



**ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL WOMEN
BI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 30 JUNE 2020**

<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 00092000:² 	<p align="center">Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</p> <p><i>Ethiopia, Federal and Regional (Oromia and Afar Regions)</i> <i>Priority area: Rural Women Economic Empowerment</i></p> <p>The strategic result is to secure rural women’s livelihoods and rights in the context of the SDGs.</p>
<p align="center">Participating Organization(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO, IFAD, UNWOMEN, WFP 	<p align="center">Implementing Partners</p> <p>Federal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ministry of Women, Children and Youth (MoWCY);</i> ▪ <i>Ministry of Agriculture (MoA);</i> ▪ <i>Land Administration and Use Directorate under Ministry of Agriculture</i> ▪ <i>Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation (MoFEC)</i> ▪ <i>Bureau of Cooperative Promotion Agencies (BoCPA)</i> ▪ <i>Federal Urban Job Creation and Food Security Agency.</i> <p>Regional and District level (Oromia and Afar):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Bureaus of Women and Children Affairs (BoWCYAs);</i> ▪ <i>Cooperative Promotion Agency;</i> ▪ <i>Bureaus of Finance and Economic Cooperation (BoFECs);</i> ▪ <i>Bureaus of Agriculture and Natural Resource (BoANR);</i>
<p align="center">Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document:3,388,256</p> <p>MPTF Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> <i>UN Women 901,123FAO</i> <i>933,418</i> • <i>WFP 1,553,715</i> <p>Agency Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> 	<p align="center">Programme Duration</p> <p>Overall Duration: 8 years</p> <p>Start Date (<i>15 10 2012</i>)</p>

¹ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number are as follows: ETHIOPIA: 00092000; GUATEMALA: 00092001; KYRGYZSTAN: 00092002; LIBERIA: 00092003; NEPAL: 00092004; NIGER: 00092005; RWANDA: 00092006

Government Contribution
(if applicable)
Other Contributions (donors)
(if applicable)

TOTAL: 3,388,256

Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.

Assessment/Review - if applicable *please attach*

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

Mid-Term Evaluation Report – *if applicable please attach*

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

End Date (31 12 2021)

Report Submitted By

- Name: Selam Gebretsion Beyene
- Title: National Programme Coordinator JP RWEE
- Participating Organization (Lead): UN Women
- Email address: selam.gebretsion@unwomen.org



List of Acronyms

BDS	Business Development Services
BoANRs	Bureaus of Agriculture and Natural Resources
BoCPA	Bureau of Cooperative Promotion Agencies
BoFEC	Bureau of Finance and Economic Cooperation ³
BoWCYA	Bureau of Women Children and Youth Affairs ⁴
CCs	Community Conversations
CPAs	Cooperative Promotion Agencies
ETB	Ethiopian Birr
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GRB	Gender-Responsive Budgeting
IDP	Internally Displaced People
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAs	Income Generating Activities
JP RWEE	Joint Programme on Rural Women Economic Empowerment
LAND	Land Administration to Nurture Development
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoWCY	Ministry of Women Children and Youth ⁵
MoFEC	Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation ⁶
MPTF	Multi Partners Trust Fund
PMC	Programme Management Committee
RUSACCOs	Rural Saving and Credit Cooperative Organizations
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region
SWAA-E	Society for Women and AIDS in Africa-Ethiopia
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
WISE	Organization for Women in Self Employment
WEAI	Women Empowerment Agriculture Index

³ The regional Bureaus of Finance and Economic Development are changed to Bureaus of Finance and Economic Cooperation

⁴The regional Bureaus of Women and Children affairs are changed to Bureaus of Women, Children and Youth affairs

⁵ The Ministry of Women and children affairs is changed to Ministry of Women, Children and Youth

⁶ The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is now changed to Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation

NARRATIVE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period, from 1st of January to 30th June 2020, the Joint Programme on Rural Women Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE) has targeted four districts, namely Dubti in Afar Regional State and Adamitulu, Yayagulele and Dodola in Oromia Regional State as well as two towns which are hosting internally displaced people (IDP), Galan and Sululta in Oromia Regional State.

The key achievements for the reporting period are the following:

- Post-harvest technologies were distributed to 100 rural women that benefitted 60 households in three Woredas of Oromia region.
- A poultry shed consisting of 1,500 pullets/chickens was renovated in Sululta town of Oromia region.
- In Afar region, 50 rural women from JP RWEE, from Debel Kebele, were trained on business plan, financial management and bookkeeping practice.
- The number of rural women, who have accessed finance/revolving funds for their income generating activities, have reached 3,750 (3,311 in Oromia and 439 in Afar) during the reporting period.
- The personal savings of rural women has increased from about 640 ETB (18 USD) to 15,200 ETB (434 USD), while, the group savings of the rural women engaged in diversified and sustainable sources of income has also increased ranging from 14,180 ETB (500 USD) to 80,300 ETB (2,900 USD).
- The JP RWEE participated in the development and advocacy process for women's rights in the newly drafted land compensation regulation. In this framework, the JP RWEE, in collaboration with the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction, conducted two consultative meetings to review and reflect on the draft regulation. The consultative meetings were held in Addis Ababa on 27-28 January 2020, and a second meeting was held in Adama on 3-4 February 2020. The proposed legal provisions aim to strengthen women's rights during land expropriation and compensation processes and most of these provisions have been approved by the Council of Ministers.
- A bibliography review on Gender and Land Issues in Ethiopia has been developed by the JP RWEE in collaboration with the Women's Land Rights Task Force Network. The developed bibliography aims to provide insights into what has been researched so far, and to stimulate research institutions and individuals to explore untapped areas and generate evidence that can be used for better land administration in Ethiopia.

I. Results

From the 1st of January to the 30th of June 2020, the main results achieved, divided by outcome and outputs are detailed as follows.

Outcome 1: Rural women have improved their food security and nutrition.

During the reporting period, with the aim of improving the food security, nutrition and agricultural skills of target rural women, diverse activities were conducted in Afar and Oromia regions.

Output 1.1. Rural women have increased access to and control over resources, assets and services critical for their food and nutrition security.

In Afar, technical support was provided to 16 rural women, which included training sessions on how to use supplementary feed for cows, feeding practice from the fodder bank, livestock feed management of fodder bank. In addition to this, 16 rural women cooperative leaders in Debele district of Afar Regional state, were trained on marketing of dairy products and fattening shoats, management and follow up of the milk processing business, business plan, financial management and bookkeeping. Additionally, three trainings were held with the 293 rural women, on poultry production and horticulture development in Afar region.

Similarly, in Oromia, a total of six different trainings were conducted for 300 rural women in three Woredas. The trainings focused on plants care in the two current livestock fattening centres at Adami Tulu Jidokombocha and Yaya Gulale districts. Among other issues, participants were equipped on regenerative agriculture, multipurpose tree seedlings production and plantation, soil and water conservation, agriculture, animal fodder and range land management. In addition to this, 100 rural women in two woredas were equipped with knowledge and skills in poultry production and horticulture development.

Based on the conducted trainings, various types of plants were planted as detailed in the table below.

Table 1: Types and number of trees planted in Abdi Boru cooperative fattening center

No.	Tree Types	Quantity
1	Papaya	50
2	Mango	20
3	Orange	30
4	Banana	29
5	Coffee	30
6	Guava	30
7	Gravel fencing trees	40
8	Elephant grass	10m ²

With the support of JP RWEE, ten oxen with animal fodder were purchased for Megerisa Business Cooperative, located in Oromia Regional State. The purchase was guided by the advice of livestock professionals. Hence, the purchasing committee, including Woreda representatives of JP RWEE, Kebele administrators and Society for Women and AIDS in Africa – Ethiopia (SWAA-E) staff consulted livestock professionals on the potential marketplaces and the breed of oxen to be bought. After purchasing the oxen, upon deliver technical support on how to take care of animals was provided to members of the cooperatives. This has enabled 75 women cooperative members to engage in the fattening business.



Pictures 1 and 2 – Rural women feeding the oxen, March 2020 (Credit: SWAA-E)

As per the 2020 annual work plan, a 15-hectare fodder bank plant has been constructed in the Debel Kebele. Moreover, in three Kebele, the renovation of dairy processing shops is ongoing. At the same time, the purchase of milk processing equipment, seeds, pullet and feed procurement is being finalized.

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

With the support of the JP RWEE, different milk processing equipment and irrigation kits were distributed in Oromia to 100 rural women. The items were distributed based on the selection criteria developed by JP RWEE Woreda level committees, including the need of the rural women based on their income, their knowledge, skills and effort shown in other activities of the programme of the women. Similarly, in Afar, with the support of JP RWEE, different agricultural inputs, and milk processing equipment were distributed to 203 rural women. In order to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of the use of the tools, there is an ongoing follow up on the proper utilization of the items and the advantage it brought to the lives of the rural women.

A training on fodder machine's operations was organized on 14 March 2020 at Adami Tulu JK, Hawigudina. The training benefited three men and 10 women members of Hawigudina business cooperative in Oromia region. The training focused on enhancing the knowledge and skills of fodder machine, how it operates, safety rules, and simple troubleshooting techniques.



Picture 3 – Skill training to selected cooperative members on machine operation, Adami Tulu JK, Hawigudina business cooperative Centre, March 2020(Credit: SWAA-E)

Moreover, postharvest technologies (e.g. grain production), which save time and energy, were distributed to 100 rural women, benefitting 60 households in three Woredas of Oromia region.

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

During the reporting period, with the overall aim of increasing the income of the target of rural women and to sustain their livelihoods, two awareness raising trainings on the effects of climate change on women and their contributions to mitigate the impact were organized, one from 7 to 11 of February and from 3 to 7 of March 2020.

The trainings were held respectively in two of the project sites, namely- Adami Tullu Jido Kombolcha and Yaya Gullele Woredas where 100 participants (24 men and 76 women) took part. Of these, 72 were cooperative members and the remaining 28 represented other local stakeholders, like JP RWEE Woreda committee members, Woreda government sector offices and kebele cabinet members. The trainings also included skills on how to practice climate smart agriculture (CSA) as strategy to mitigate climate change, increase income and improve livelihoods.

Output 2.1 Rural women have enhanced entrepreneurship skills and value chains to access markets for their products.

With the objective of enhancing marketing capacity and access to business development services, a series of trainings were conducted for 48 (8 men and 40 women) JP RWEE business cooperatives leaders and members. The trainings were facilitated from 25 March to 2 April 2020 in four woredas of Oromia: Adamitulu Judo Kombolcha (25-26 March), Dodola (28-29 March), Chanco (28-29 March), and Yaya Gullele (1-2 April). The training covered the basic concepts and principles of market management and market information system, how to demand business development services and advertisement of their products and their interaction with buyers.

In Afar region, 50 rural women from JP RWEE, from Debel Kebele, were trained on business plan, financial management and bookkeeping practice.

Cooperative members who are engaged in agribusiness were supported to participate in a bazaar and exhibition organized locally. The bazaar and exhibition lasted for a total of six days during major holidays – Ethiopian Christmas. A total of 48 (4 men and 44 women) drawn from Sifen Belkecha Beri and Megerisa cooperatives of Oromia region respectively took part in the exhibitions and bazaars organized in Yaya Gullele Woreda on 1-5 January 2020. The bazaar and exhibition were a good opportunity for them to gain experiences market and networking. The exhibition and bazaar were organized by the Woreda Micro and Small Enterprise Development Office. Most of the items which were sold by the women were agriculture and dairy products. The Sifen Belkecha Beri business cooperative sold 46 Kg of butter at a cost of 300 ETB/Kg and earned 13,800 ETB (431 USD), and 34 Kg of cheese for a price of 40 ETB/Kg, with amounted a total of 1300 ETB (41 USD).

In addition, non-processed agricultural products mainly lentils, sunflower, teff, chickpeas, honey and onion were brought to the bazar along with value added items like Cheko, kolo, besso, flour, kinche and chechbesa, with most of them being fully sold. The women have also confirmed that such an opportunity enabled them to have better knowledge and experiences in making business. Rural women participating in the bazaar acquired skills on how to create and maintain market linkages; understood the benefits of

bringing high quality products to the market and the event brought them the opportunity to gain experience in selling their products.

Similarly, in Yaya Gulele Woreda, a site was identified and assigned by the Woreda administration for cooperatives working on dairy. The construction of the shade is underway, while another poultry shade has been renovated with watering and feeding trough for dairy heifers in the same district.

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

Regarding the number of rural women, who have accessed finance/revolving funds for their income generating activities, the information available as of December 2019 confirms that 3,750 rural women (3,311 in Oromia and 439 in Afar) were reached. Due to COVID-19 limitations and the restrictions on movements of individuals and organizing meetings, the planned activities to increase the numbers of rural women is postponed until the restriction due to the epidemic is waved. For this reason, there is no updated information for the reporting period.

The personal saving of these rural women engaged in diversified and sustainable sources of income has also increased ranging from 14,180 ETB (500 USD) to 80,300 ETB (2,900 USD). The personal savings of these rural women are between 640 ETB (18 USD) to 15,200 ETB (434 USD).

Construction of fattening site for Megerisa business cooperative, which started last year at Yaya Gullele Woreda, Oromia region, has been completed during the period and handed over to the cooperative. Additionally, one of the previously constructed houses for IDPs was modified and made fit for the poultry production. The poultry shade for women internally displaced in Sululta was renovated with watering, feeding trough and egg laying cage and a selling corner.

Outcome 3: Rural Women have Enhanced Leadership and Participation in their Communities and in Rural Institutions, and in Shaping laws, Policies and Programmes.

With the aim of enhancing the rural women leadership skills, an experience-sharing visit was conducted on 16-17 March 2020 were members of Megerisa Business Cooperatives visited the fattening center constructed for Hunde Gudina Business Cooperative at Adami Tulu Judo Kombolcha Woreda.

The visit was attended by 28 individuals (5 men and 23 women), including business cooperative leaders and members and JP RWEE committee members and other local stakeholders. The participants managed to visit the fattening shed site, the bio-gas plant, the fodder machine, and the CSA activities undertaken by the Hunde Gudina Business Cooperative and hold discussions with the members and leaders. The visit enhanced the capacity of business cooperative leaders and members on the technical functions of the center and how to manage such a joint business. The visit also enabled JP RWEE committee members of Yaya Gullele Woreda to gain experiences on how to support the business cooperative to finalize the construction and make it ready for the intended purpose.



Pictures 4 and 5: Experience sharing visit at Adami Tulu Woreda, Anano Shiho Kebele Hunde Gudina Business cooperative center, April 2020 (Credit: SWAA-E)

Consultative discussions with cooperative leaders of Megerisa Business Cooperative were held with the support of JP RWEE programme. The main issues addressed were the future planned activities to be carried out by the cooperative members, including

availing fodder, water, feeding and caring for livestock. The discussion also included the identification of potential market opportunities to sell the livestock.

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

JP RWEE committee members and other stakeholders conducted a meeting on how to enhance Business Development Services (BDS).⁷ The consecutive monitoring sessions have revealed a huge gap between the services currently been provided to the rural women and the actual BDS that must be in place to ensure rural women's businesses utilize their capacity to the fullest. Cognizant to this, four consultative sessions involving 53 (8 men and 45 women) business cooperative, JP RWEE committee members and other local stakeholders were organized for two days, in four sessions at Dodola, Adami Tulu, Judo Kombolcha, Chancho, and Yaya Gullele Woredas. These consultative meetings have been ongoing for the past four years as review of activities. The number of participants made to be manageable (10-11 per Woreda) to prevent the potential transmission of COVID-19.

The main objectives of the sessions were to enhance understanding on the concepts and principles of BDS (both by BDS providers and receivers), review the importance of BDS, identify the major problems in provision of BDS, and agree on the roles and how of strengthening the partnerships and coordination for BDS as a way forward. After the session, participants agreed to ensure adequate and efficient delivery of BDS and inform the outcomes of the sessions to their respective members.

Output 3.3: Rural Women, including young women, have increased capacity to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national and regional levels.

With the support of JP RWEE, a day consultative meeting was held in Sululta Town, Oromia region, with 15 women youth, who are out of school and desire to be enrolled in business cooperatives. To this end, the desire to be enrolled in business, possible business ideas, expected challenges and way out were discussed with the youth.

As a follow up activity, it is planned to give a training for the same groups of youth on the issue of 'Gender, Life Skills and Business Management.'

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

Land is the main economic, political, social and cultural asset of any country. It is the crucial source of generating livelihood income for society. In the past few decades, millions of Ethiopians have faced problems due to expropriation. Among other challenges, displacement and the insignificant amount of compensation during expropriation affects women to the greater extent. Given the fact that, most women are dependent or own land rights with their husbands, the very limited amount of compensation will put them even in worst condition.

Acknowledging that the previous compensation proclamation has drawbacks, the government has amended and introduced a new proclamation No. 1161/2019 enacted on 23 September 2019. A more detailed and comprehensive Regulation that ensures the implementation of the provision is under draft by the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction.

Accordingly, JP RWEE was able to take part and advocate for women's rights in the newly drafted land compensation regulation. In collaboration with the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction, JP RWEE conducted a consultative meeting to review and reflect on the drafted law. Two consultative meetings were held on 27-28 January in Addis Ababa and 3-4 February 2020 in Adama. The meetings were attended by various participants from different ministry offices and research centers including; Regional Bureau of Women, Children and Youth Affairs; independent researchers; land administration department heads within universities, etc. There were 17 participants (11 women and 6 men) in the meeting held in Addis Ababa and 19 (4 women and 15 men) in the meeting in Adama. es

The proposed legal provisions aim to strength women's rights during land expropriation and compensation processes and most of these provisions have been approved by the Council of Ministers Office.

Among others, the new provisions that were incorporated in the final legal draft include:

- A duty on the government to pay the value for land compensation for both partners (husband and wife), even if the land is registered only in one of them.

⁷ Business Development Services (BDS) are a very important means of supporting the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), which are known to create employment, generate income and contribute to economic development and growth. Employment and income generation are particularly important as far as impoverished rural areas, vulnerable communities and groups are concerned. In this sense, supporting BDS is an important means of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by addressing poverty and empowering the poor and vulnerable groups (see IBLF/UNDP, 2003).

- A need to prioritize and support women and vulnerable groups; during land compensation process.
- In cases when there is alternative land to be allocated, the rights of women and vulnerable groups should be prioritized and given first urgency.

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

With the objective of enhancing partnership and obtaining more technical support for CSA practices by target women cooperatives, members, their households and learning by the larger community JP RWEE has been engaging stakeholders working in agriculture including research centres. The programme initiated a partnership with Agriculture Research Institute, Adami Tulu Branch and facilitated experience sharing for the staff. To this effect, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with Oromia Agriculture Research Institute, Adami Tulu Branch in April 2020. The MOU aims to enhance the relationship and efforts to work with women leading agribusiness cooperatives in the intervention areas and support mainstreaming of Climate Change in programmatic interventions and support women to actively engage in climate smart agricultural practices.

Output 4.2: Greater availability of tools and data to track progress in the economic empowerment of rural women

There are various studies, policies and legislations dealing with gender issues in rural land administration in Ethiopia. However, the documents are not readily accessed or available. This creates information gap among scholars and land experts, as there is no proper document outlining major studies that have been conducted in the area.

Recognizing the information gap, a bibliography (list of sources e.g. books, articles and laws) of ‘*Gender and Land Issues in Ethiopia*’ has been drafted with the aim to provide insights into what has been identified so far and stimulate research institutions and individuals to explore untapped areas and generate evidence that can be used for better land administration in Ethiopia. The developed bibliography is believed to show the available information and the gaps that need further research on gender and land issues. At present, the bibliography is available for members of the Women’s Land Rights Task Force, but there is a plan to circulate the resource to a wider interested stakeholder.

A field visit to monitor the progress and challenges faced in the implementation of the project and design strategies to overcome them, was conducted for two days to the IDP centres near Addis Ababa namely Gelan and Sululta. The first visit was to Gelan on 11 February while the second took place on 12 February to Sululta. Participants in the visit included representatives from UN Women, WFP, FAO, Woreda focal representatives of Women and Children Affairs office, Natural Resource management, livestock and cooperatives. From the community side, the technical Working Group of JP RWEE was able to meet, committee members and representatives of cooperatives in both sites. The field visit to Gelan was attended by 15 participants (8 men and 6 women), while the field visit to Sululta was attended by 17 participants (12 men and 5 women).



Picture 6 and 7: Participants of the field mission, February 2020. (Credit: UN Women)

Additionally, in Oromia region, Adami Tulu Judo Kombolcha Woreda four supervisory meeting were organized to review the activities that were accomplished during the period. All members of the cooperatives participated, and discussions were held on important issues including challenges encountered and how to improve their individual business as well as the cooperative.

II. Describe any delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & best practices

In Ethiopia, the first case of COVID-19 was detected in Addis Ababa on 13 March 2020, posing a significant risk to the country at a time of growing political, social and economic uncertainty. The Government of Ethiopia declared a State of Emergency, that is expected to be in place until September 2020. The federal and regional governments in Ethiopia have established several measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, including the cancellation of national elections, closure of schools, banning social gatherings and imposing movement restrictions. While these actions are expected to slow the spread of the virus, it has substantial adverse effects on income, food and nutrition security. The impact is harsher on women and vulnerable groups.

On top of the COVID-19 crisis, the country is affected by the recent political unrest that resulted in the killing of individuals, looting and burning of assets. The region of Oromia was the worst affected by the demonstrations that erupted, with unrest spilling over to the capital Addis Ababa.

Due to the current developments in Ethiopia, most businesses have been highly affected. Rural women of JP RWEE are not immune from the impact because of the travel restrictions, decline in business and the political unrest particularly in Oromia region. Regardless of all the current crises, the rural women are expected to manage, save and repay the credit they have taken to run their businesses. In the current context, this has become a great challenge for most rural women.

Despite the challenges, activities under JP RWEE that can be implemented without field travel and gathering of individuals are being implemented. As a strategy, the AWP has been revised to include some COVID-19 prevention activities, to adjust the follow up and monitoring to be done virtually and activities that focus on revision of documents are given a focus. Moreover, sheds are being constructed and procurement of items for projects implementation at Woreda level activities are underway. Learning from the current crises, there is an initiative that advocate to establish an insurance system that protects grains and livestock business of cooperatives.

III. Qualitative assessment

Besides the above-mentioned activities, the JP RWEE has taken steps aimed at enhancing programme implementation by establishing new partnerships. Thus, the JP RWEE initiated a technical partnership with the Agriculture Research Institute 'Adami Tulu Branch' and facilitated experience sharing for the staff. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with this institution in order to work with women led agribusiness cooperatives to support mainstreaming of climate change mitigation approaches in programmatic interventions and support women to actively engage in climate smart agricultural practices.

In addition, the JP RWEE started working on the issue of gender mainstreaming in laws and policies with the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction for ensuring gender integration on the laws, policies and strategies that are developed by the ministry. To this end, it has ensured the incorporation of gender issues in the Land Expropriation and Compensation Regulation.

The JP RWEE end term evaluation was conducted in 2018, but since there are changes. That took place in the program as well as in the country such as; increase in the numbers of rural women, improvement in laws, COVID-19, political instability, cancellation of election. have impacted the programme as well as rural women. With the aim of examining the effect of COVID-19 and the recent political crises on JP RWEE rural women, a rapid assessment was designed in the reporting period. The assessment will be conducted virtually by communicating with rural women and officers working at the ground level. The rapid assessment has been a joint effort by all implementing agencies that contributed to its development. The data collection, which will be done in September 2020, will be carried out by all agencies. The results of the assessment are expected to provide a better understanding about the rural women as well as the project and enable experts design strategies for moving forward.

With regards to JP RWEE coordination, all partner agencies of JP RWEE work towards the same objective; hence decisions are passed after consultative discussions and reflection on the matter.

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
Outcome 1 Improved food and nutrition security			
<p>Indicator 1.1. Number of targeted rural women and their household members with improved nutrition practices and can demonstrate it for other through the existing government extension structures</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 rural women in Afar will eat three times a day with appropriate dietary diversity 97% of the rural women in Oromia will eat three times a day with appropriate dietary diversity.</p>	<p>Unable to report progress this semester.</p>	<p>During the reporting period, there was no official assessment conducted to measure this indicator. Hence, there is a need to conduct assessment to get information on how many households can feed themselves 3 times per day. The assessment is expected to be conducted post COVID -19.</p>	<p>Year-end monitoring data collected through the Bureau of Agriculture in Oromia and Bureau of Pastoral and Agriculture Development in Afar.</p>
Output 1.1 Rural women have increased access to and control over resources, assets, and services critical for their food and nutrition security			
<p>Indicator 1.1.1. Number of feed compositions centers established, and number of additional product types women business groups have newly added as their products</p> <p>Baseline: -</p> <p>Planned Target: 3,500 rural women (2500</p>	<p>One poultry shade (accommodating 1500 pullets/chickens) accessed by 100 IDP women was renovated in Sululta town.</p>		<p>Data collected through the Bureau of Agriculture in Oromia</p>

existing and 1000 new)			
Output 1.2 Rural women have greater capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production			
<p>Indicator 1.2.1 Number of rural women accessing innovative food processing plants.</p> <p>Baseline: None</p> <p>Planned Target: 2000 Rural women (1,500 existing and 500 new)</p>	<p>A total of 319 rural women (100 in Oromia and 219 in Afar) accessed innovative food processing plans, distributed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Oromia, milk processing equipment and irrigation kits were distributed to 100 rural women. • In Afar, different agricultural inputs, and milk processing equipment were distributed to 203 rural women • Moreover, 16 women cooperative leaders in one Woredas of Afar Regional State were equipped with milk processing machineries. 		<p>January – June 2020, monitoring data collected through the Bureau of Agriculture in Oromia and Bureau of Pastoral and Agriculture Development in Afar.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.2 Indicator 1.2.2: Number of rural women accessing the technologies/CSA inputs</p> <p>Baseline:</p> <p>Planned Target: 700 Rural Women (300 existing and 400 Newly targeted)</p>	<p>A total of 110 women and 3 men accessed technologies and CSA inputs, distributed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 men and 10 women were trained on the operation of the fodder machine in Hawigudina business cooperative of Oromia region. • Postharvest technologies were distributed to 100 rural women that benefitted 60 households in 3 Woredas of Oromia and Afar. 		<p>Data collected through BoWCAs, and CPAs</p>

Outcome 2 Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods.			
Output 2.1 Rural women have enhanced entrepreneurship skills and value chains to access markets for their products			
<p>Indicator 2.1.1 Number of targeted women's getting access to diversified market opportunities and sales record of the business groups</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia: All targeted women (households) have one to two sources of income (agriculture and livestock) Afar: All targeted women (households) have one to two sources of income (agriculture and livestock) And (14-16% engage in labor work like Food for work programme and petty trade for subsistence life)</p> <p>Planned Target: 2500 Rural women (1,500 existing and 1000 new.</p>	<p>Rural women have reached 3,750 rural women (3,311 in Oromia and 439 in Afar) during the reporting period.</p>		<p>Data collected through BoWCAs, and CPAs</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.2 Number of target women with increased marketing skills of specific value chains</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia 26 women received entrepreneurship and business skills trainings Received BDS (counselling, coaching, cooperative formation etc.): 280 women Afar- 68 women received training on entrepreneurship and business skills</p>	<p>During the reporting period, 103 women rural women were trained on marketing skills of specific value chain, divides as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Afar region, Debel Kebele 50 women rural women trained on business plan, financial management and bookkeeping practice. ▪ 53 (8 men and 45 women) business cooperative at Dodola, Adami Tulu, Judo Kombolcha, Chanco, and Yaya Gullele Woredas of Oromia Region were trained on BDS. 		<p>Data collected through BoWCAs, and CPAs</p>

Planned Target: 2500 Rural Women (1,500 existing and 1000 new)			
Output 2.2 Rural women have increased access to decent wage employment opportunities			
<p>Indicator 2.2.1. Number of new targeted rural women accessing revolving fund for income generating activities.</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia: 38.2% of women benefited from financial services Afar: None</p> <p>Planned Target: 1,700 Rural Women (700 women from existing RUSACCOS/ (agri business coops and 1,000 from new groups/RUSACCOS)</p>	<p>1,700 Rural Women (700 women from existing RUSACCOS/ (Agri business coops and 1,000 from new groups/RUSACCOS) accessed the revolving fund under the reporting period. The revolving fund is utilized to generate income for the rural women.</p>		Data collected through BoWCAs, and CPAs
<p>Indicator 2.2.2 Number of women accessing loans for income generating activities</p> <p>Baseline: None Planned Target: 3,000 rural women of the targeted 3,500 rural women</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The number of rural women, who have accessed finance/revolving funds for their income generating activities, have reached 3,750 rural women (3,311 in Oromia and 439 in Afar) during the reporting period. 		Data collected through the Bureau of Agriculture in Oromia and Bureau of Pastoral and Agriculture Development in Afar.
Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programme.			
<p>Indicator 3.1: Proportion of Producer Organizations led by Women</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia: no woman in leadership position. Afar-: only in their self-help groups /women</p>	<p>49% of the target (171 rural women) are leading their agro-business cooperatives, RUSACCOS, represented in Kebele Aba Geda council, (as secretary), in the kebele administration etc.</p>	<p>Due to COVID – 19 all gatherings and meetings have been postponed and there is not additional information on this part</p>	<p>Based on year-end monitoring data collected through BoWCAs, Implementing partners, and CPA sand JP RWEE Midterm evaluation, report 2018.</p>

<p>SACCOs</p> <p>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>Output 3.1 Rural women, including young women have enhanced confidence and leadership skills to participate in local governance</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.1.1. Number of women with improved leadership, assertiveness and management skills</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia: 200 of the target women Afar - None Planned Target: 1500 of the targets will have better skill and confidence</p>	<p>Unable to report progress this semester.</p>	<p>Due to COVID – 19 all gatherings and meetings have been postponed, hence no activities related to this indicator have been implemented during the reporting period.</p>	<p>Data collected through BoWCAs, and CPAs.</p>
<p>Indicator 3.1.2 Number of Rural women with improved reading and writing skill through functional literacy.</p> <p>Baseline: 24.8 % of targeted rural women and 3.4% in Afar had access to training on business, cooperatives management, income generating activities, and other technical skills.</p> <p>Planned Target: 450 Rural women (300 Existing and 150 new)</p>	<p>Following COVID-19 outbreak, the government has declared state of emergency. Hence, social gatherings are banned and restrictions on vehicle movement have been imposed. The activities related to this indicator were not implemented during the reporting period.</p>		<p>No information available</p>
<p>Output 3.2: Rural women have greater organizational capacities to form, sustain and participate into POs, cooperatives and unions</p>			

<p>Indicator 3.2.1 Number of institutions and communities advocating for women and girls' economic rights.</p> <p>Baseline: Oromia: 2 women Cooperatives Per District; Afar: 2 women Cooperative Per District</p> <p>Planned Target: 22 (13 existing and new women RUSACCCOs and 9 Re-organized Business Groups).</p>	<p>55 institutions including, 24 women led cooperatives (RUSACCOs and Agri-business cooperatives) are advocating for women to access and control land and other public services and resources.</p>	<p>JP RWEE has partnered with new organizations and networks that work on women economic rights. In the reporting period two new partnerships are; Ministry of Urban Development and Construction and Oromia Agriculture Research Institute, Adami Tulu Branch.</p>	<p>Using data from BoWCYAs and Rural Land Administration and Use Directorate under Ministry of Agriculture.</p>
<p>Output 3.3: Rural women, including young women, have increased capacity to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national and regional levels</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.3.1- Number of rural women that participated in the learning visits and have strengthened their knowledge.</p> <p>Baseline: None in both Oromia and Afar Regions.</p> <p>Planned Target: 40 rural women</p>	<p>28 rural women (5 men and 23 women) in Oromia region took part in learning visit.</p>		<p>Data collected from BoWCAs, SWAA-E and CPAs.</p>
<p>Outcome 4: A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women</p>			
<p>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>			
<p>Indicator 4.1.1 Number of experts and officials in relevant government sector offices with increased capacity to conduct gender analysis and integrate gender sensitive indicators and targets in planning and budgeting.</p> <p>Baseline: None</p>	<p>All the planed trainings on gender analysis were not conducted due to COVID – 19.</p>		<p>No information available</p>

Planned Target: 60 experts (40 men and 20 women from Agriculture based organizations)			
Indicator 4.1.2 Number of experts trained on the effects of climate change on women and their contributions to mitigate the impact. Baseline: None Planned Target: 75 public officials from 10 Sectors	28 (20 men and 8 women) Woreda committee members, government sector offices and kebele cabinet members in Oromia region were trained on the effects of climate change on women and their contributions to mitigate the impact.		Data collected from BoWCAs, SWAA-E and CPAs.
Output 4.2 Greater availability of tools and data to track progress in the economic empowerment of rural women			
Indicator 4.2.1 Gender Analysis of the National Agricultural policy and or strategy and programmes completed. Baseline: Planned Target: To have a gender responsive national Agricultural Policy.	The process of developing the National Agriculture Policy and strategy has started. A small network that discusses and works on the matter has been established that consists of UN agencies and government offices in the agriculture sector. A focal person who follows the routine activity has been assigned.		
Indicator 4.2.2 Number of researches/availabilities of evidence-based research) and actions conducted to inform policy development and actions for gender equality Baseline: Only national level Preliminary Gender Profile Planned Target: Three policy advocacy-oriented research.	During 2020 three key documents: 1) Rapid assessment on Gender and Agricultural Mechanization conducted with MOA. 2) Policy brief on agricultural mechanization, at https://africa.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/06/gender-and-agricultural-mechanization-policy-brief https://africa.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/06/gender-and-agricultural-mechanization-in-ethiopia		Bibliography that is conducted in collaboration with The Ethiopian Women's Land Right task force

	3. A bibliography on gender and land issues in Ethiopia has been developed.		
Output 4.3: An enabling environment is promoted to reflect rural women's priorities in regional policy processes.			
Indicator 4.3.1 Number of dialogue mechanisms/forums on agriculture, CSA, rural development and women's economic rights (WEE) conducted Baseline: One Planned Target: 2 Dialogues forums	Every two weeks the Ethiopian Women's Land Rights Task Force is conducting a virtual meeting on laws and policies in the agriculture sector that affect the rights of women. So far, a total of four meeting has been conducted.		The minute of the Ethiopian Women's Land Rights Task Force
Indicator 4.3.2 Number of gender equality networks/forums organized to influence national plans, laws and policies promoting economic empowerment. Baseline: None Planned Target: One forum	Two (Ethiopian Women's Land Rights Task Force and the Ethiopian Gender Equality in Agriculture Network) are in place.		