enabling National Network for Gender Equality in Agriculture dedicated to creating gender responsive agricultural sector policies, strategies and programmes was created.
- Data collection, quantitative analysis and calculation of the Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index were conducted on beneficiaries in Oromia as part of the Impact Assessment exercise supported by IFPRI.

⁵ Ekub' is an Ethiopian traditional financial group where members of the 'Ekub' would save a certain amount of money every day, week or month and the collected money will be given to a member who win the lottery and the process continues till every member gets its share.

- Finally, with the Joint Programme's support, a Gender Equality Strategy for the Agricultural Sector was developed with the leadership of the Gender Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MoANR). The Directorate will be supported to popularize the strategy once it is finalized and endorsed by the management of MoANR.

I. Purpose

The Rural Women Economic Empowerment Joint Programme (RWEE JP) is a 5-year results oriented collaborative programme initiated in 2012 at global level by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to promote the economic empowerment of rural women. It has an overarching goal of securing rural women's livelihoods and rights in the context of sustainable development and the post-MDGs. The Ethiopian RWEE JP, which was officially launched on 14 November 2014, aimed at accelerating the economic empowerment of 4,300 rural women and securing their livelihoods and rights. Since its official commencement, the Joint Programme has been addressing 2,374 targeted women in the four districts namely Yayagulele, Dodola, Adamitulu in Oromia regional state and Dubti in Afar regional state. The following outcomes and outputs have been set for the Joint Programme as its marker of achievement: -

Outcome 1. Rural women improve their food security and nutrition

- Output 1.1. Rural women have increased access to and control over resources, assets and services critical for their food and nutrition security
- Output 1.2. Rural women have capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production

Outcome 2. Rural women increase their income to sustain their livelihoods

- Output 2.1 Women's increased capacity to produce goods with diversified access to local markets
- Output 2.2 Rural women access to holistic income-generating facilities and to gender-sensitive financial and non-financial services increased
- Output 2.3 Rural women increased their knowledge and incorporate acquired skills on financial literacy, entrepreneurship and sustainable agriculture techniques
- Output 2.4 Rural women have increased access to productive resources and services (land and agricultural inputs and technologies)

Outcome 3. Rural women strengthen their voice in decisions that affect their lives

- Output 3.1 Rural women confidence and leadership skills built to fully participate in family matters, rural institutions, cooperatives and unions

Outcome 4. Gender responsive policy and institutional environment for women's economic empowerment.

- Output 4.1. Agriculture key stakeholders, including relevant government bodies, capacity enhanced to conduct gender analysis and integrate gender sensitive indicators and targets in planning and budgeting

II. Results

i) Narrative reporting on results:

The achievements of RWEE Joint Programme are presented below and organized under the outcome and output indicators of the Programme. Programme implementation reports from partners, annual programme review proceeding and monitoring visits conducted in three districts of Oromia Region are the major sources used for this progress report.

Outcome 1: Rural women improve their food security and nutrition

Data against outcome 1 indicators was not collected considering the additional time needed to both achieve and measure real changes. However, the data collected for the output indicators are provided and discussed below.

Output 1.1. Rural women access and control management over local household food reserve increased

During the current reporting period, 82 per cent (1,964) of the rural women were able to access agriculture and nutrition related trainings and individualized and group based technical services through 47 (female 27 and male 20) Agricultural Development Agents (DAs) (32) and Health Extension Workers (HEWs) (15) who were trained by the regional Bureaus of Agriculture (BoAs) in partnership with the Joint Programme. In addition, a total of 266 quintals of grain and vegetable seeds and 500 apple seedlings have been procured and partially distributed to the three programme districts of the Oromia region. The seeds distributed served a dual purpose, where with the training in place on nutrition enhancement and specific income generating activities (IGAs) and business skills it is expected that the food and nutrition security of the targeted women will be enhanced significantly and their livelihoods diversified in the coming reporting seasons. The Joint Programme has also procured technologies such as 6 water pumps, 2 maize sheller and 15 bee hives with its objective to enable beneficiaries in the three district of Oromia to diversify their income with women friendly technologies.

As a result of the agricultural technical service provided, the targeted women in the Oromia region have now gained knowledge and skills on row/line planting; preparation of farm land; effective utilization of natural fertilizer/compost; how to search, harvest and preserve water for irrigation; cattle fattening techniques; preparation of nutritious food for families; how to sort and reserve harvested crops for sale, consumption and emergency; how to apply pesticides; and other techniques like mixing crops (Teff with beans) to preserve household food.

Output 1.2. Rural women have capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production

With the training provided to date on household food reserve control and management and the house-to-house technical support provided by DAs, 5 per cent (113) of the targeted rural women were able to enhance their capacities on household food reserve management. Currently, these women are able to plan and sort their current harvest for sale (to generate income for household expenses), consumption and reserve for emergency until the next harvest. In addition, 25 per cent (587) of the targeted women are able to utilize improved production techniques that include row planting, vegetable gardening using their wet land, timely weeding, ploughing three times for Teff plantation and following proper timing of fertilizer preparation and application and preparation of feed for cattle fattening.

The spouses of the targeted women were also addressed through an awareness creation campaign so that they recognize the contribution of women to agricultural activities and extend their support to them. At present, 433 spouses of the targeted women are reported to have been extending support to the targeted women in agricultural activities including fencing, ploughing, weeding, harvesting and storing. However, the support is limited and has not been extended to the household activities including food preparation and taking care of children.

Outcome 2: Rural women increase their incomes to sustain their livelihoods

Several activities resulting in some progress towards achievement of this outcome are tracked and provided below against the specific indicators of the outcome and its respective outputs.

The Joint Programme’s skill trainings and financial support have enabled 38 per cent (900) of the targeted rural women to diversify their sources of income as provided in Table 1 below. With the financial support, ten rural women in Yayagulele district of the Oromia region are also able to reclaim and return their family land. The land was rented out to third parties for only small amounts of money, giving the women limited access to use it for agricultural production to support their families. In rural areas of Ethiopia, specifically in the Oromia region, it is a common practice to rent out land for a small amount of money for a long time when families are faced with economic problems. The rural women have confirmed that they are currently using the reclaimed land for their regular agricultural activities.

During the reporting period, encouraging results in the living standard and empowerment in the income domain of the rural women were observed. Accordingly, 13 per cent (319) of rural women were able to provide educational materials for their children attending school. In addition, 600 rural women have a bank account, with the support of the Cooperative Offices of the targeted districts, with saving balances ranging from 400 Birr (17 USD) to 3,000 Birr (130 USD). 64 rural women were also able to join Ekub⁶.

Table 1: Additional sources of income initiated by the individual rural women in Oromia Region.

No	Source of income before RWEE JP Intervention	Additional source of income after RWEE JP Intervention
1.	Agricultural production of wheat, maize, teff, bean, barley	Shoat fattening and rearing
2.	Cattle rearing	Rental services of donkey, mule and horse carts for transportation
3.	Subsistence source of income like petty trade	Cattle fattening
4.	Poultry	Small restaurant and shops
5.	Sales of vegetable (onion)	Hair salon
6.	Sales of local drink (Areke)	Tea rooms
7.	Sales of traditional handcraft (Sifet)	Milk production

Source: Monitoring visit report

Output 2.1 Women's increased capacity to produce goods with diversified access to local markets

During the reporting period, progress has been made through efforts that include a market assessment and holding an annual conference on creating market linkages for rural women.

The market assessment was conducted and validated with recommendations for interventions, which are feasible to empower women economically and enhance the food and nutrition security of target communities. More specifically, the study has analysed the context/existing situation on the ground and provided recommendations for future interventions by the programme with regard to market access, IGAs, agricultural products that are women friendly and nutrition sensitive, as well as, women friendly technologies and postharvest technologies. During the assessment validation workshop with government counterparts, an agreed integration plan was set up. Thus, IGAs, training and provision of technologies and agricultural inputs is being

⁶ Ekub’ is an Ethiopian traditional financial group where members would save a certain amount of money every day, week or month and the collected money will be given to a member who win the lottery and the process continues till every member gets its share.

done per the recommendations and with available resources. With available resources, the provision of inputs, including live animals, technologies and dairy processing technologies, will be further enhanced. Along with the recommendations of the assessment, the demand from the BoAs at local level for purchase of inputs and technologies for income generation as well as enhancing nutrition was enormous. The programme, although with a constrained budget, has managed to partially procure the technologies and inputs needed. The technologies purchased include, beehives with a complete set or required accessories, a water pump and a maize thresher.

The annual conference on creating market linkages for rural women brought 60 rural women together to exchange experiences and information on market issues and to network with the Association of Women in Business. During the conference, the traditional food called Chiko, produced by the attending women, was picked as a product with market potential. As a result, after discussions initiated by the head of the Women Trade Association with the manager of one of the famous supermarkets in Addis, the manager agreed to link up with the women in order to market their product.

Output 2.2: Rural women access to holistic income-generating facilities and to gender sensitive financial and non-financial services increased

As part of the efforts to provide gender-sensitive financial and non-financial services to the targeted women, 38 per cent (900) of the targeted rural women in the Oromia region gained access to credit/financial services in the form of a revolving fund. These women have started using the credit services to initiate diversified and profitable IGAs and build their assets. The IGAs include shoat fattening and rearing, rental services of donkey, mule and horse carts for transport, cattle fattening and sales, small restaurant and shops, hair salon, tea rooms, milk production and cattle fattening as detailed in Table 1 above.

The results are due to the successive capacity building interventions of the Joint Programme (sensitization workshops and experience sharing sessions) conducted to enhance the capacity of 249 government experts (female 104 and 145 male) from regional and district level Bureaus of Women and Children Affairs (BoWCAs), Cooperative Promotion Agencies (CPAs), BoAs, and district and zonal administrations and women associations. These experts and their respective offices have started extending gender-sensitive services including financial and specific technical services on management of loans and procurement of cattle for fattening.

Output 2.3: Rural women increased their knowledge and incorporate acquired skills on financial literacy, entrepreneurship and sustainable agriculture techniques

Capacity building interventions including national and specific regional level exposure visits and trainings on general IGA and basic business skills were conducted to increase the knowledge, skills and experiences of targeted rural women on entrepreneurship, financial literacy and business skills. One such intervention brought together 32 women leaders and 36 members of the 10 Rural Saving and Credit Cooperative Organizations (RUSACCOs) from Oromia and Afar regions in national and regional exposure visits to successful RUSACCOs in the districts of the same regions and in Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples Regional State (SNNPRS). As a result, they have gained practical and tested knowledge on saving and credit practices, use of business plans and feasibility studies to run successful businesses, revolving fund management and on how to diversify businesses. Furthermore, the Joint programme has created access to trainings on general IGA and basic business skills for 55 per cent (1,313) of rural women (900 from Oromia and 413 from Afar), which helped them to have enhanced knowledge on the basic financial and business management, entrepreneurship, saving and credit management and leadership concepts.

The aforementioned trainings were provided by 28 district level government experts (female 7 and 21 male) from the Oromia region and others from the Organization for Women in Self-Employment (WISE) - a local civil society organisation (CSO). The basic business training provided by WISE, particularly, helped women to avoid traditional practices that led to wasting their time and resources, which could be used otherwise to change their lives. For instance, the rural women in Yayagulele district reported that they reduced the number of coffee cups and the many traditional coffee ceremonies they have been attending per day. The rural women in Dodola district, on the other hand, have started to sell milk, which is a taboo in their culture, after they realized the economic benefits from selling milk after attending the trainings. Finally, with the skill trainings and financial support from the Joint Programme, 900 women in the Oromia region are able to have either initiated or strengthened self-employment activities to support their livelihoods.

Output 2.4: Rural women have increased access to productive resources (land, technologies and agricultural inputs)

In this year, the implemented activities served as foundation for creating access to productive assets. The first element is the agreement reached between BoWCA and the Dubti district administration office of the Afar region to provide 413 targeted rural women with land for their agricultural activities. As a follow-up action, separate bilateral meetings were conducted with the two organizations. Both of them reaffirmed the previous agreement and named bureaucracy and new resettlement of the region as challenges to accelerate the provision of land for the target women. Currently, the region is implementing a resettlement programme to create common access to public infrastructures for pastoral communities.

The second activity was the provision of a sensitization training to 54 members of women associations in both regions (26 from Oromia and 28 from Afar). The training was to sensitize the targeted women in the regions on the rights they have to access and control land and other public services and resources. These trained women are also expected to lobby the relevant government bureaus so that women can benefit from government development initiatives particularly the nationwide joint land certification initiative. As a result, the trainees have developed an action plan to execute the sensitization and lobbying activities in the next reporting year.

Third, a study aimed at identifying feasible time and labour saving technologies for the targeted women was completed. Once validated by all relevant stakeholders of the Joint Programme, the study will be used as a basis to procure the identified technologies.

Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes

In this reporting period, 21 per cent (499) of rural women in the Oromia region have participated in house-hold decision-making involving the sale of assets like cattle and rental of land. This change is attributed to the aforementioned specific gender awareness creation campaign conducted to address both the targeted women and their spouses.

Output 3.1: Rural women, including young women have enhanced confidence and leadership skills to take an active part in local governance systems.

With the Joint Programmes's individual level leadership trainings, exposure visits, Community Conversations (CCs) and awareness creation campaigns, 3,104 community members (female 2,779 and male 375), including

the targeted women, their spouses, members of the Joint Programme Technical Working Group (TWGs) and Steering Committees and members of women associations, were addressed to change their attitudes towards gender issues and work for women's rights and economic empowerment.

In addition, trainings on women's access to and control over agricultural and household resources and leadership have been conducted with 24 cooperatives leaders comprised from the Oromia region's selected four intervention districts. A similar training has been organized for women association leaders drawn from Dubti district in the Afar regional state and four SACCO leaders. Twenty-eight participants attended the training. The training has enhanced the capacity of selected cooperatives leaders to better lead their cooperatives, transfer knowledge to others and to enable the members to gain access to and control over agricultural and household resources.

The ten targeted women members of RUSACCOs were provided with financial support to strengthen their lending capacity, and trainings on financial and loan management. As a result, the targeted women are able to organize and participate in decision-making processes concerning their cooperatives and communities through these RUSACCOs. Moreover, 108 rural women (Oromia 96 and Afar 12) are working as leaders assuming positions in the administration, audit, control and loan committees of their cooperatives.

Finally, a Training of Trainers (ToT) aimed at strengthening CC facilitations skills was provided for 63 (female 31 and male 32) government experts and community representatives from both Oromia and Afar regions. The ToT was provided based on the CC manual adopted from WFP's Purchase for Progress (P4P) programme. The purpose is to help improve the performances of the upcoming CC sessions in changing the communities' attitudes towards gender equality and economic empowerment.

Outcome 4: Gender responsive policy and institutional environment for women's economic empowerment in place

Based on the progress made to date in relation to outcome 4 and collaborative efforts of the Gender Directorate of MoANR), the Agricultural Transformation Agency, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) and other international organizations⁷, a National Network for Gender Equality in Agriculture was created. The Network is a functioning and enabling structure dedicated to creating gender-responsive agricultural sector policies, strategies and programmes. In addition, a Gender Equality Strategy for the Agricultural Sector was developed under the leadership of the Gender Directorate of MoANR. The Directorate will be supported to popularize the strategy once it is finalized and endorsed by the management of MoANR. These efforts, coupled with the regional and district level planned initiatives, are expected to create a responsive policy and institutional environment for women economic empowerment in the agricultural sector.

Output 4.1. Agriculture key stakeholders, including relevant government bodies, capacity enhanced to conduct gender analysis and integrate gender sensitive indicators and targets in planning and budgeting

A five-day gender mainstreaming and gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) training was conducted under the Joint Programme for 125 experts (45 female and 80 male) from Oromia and Afar regional and district CPAs, BoAs, BoWCAs, Micro and Small Enterprises Development Offices, and zonal and district Bureaus of Finance and Economic Development Bureaus (BoFEDs). The participants were capacitated to review their respective

⁷ The international organizations which are members and serving as advisory role in the National Network for Gender Equality: International Livestock Research Institute, International Water Management Institute, Livestock and Irrigation Value Chain for Ethiopian Smallholders Programme, Agriculture Knowledge Learning Documentation and Policy, DFATD/ Global Affairs Canada, Oxfam America, CARE, USAID, GIZ-SLM, Send a Cow, and The Ethiopian Horticulture Producers and Exporters Association.

service provision from a gender perspective and identify issues and interventions to be inculcated in their respective sector plan. The issues and interventions identified by the aforementioned experts were concretized by regional, zonal and district level higher officials through an action-oriented workshop. The workshop also served as a major forum where the participants developed sector specific action plans with strategies and tracking modalities as a way forward to put their plan into action.

Finally, as part of the efforts to achieve output 4.1, a five-day training was provided to 36 experts (female 14 and male 22) from regional and district CPAs aimed at enhancing their knowledge and understandings on gender and leadership. As a result, participants developed a framework for identifying gender-sensitive services to increase the membership and leadership engagements of women in agricultural and other types of cooperatives.

Joint Programme's Monitoring and Evaluation Activities implemented to date

During the reporting period, a programme review meeting bringing all stakeholders of the programme together was conducted for two days. The review meeting assessed the progress made since the official commencement of the Joint Programme, identified implementation challenges encountered, and put forward possible ways to improve implementation within the remaining programme timeframe. The meeting supported the development of the 2009 (Ethiopian Fiscal Year) Annual Work Plan (AWP) of the programme based on the planning framework of the United Nations Development Assistant Framework (UNDAF). The AWP is to be approved by Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation (MoFEC).

As part of the Joint Programme's implementation, monitoring and documentation activities, quarterly and demand-based TWG and Heads of Agencies meetings and monitoring and supportive field visits were conducted. The field visits were meant to collect in-depth stories of targeted women and to measure the progress against the indicators set in the Joint Programme's Performance Monitoring Framework (PMF). The overall monitoring effort has focused on technical support, reviewing progress and taking corrective actions to improve the performance of the Joint Programme in the year 2016. Specifically, the monitoring visit, which was conducted in the three districts of the Oromia region, focused on the qualitative progress on programmatic results of the indicators of the first three outcomes and their outputs. This monitoring effort has also helped to update and document the case stories of selected women whose zero-base stories were communicated in the last reporting period. The fourth outcome and output are to be addressed through document and institutional reviews to be conducted at the federal and regional level sector offices.

As part of the capacity building interventions of the Joint Programme, 50 regional and district level experts (female 13 and male 37) of the implementing partners in the Oromia region participated in a three-day training on result-based management. The training aimed at strengthening the monitoring and evaluation capacity of participants. Accordingly, the training enhanced their knowledge on result-based planning, monitoring, implementation, evaluation and reporting. Besides, the experts have owned the PMF of the Joint Programme as their main point of reference to implement, track, monitor, evaluate and report the expected results from their respective regions.

Finally, an impact evaluation of the RWEE JP in Ethiopia led by FAO and IFAD is in progress. The International Food Policy Research Institute(IFPRI) is financially and technically supporting the impact evaluation led by FAO and IFAD in collaboration with the government of Ethiopia. The evaluation adopted a tool developed by IFPRI – Gender Agriculture and Asset Project (GAAP2) named: Women Empowerment Agricultural Index (WEAI). Currently, in collaboration with Economics Department of Addis Ababa University thorough its associate; Association of Ethiopian Microfinance Instituted (AEMFI) a baseline quantitative data collection has been finalized. The baseline data collection was carried out in Oromia on a total of 700 treatment

households and 678 control households: 1,378 individuals. While in Afar, 95 beneficiaries and 150 control households were interviewed. Currently, a research report on the collected data is in progress. The study will soon be followed up with qualitative data collection, and other mid - term and end evaluations.

- **Delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned and best practices:**

Challenges: Since the commencement of the JP, the following major challenges occurred, which affected the delivery of JP's activities and in turn expected results.

- The difficulty to transfer IFAD allocated funds to the implementing partners of the Joint Programme delayed some major activities which were supposed to be implemented timely. Through the close collaboration and coordination of the RWEE JP Country Team, the Global Coordinator of RWEE, IFAD and MPTFO, funds allocated for IFAD were transferred to WFP for the agency to implement the activities originally planned to be executed by IFAD.
- The different operational and implementation modalities of participating United Nations agencies coupled with the different organizational structures and internal processes of implementing partners was also a challenge to the joint implementation of the Joint Programme. Consecutive sensitization and awareness creation workshops which targeted the high officials and experts of the participating government partners were conducted to address the challenges emanating from the partner's system.
- The involvement of different sector offices with limited gender orientation other than the gender machineries (BoWCAs), was the main challenge which affected the coordination of the programme in the reporting period. The gender mainstreaming trainings and sensitization workshops were able to increase the gender orientation of the participating government partners and in turn brought them to provide services in an integrated manner. The specific RWEE Partner's Implementers' Guide also set the coordination roles of the gender machineries and gives clear direction on the programme coordination, communication, implementing, monitoring and reporting activities of the programme at all levels.
- The limited result-based management and reporting capacities of the participating government partners is another challenge to fully track and depict the results achieved under the Joint Programme. To date, the result-based management training which was provided to the experts of government partners in the Oromia region minimized the initial challenge we have in this regard. As a way forward, the same training is planned for Afar implementing partners, together with consecutive technical support to improve the performance.
- Finally, the competing priorities and additional assignments assumed by the focal persons of the participating United Nations agencies has also been a challenge to quickly respond on JP's implementation challenges.

Lessons Learned: The following are the lessons learned while managing challenges and activities implemented to date.

- ***The importance of creating ownership of all partners for the JP to accelerate the implementation of activities:*** The Joint Programme is implemented mainly through the government structure where experts of the participating sector offices are the main actors. Hence, an extensive sensitization and planning workshops and consultative meetings which aimed at creating ownership of these actors were conducted. Consequently, the joint programme has now progressing well in its implementation of activities and showcasing results when the investment made to create ownership of all partners started to pay-off. This government ownership is also the critical step in ensuring the sustainability of results beyond the programme period.
- ***Importance of creating functional governance and coordination mechanisms to bring different actors to jointly deliver/provide services for women:*** The Joint Programme brought different sector offices as implementing partners or as part of the programme management units regardless of their line of

responsibilities in their respective offices and regional administration. However, the attempt which was made to bring all as one, through the federal level governance structures was not a success. Thus, the country team realized the importance of additional regional governance structures. Accordingly, the same regional and district level functional governance structures, which practically facilitated the coordination, joint delivery and partnership of the regional participating government offices were created.

- ***The importance of analysing the different operational modalities of participating United Nations agencies versus existing political and social contexts of implementing countries while designing a Joint Programme:*** This learning is drawn from the experiences of the country team while dealing the operational challenges of IFAD to continue as active implementing partners in the joint programme.
- **Good practices:** The following are good practices, which could be replicated by other women empowerment interventions.
- ***Inclusion of spouses in gender awareness creation activities to make them allies for women economic empowerment:*** The Joint programme has employed male engagement as its main strategy while implementing gender awareness creation activities. As a result, during the monitoring visit, targeted women in Oromia witnessed the support they can access from their spouses whenever they are invited for meetings, trainings. They also said their spouses and the community seem to have relatively better awareness of their rights though they are not seen to fully change their practices. In practice, male spouses are sceptical of their wives when they attempt to go to public gatherings and trainings by considering this as a threat to their patriarch influence and control at the household.
- ***Inclusion of individual, community and institutional interventions to address the different levels of structural, social and institutional challenges that rural women face:*** The specific and rigorous analysis made on the multifaceted challenges of rural women in Ethiopia was used to inform the formulation and application of holistic approach of the Joint Programme. This is believed to be good practice to sustainably address the rural women economic empowerment issues at all level.
- ***Inclusion of innovative agricultural inputs and revolving fund to address the lingering and critical challenges for women to access resources and finance for their empowerment:*** The targeted women are very determined and willing to change their lives. However, regardless of their efforts, the limited access to finance and innovative agricultural technologies has been their challenges to transform their lives. In this regard, the joint programme has done an exemplary job in creating access to credit and agricultural inputs as it has been demonstrated when the women started to engage in profitable and diversified IGAs.
- ***Finally, the different assessments and feasibility studies conducted to inform major programme interventions and which helped to have a contextualised perspective towards the needs of targeted women and political, social, cultural and environmental situations in in both regions.*** The joint programme is implemented in Oromia and Afar regions where the geographical, social and cultural landscape are different. Accordingly, market and capacity assessment of farmers and pastoral training centres, feasibility study of time and labour saving technologies which informed the design and implementation of tailored made interventions were conducted. This has helped the joint programme to be responsive of the specific contexts of the regions and their respective districts.
- **Qualitative assessment of the level of overall achievement of the Programme.**

The overall achievements envisaged so far are promising. For example, the fact that targeted women are gaining knowledge on how to increase their productivity and improve household food reserve, and that they got access

to financial services/credit that help them to diversify their sources of income and start providing economic improvement for their families. The innovative aspects of the programme, such as its integrated holistic approach to women economic empowerment that combines different intervention areas coupled with the comparative advantages and expertise of the participating United Nations agencies, makes RWEE JP a programme that adds value to development interventions impacting the lives of the targeted women and their families. Moreover, the Joint Programme is found a programme worth replicating by government as it is designed and implemented in alignment with government plans, policies and strategies involving the different sector government partners responsible to execute government development interventions which benefit citizens specifically millions of rural women farmers in Ethiopia. Targeted women and participating government sector offices have already confirmed the recently observed impacts of the Joint Programme in empowering rural women during the monitoring visit conducted.

Finally, partnerships with two local CSOs i.e. WISE and SWAA-E and a private sector association called the Association of Women in Business, was created to bring additional forces on board for the effective implementation of the Joint Programme. Specifically, the partnership with SWAA-E has brought the experiences of this CSO in rolling out and effectively implementing IFAL for rural women economic empowerment. Additionally, the expertise and good track records of WISE in providing lively and interactive IGA package and BBS trainings has helped the programme to address the skills and knowledge gaps of the targeted women in the area.

The partnership created with the Land Administration to Nurture Development (LAND) project, led and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) was also the other synergy for the Joint Programme to effectively work on women's land right issues in Afar and Oromia regions. This partnership in particular led to an agreement to establish and strengthen regional women's land right taskforce to work on revising the Rural Land Use and Administration Proclamations of the two regions to incorporate gender-sensitive articles as incorporated in the Federal Proclamation.

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
Outcome 1 Rural women improve their food security and nutrition			
<p>Indicator 1.1: Frequency and composition of meals and dietary diversity among targeted women and family members</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia –87.6% eat three times a day;10.2% eat twice a day and 2 % eat once a day Afar -39.9% eat three times a day;34.1 % eat twice a day; 20.3 % eat once a day</p> <p>Planned Target: 70% of the target in Afar will eat three times a day with appropriate dietary diversity 97% of the target in Oromia will eat three times a day with appropriate dietary diversity.</p>	Progress not measured and updated	Data against this indicator was not collected considering the additional time and interventions needed to realize and measure real changes. Therefore, the indicator will be measured when significant progress is made, enough to impact the result.	Food Security and Nutrition Survey by Ministry/ Bureau of Agriculture. Ministry of Health and FAO, end Programme Household (HH) Survey/Programme Evaluation).
<p>Indicator 1.2: % increase in agricultural production of targeted women farmers (targeted households) in a sustainable manner</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia- 4.7% Afar-18.4% declining</p> <p>Planned Target: Average 20% increase</p>	Progress not yet measured and updated	Data against this indicator was not collected considering the additional time and interventions needed to realize and measure real changes. Therefore, the indicator will be measured when significant progress is made, enough to impact the result.	End line survey report (Programme Evaluation); Household (HH) Survey.

Output 1.1. Rural women access and control management over local household reserve increased			
<p>Indicator 1.1.1 Percentage of women with increased access and control over local food reserves. Baseline: Oromia -Control over local reserves-20.6% Afar- Control over local reserve none due to depletion of household asset Planned Target: On average 50% of the targeted women</p>	<p>Progress not yet measured and updated</p>	<p>Data against this indicator was not collected considering the additional time and interventions needed to realize and measure real changes. Therefore, the indicator will be measured when significant progress is made, enough to impact the result.</p>	<p>Monitoring visit and Implementing partners' reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1.2 % of targeted rural women/households accessing integrated agriculture services and Inputs. Baseline: Oromia - 15% Afar-none Planned Target: On average 30% of the targeted rural women</p>	<p>To date about 82% i.e. 1,964 Rural women (Oromia 1,496 and Afar 468) have accessed agricultural, health trainings and individualized and group based technical services under the JP.</p>	<p>The target achieved during the reporting period reported as a progress towards the final targets in the JP.</p>	<p>Implementing partners' reports and proceeding of the programme review meeting</p>
Output 1.2 Rural women have greater capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production.			
<p>Indicator 1.2.1 % of targeted women leading and managing food household reserves as a result of enhanced capacity Baseline: Oromia 20.6% Afar -None Planned Target: On average 50% of the targeted women</p>	<p>5% (113 rural women) from the two districts (Dodola and Adamitulu) in Oromia are reported to have enhanced their capacities on household food reserve management.</p>	<p>The data from the monitoring visit conducted in the Oromia region and reports of partners on the progress are used to update the indicator. For the next reporting, data from Afar and the remaining district in Oromia will be used to update the progress over this indicator.</p>	<p>Monitoring visit and Implementing partners' reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.2% of targeted women utilizing improved production techniques Baseline: Oromia – 2.3%, Afar-none as pastoralist community, women per se hardly improved production techniques Planned Target: Average 30% of the target women</p>	<p>25% (587 rural women in Oromia) are able to utilize improved production techniques that include row planting, vegetable gardening by using their wet land, timely weeding, ploughing three times for Teff and following proper timing of fertilizer preparation and application</p>	<p>The number of women who utilized in Afar will be made part of the next reporting update since this report is only on the progress in the Oromia region.</p>	<p>Monitoring visit and Implementing partners' reports</p>

	and preparation of feed for their cattle fattening.		
Indicator 1.2. Number of Spouses (family members) who started supporting women in their engagement like HH food reserve management and control activities Baseline: None Planned Target: 50% of the targeted households	Now 433 spouses of the targeted women are reported to have been extending their support in the agricultural activities that include fencing, ploughing, weeding, harvesting and storing.		Monitoring visit and Implementing partners' reports
Outcome 2 Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods.			
Indicator 2.1: Number of women with diversified income sources. Baseline: Oromia –All targeted women (households) have one to two source of income (agriculture and livestock) Afar-All targeted women (households) have one to two source of income (agriculture and livestock) And very few (14-16% engage in labour work like Food for work programme and petty trade for subsistence life) Planned Target: 3 to 4 income sources for at least 67% of the target Woredas depending on the target areas	38% (900) of the targeted rural women are able to diversify their sources of income	The number of sources of income per each with the update on the indicator will be measured and reported at the end of the JP	Implementing partners annual monitoring report
Indicator 2.2: Average annual income of the targeted women/household Baseline: 450 USD per Annum Planned Target: 900.00 USD per annum for 70% of the target	Progress not yet measured	This will be measured at the end of the JP.	Programme annual and end line survey report (programme Evaluation)

Output 2.1 Women's increased capacity to produce goods with diversified access to local markets			
<p>Indicator 2.1.1 Number of targeted Women getting access to diversified market opportunities (district and regional markets for their goods /services)</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia –None; Afar –None</p> <p>Planned Target: At least 1,200 of the target women (2000) got access to diversified/better market</p>	<p>Progress not yet measured</p>	<p>Women are still accessing the regular market. Update will be reported in the next reporting period when efforts started to pay off for this result.</p>	<p>Implementing Partners. Programme biannual and annual reports. Joint field visit reports, midterm and annual programme review meetings.</p>
Output 2.2 Rural women access to holistic income-generating facilities and to gender-sensitive financial and non-financial services increased			
<p>Indicator 2.2.1 Percentage of targeted women in the targeted SACCOS (cooperatives) benefitting from gender-sensitive financial and non-financial services</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia- Women Benefited financial services -38.2%; The financial services found to be gender insensitive. Afar-None</p> <p>Planned Target: 80% of the target women</p>	<p>38% (900 rural women in Oromia region) accessed financial service/ credit for their IGAs</p>	<p>The target achieved during the reporting period reported as a progress towards the final targets in the JP.</p>	<p>Programme quarter reports, proceeding of the programme review meeting, joint supportive visits and biannual report are used for the update</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.2 Number of women engaged in profitable IGA</p> <p>Baseline: Almost all women have engaged in subsistence kind of business</p> <p>Planned Target: 600 of the targeted women</p>	<p>38% (900 rural women in Oromia region) are able to be engaged in profitable IGAs though the profit margin is not yet measured</p>	<p>The target achieved during the reporting period reported as a progress towards the final targets in the JP.</p>	<p>Implementing Partners Programme biannual and annual reports Joint field visit reports, midterm and annual programme review meetings.</p>
Output 2.3 Rural women access to holistic income-generating facilities and to gender-sensitive financial and non-financial services increased			
<p>Indicator 2.3.1 % of target women with increased capacity on basic business management skills, functional literacy and entrepreneurship in accessing to BDS services</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia- Those who received Entrepreneurship and business skills Trainings:13.1% Received BDS (counselling, coaching, cooperative formation etc.): 14% Received Functional Adult literacy:10.4%</p>	<p>55% (1,313) of rural women accessed trainings on general IGA and basic business skills and enhanced their knowledge on basic business management, saving and credit leadership concepts.</p>	<p>The target achieved during the reporting period reported as a progress towards the final targets in the JP.</p>	<p>Programme quarter reports, proceeding of the programme review meeting, joint supportive visits and biannual report are used for the update.</p>

<p>Afar- only 3.4% received training on Entrepreneurship and business skills</p> <p>Planned Target: 75% of targeted women to have improved capacity on business and entrepreneurship ;30% of the target women to have participate in functional adult literacy</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.3.2 Number of women initiated self-employment activities (IGAs) with the interventions Baseline: Oromia-None; Afar-None</p> <p>Planned Target: 70% of the target women either initiate business group /individual business</p>	<p>900 rural women in the Oromia region are able to have either initiated or strengthened self-employment activities to support their livelihoods</p>	<p>This depends on the performance in the Oromia region and the update from Afar will be considered for next report</p>	<p>Annual Reports from Implementing Partners. Joint field visit reports, midterm and annual programme review meetings.</p>
<p>Output 2.4 Rural women have increased access to productive resources and services (land and agricultural inputs and technologies)</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.4.1 Number of women provided with equipment and tools with access to necessary capacity building interventions Baseline: Oromia- None; Afar-None Planned Target: 1500 on accessing technology and tools</p>	<p>Progress not yet measured</p>	<p>Prerequisite activities, mainly feasibility study, which should be conducted to provide equipment for the women, is undergoing. Update will be made when actually results are achieved in the next reporting periods.</p>	<p>Annual Reports from Implementing Partners Joint field visit reports, midterm and annual programme review meetings.</p>
<p>Indicator 2.4.2 Gender Responsive centres and financial and non-financial services provided to target women jointly by agricultural offices, cooperative promotion agency and other key sectors Baseline: Oromia -Gender Neutral FTC Centre Afar- Gender Neutral FTC Centre Planned Target: At least three gender responsive functional Service / BDS centres established to provide women with non-financial services</p>	<p>Ten RUSACCOs in the six targeted districts started to provide gender-sensitive services for the 2,374 rural women members targeted in the JP</p>		<p>Programme quarter reports, proceeding of the programme review meeting, profile of the ten RUSACCOs, joint supportive visits and biannual report are used for the update</p>

<p>Indicator 2.4.3 Percentage of women who succeeded in obtaining joint land certificates and benefiting from it Baseline: Oromia-18%; Afar-None Planned Target: 25 % of the target women (households on average)</p>	<p>Not yet measured</p>	<p>Efforts for women to benefit from joint land certification are undergoing hence update will be reported when results are started to be realized.</p>	<p>Annual Reports from Implementing partners Joint field visit reports, midterm and annual programme review meetings.</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes.</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.1: Proportion of targeted rural women jointly deciding on household resources and matters Baseline: Oromia-Almost non-except in their self-help groups /cooperatives Afar - Almost non-except in their self-help groups /cooperatives Planned Target: 60% of the target women will have equal say on HH resources and matter</p>	<p>21% (499) rural women in the Oromia region are reported to have participated in household decision-making involving the sale of assets like cattle and rental of land</p>	<p>The target achieved during the reporting period as a progress towards the final targets in the JP are reported.</p>	<p>Programme end line survey reports. Programme biannual and annual reports. Implementing Partners. Joint field visit reports, midterm and annual programme review meetings.</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2: Proportion of targeted rural women participating in decision making in rural institutions and communities Baseline: Oromia –only in their self-help groups /women SACCOs Afar- only in their self-help groups /women SACCOs Planned Target: 10% of the target women will be participating in leadership and decision making in rural institutions including RUSACCOs and community based organization.</p>	<p>108 rural women (Oromia 96 and Afar 12) are working as leaders assuming positions in the administration, audit, control and loan committees of their cooperatives.</p>	<p>The target achieved during the reporting period reported as a progress towards the final targets in the JP.</p>	<p>Programme biannual and annual reports. Implementing partners Joint field visit reports, midterm and annual programme review meetings.</p>
<p>Output 3.1 Rural women confidence and leadership skills built to fully participate in family matters, rural institutions, cooperatives and unions</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.1.1 Number of institutions and communities advocating for women and girls' economic rights. Baseline: Oromia -2 women Cooperative Per Woreda; Afar- 2 women Cooperative Per Woreda</p>	<p>54 members of Women Associations in both regions (26 from Oromia and 28 from Afar) are trained to advocate for women's rights to access</p>		<p>Programme implementing partners report</p>

Planned Target: At least 3 Cooperative unions, and 16 Cooperatives (both led by women and men) and 50% of the family members of the Target women	and control land and other public services and resources		
Indicator 3.1.2 Number of community members (by sex) whose misunderstanding /misconception on gender issues and women's economic rights minimized Baseline: There exist a misunderstanding of gender and women right's issues in targeted areas Planned Target: 80% of the target community (both male and female)	3,104 community members (female 2,779 and male 375) including the targeted women, their spouses, members of the JP TWGs and Steering Committees and members of women associations were addressed.	The changes on the misunderstanding of the community will be measured at the end of the programme	District data Programme Sample surveys/end line survey among targeted population Programme biannual and annual reports Implementing partners
Indicator 3.1.3 Number of women with improved leadership, assertiveness and management skills. Baseline: Oromia -10% of the target (SACCO committee members); Afar - None Planned Target: 65% of the target will have better skill and confidence	60 women in 10 RUSACCOs assumed leadership positions in the 10 different committees of their cooperatives	The target achieved during the reporting period reported as a progress towards the final targets in the JP.	Profile of the ten RUSACCOs from the district level Cooperatives Promotion Offices
Outcome 4: A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women			
Indicator4.1: Number of new/revised agricultural strategies, regulatory frameworks and standards which mainstreamed gender Baseline: There is one agricultural policy which is gender sensitive at national level Planned Target: 3(One gender responsive policy, one gender mainstreaming strategy and one implementation guideline the same cascaded to the target regions)	1 (Cooperative Strengthening Manual)	Update will be reported when significant progress is made in in the upcoming reporting period.	Ministry of Agriculture, Programme biannual and annual reports
Indicator 4.2: Number of relevant institutions incorporated gender equality related targets in their policy and programmes Baseline: TBD Planned Target: 3 sectoral institutions (Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Ministry of Education (Integrated functional adult literacy programme and manual) and Federal Cooperative Agency	Not yet measured		Programme annual reports and end line survey Ministry of Agriculture, BoA, Central Statistics Agency, Federal and regional Cooperative Agency
Output 4.1: Agriculture key stakeholders, including relevant government bodies, capacity enhanced to conduct gender analysis and integrate gender sensitive indicators and targets in planning and budgeting			

<p>Indicator 4.1.1 Number of experts and officials in agriculture cooperative and other institutions whose capacity increased to conduct gender analysis and integrate gender sensitive indicators and targets in planning and budgeting</p> <p>Baseline: TBD</p> <p>Planned Target: 624 experts and government officials working in agriculture, cooperative and other government institutions</p>	<p>Total of 249 experts of regional and district level BoWCAs, CPAs, BoAs, district and zonal administrations, Women Associations whose knowledge and skills were enhanced to respond to the needs of rural women in Afar and Oromia regions through the continuous workshops, gender mainstreaming and GRB, and gender and leadership trainings conducted under the JP</p>		<p>Programme quarter reports of MoWCA, Federal Cooperative Agency, proceeding of the programme review meeting,</p>
<p>Indicator 4.1.2 Availability of evidence based research and actions to inform policy development/revision, to better integrate gender equality in key sectors strategy and investment framework</p> <p>Baseline: Only national level Preliminary Gender Profile</p> <p>Planned Target: Three policy advocacy oriented research including comprehensive national gender profile and Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index" (WEAI)</p>	<p>Cooperative Strengthening Manual which was made to incorporate gender targets</p> <p>Gender Equality Strategy for Agriculture Sector is developed and communicated for comments and endorsement</p>	<p>There are ongoing Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) and planned researches to be conducted in 2017</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, BoA, Central Statistics Agency, Federal Cooperative Agency, WFP/FAO.</p>

ii) A Specific Story

Four stories of rural women in Ethiopia is attached with this report.

iii) Other Assessments or Evaluations (if applicable)

Market assessment, feasibility study on time and labour saving technologies, gap assessment on the capacities of Farmers/Pastoralist Training Centres (F/PTCs)⁸ were conducted to inform the major interventions in the JP. The findings of the market assessment have informed the identification and initiation of relevant and profitable IGAs for the women. The feasibility study on time and labour saving technologies will inform the decisions to procure relevant and cost effective technologies to increase the productivity of business the women engaged in according to the market assessment findings. Finally, the agriculture sector in Ethiopia has been using F/PTCs as one of the major structures to reform and capacitate farmers in the country. Hence, as a programme working for rural women farmers, the JP identified these centres with the major objective to make their services gender-responsive. Therefore, a gap assessment on selected F/PTCs was conducted to inform actions on creating gender-sensitive F/PTCs beyond the JPs intervention period.

IV. Programmatic Revisions (if applicable)

There has not been an adjustment of any kind on the programme strategies, targets and key outcomes in this reporting period, except that the participation of IFAD country office in the programme is limited to ad-hoc contribution basis, rather than as a full implementing agency.

V. Coordination Mechanisms

The national governance structure of RWEE JP starts from the High-level Steering Committee (HLSC) which provides oversight of the UNDAF more generally and which exists as the apex of the local governance structure. It is co-chaired by the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC) and the State Minister of MoFEC.

Next to the HLSC, RWEE JP has a Programme Management Committee (PMC) which is expected to benefit the programme through its overall supervision and strategic guidance. It is co-chaired by the Minister of MoWCA and UN Women in its role as the JP RWEE lead agency. The PMC comprises of MoFEC, MoWCA, representatives (Heads of Agencies or Deputies) from the participating United Nations agencies (UN Women, FAO, IFAD and WFP) and representative from the UNRC office and the representatives of development partners that contribute to the programme.

Next to the national PMC the RWEE JP has the national TWG which is responsible for the planning, implementation, operational coordination, monitoring and reporting. The TWG is comprised of the technical level representatives of UN Women, FAO, IFAD, WFP, MoFEC, MoWCA, the Gender Directorates of MoANR, Federal Cooperative Agency, and from the regions Afar and Oromia BoFEDs, BoWCAs, Bureau of Agriculture or Bureau of Pastoral Agriculture Development BoAs/BoPADs, and Bureau of Cooperative Promotion Agency (BoCPA). Like the PMC the TWG is also co-chaired by the designated official of MoWCA and UN Women.

In addition to the above mentioned coordination mechanisms, regional and district level steering committees and TWGs are also established in both regions. The regional steering committee are comprised of the heads of

⁸ The validated reports of the Market assessment and Gap Assessments on F/PTCs are attached with this report. The report on Feasibility Study of Time and Labour saving technologies will be attached in the next reporting period after it is validated.

regional bureaus (BoWCA, BoFED, BoA, BoCPA) participating in the JP and are chaired by BoWCAs and co-chaired by BoFEDs of the two regions. The district level steering committee are also comprised of the heads of the district administration, heads of district level offices participating in the JP and district finance and economic development. The district level steering committee is chaired by the district administrations and co-chaired by head of BoWCAs of the two regions.

The regional TWGs are comprised of the focal persons of the regional bureaus (BoWCA, BoFED, BoA, BoCPA) participating in the JP, the chair of the district level steering committee and will be chaired by focal persons of the BoWCAs and co-chaired by BoFEDs of the two regions. Finally, the district level TWGs are comprised of the focal persons of the district level offices participating in the JP and district finance and economic development. The district TWGs are chaired by the district BoWCAs of the two regions.

VI. Resources

The following table shows the total amount spent since the official commencement of the programme until December 2016.

UN Agency	Budget Approved and Released (Sweden and Norway)	Budget Spent/Disbursed in USD	Percentage %	Remark
WFP	439, 210.00	410,701.55	46.72	Previously transferred with the rest of the United Nations agencies
WFP	439, 769.00	0	0	This IFAD fund has taken a longer time to be transferred and is now set in the WFP financial system. It is currently in process to be disbursed.
UN Women	130,536.00	130,221.88	99.76	
FAO	278,741.00	235,136.00	84.35	
Total	1,288,256.00	776,059.43	60.24%	