

**Oromia Rural Land and Natural Resources
Administration Authority /ORLNRAA/**

**Proceedings of
Participatory Forest Management Working Group
Meeting, Oromia Region**



With Support from FARM Africa-SOS Sahel, GTZ FSCBP

**August 2004
Addis Ababa**

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**Cover Photo: The First Gumii Finna Badaa Assembly in Yabello/ Farm Africa-
SOS Sahel / BCFMP**

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ABBREVIATIONS

BCFMP	Borena Collaborative Forest Management Project
Ha	Hectare
IFMP	Integrated Forest Management Project
NGOs	Non Government Organizations
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Product
NR office	Natural Resource office
ORLNRAA	Oromia Rural Land and Natural Resources Administration Authority
PAs	Peasant Associations
PFM-WG	Participatory Forest Management Working Group
PFMU	Participatory Forest Management Unit
RFPAs	Regional Forest Priority Areas

I. INTRODUCTION

This report highlights the major points and results of the deliberations of the Participatory Forest Management Working Group (PFM-WG) meeting held on August 26, 2004, at Queen of Sheba Hotel, Addis Ababa. The meeting was organized by the Oromia Rural Land and Natural Resources Administration Authority (ORLNRAA) in collaboration with FARM Africa /SOS Sahel Participatory Forest Management Programme

Objectives of the Meeting

The overall objective of the meeting was to strengthen a working partnership and network between government agencies (ORLNRAA) and NGOs to achieve synergy in Participatory Forest Management in the Oromia Region.

The specific objectives are:

- Promoting experience sharing among practitioners on Participatory Forest Management initiatives in Oromia Region.
- Defining together and reaching consensus on the way forward and action steps needed to improve the level of partnership among the PFM working group members.

Participants of the meeting

12 participants drawn from the working group member organizations currently working on PFM in Oromia National Regional State i.e, SOS-Sahel, FARM Africa, GTZ-IFMP, WWF-Bale, and the Oromia Region Rural Land and Natural Resources Administration Authority and Dandi Woreda NR office attended the meeting. JICA sent apologies for absence.

Opening Remarks

The meeting started with the opening remark of Obbo Diro Bulbula, Department Head (Forestry), of the Oromia Region Rural Land and Natural Resource Administration Authority.

In his opening remarks, (See the full text in annex 3) Obbo Diro noted that PFM has proved to be a better way to conserve the remaining forests of the region.

He pointed out that efforts are currently underway at the ORLNRAA to promote and provide legal basis for the implementation of PFM approach in the region. In this regard he cited the Regional Proclamation on Forest Development, Utilization and Protection, the Organization of a PFM unit at the region and *Aanaa* (Woreda) levels of ORLNRAA, the decentralization of 50% RFPAs(Regional Forest Priority Areas) management to *Aanaa* level and the plan to start-up implementation of PFM approaches in 30% of RFPAs over the coming years. These are some of the major steps being taken to promote the new concept and practice of PFM in the region.

As regards to further strengthening and expansion of PFM approaches, he indicated the need for additional efforts by all involved in the following key areas:

- Participatory Forest Assessment and Management Planning
- Strengthening self-organization of community user groups
- Developing PFM guideline
- Strengthening the regional PFM networking

Self-Introduction of Participants

The Moderator facilitated a brief 'self-introduction' session where workshop participants introduced themselves by name, organization and current position. (Annex 2: List of participants). Using some socio-metric exercises, the moderator drew the attention of participants to some issues such as the complete absence of female participants in the meeting and what that could mean to the projects, the current state of the PFM-Working Group as a 'structure', who is missing from the workshop and why, etc. This allowed participants to come closer and appreciate some issues of common interest even before the actual meeting started.

Workshop Ground Rules

The following ground rules were proposed and endorsed by the participants

- 1) Participate
- 2) Get focused and maintain momentum, it is 'your meeting'
- 3) Listen, give others a chance to share and reflect "Every one has some thing to offer and no one has all the answers"
- 4) Be open and flexible to learn/unlearn
- 5) Be time conscious and reach closure

PART I: MORNING SESSION

II. PROJECTS UPDATE PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS

2.1 Progress on WAJIB Implementation

By Girma Amente, Integrated Forest Management Project Adaba-Dodola
(GTZ - IFMP)

Abstract

The WAJIB implementation was started in 3 pilot villages in Adaba - Dodola districts where there are now 43 established WAJIBs. The establishment of more WAJIBs is continuing in both Adaba and Dodola districts. Adaba district has recently, established 4 WAJIBs .



Obbo Girma Amente presenting the experiences of GTZ-IFMP

The role of IFMP has hence been limited to capacity building and provision of technical advice and financial support . A small unit will remain in the area for 2005-06 to play technical advice and backstopping roles to consolidate results. Recent developments and achievements include the return of seconded government staff back to their Woredas, the opening of organized market outlets for WAJIBs and the subsequent establishment of 'Golbicha' (a structure to take care inter-WAJIB issues such as how to regulate the marketing forest products), the finalization of the Participatory Forest Resource Assessment Methodology (PFRAM), the preparation of a new model by laws and guideline for WAJIBs.

Discussion on the presentation made:

Q. On the lessons learnt, it is mentioned that incentive based community development assistance should not be used as an entry point in PFM. However, this idea may not be true in all situations and places particularly in the central part of Ethiopia where the livelihood of the people in the last 20-30 years very much depends on the use forest products. In these areas people should some how be supported by the government or NGOs with some development projects.

Community development assistance should be extended carefully. Because unless a proper and strong link is made between such projects and the forest conservation and regulated use programs, the moment these projects phase –out, every thing could go back to square one. The lesson from our experience is that, food for work should be separated from development activities .

Q. How can you conclude that using community development assistance, as entry point for forest development is not advisable? How about the use of irrigation, reducing livestock, income diversification strategies for the enhancement of effective forest development, utilization and protection?

The objective of the IFMP-Adaba-Dodola project was to develop and implement PFM approach that would enhance the ownership of the forest by which the community users actively manage the resources for the benefits of all community members. The project aims to put the user groups on the driver seat in managing the forest resources for sustainable development. What we are saying is that the ultimate goal of the project ‘Conservation with regulated use’ should not be compromised for secondary objectives. Any benefit that should come /planned to accrue to communities / shall be the logical extension of the achievement of the overall goal. Otherwise objectives will be mixed up and that could lead to losing

sight of why we were there in the first place. In as much as development activities are aligned with the main aim of conserving the Natural resources through Participatory Forest Management practices, no problem.

The danger comes when we try to 'buy commitment ' through 'incentives' to promote conservation. This, in our experience, did not work and even creates a dependant mentality among the community. Our success lies in the 'participatory' nature of our methodology that fosters local ownership, and the congruent policy and action steps taken by the government. Not much in how much inputs we have 'poured-in ' to win the support of the community towards conservation. From a scheme that already benefits the community, if properly organized and managed, why should we provide additional incentives, which are not sustainable as no body will be there to continue providing them when we phase out any way?

Q. How is the new PFRAM methodology different from the previous one?

The new approach focuses on the value & quality of the forest. It takes into account the number and distribution of potential trees unlike the previous one where the focus was mainly on the tree coverage regardless of the quality. The new PFRAM adds new knowledge and skills to the user groups.

Q. Could you explain to us how the decentralization of RFPAs to the district facilitated the successful forest management at WAJJIB levels?

First a common and shared vision was built at district and community levels. This was made possible after series of consultative meetings with the Districts and communities. Agreement was reached on who should sit on the driver's seat, the roles to be played by the various actors in implementation and coordination. The district and the community agreed to play active roles in managing the WAJJIB establishment, implementation and consolidation activities. The Project mean while agreed to let the districts and WAJJIBs take the lead and make decisions while at

the same time backing these new roles with the necessary budgetary and technical support, so that they worked. A good example is the often-serious conflict we used to face (as a project) during border demarcation, which has now become an internal community and Woreda joint work. The speed now is faster because it is essentially decided from within the system taking in to account local and objective factors and norms of conflict management within the community. It boils down to the issue of letting the local community decide and ensuring that there is always legal and administrative backing and support from the government /Woredas and PAs in particular/.

Q. What are the roles of *Golbicha*¹ and how could you say that PFM has contributed to good governance?

Golbicha is a recent phenomenon. It is a step forward where 10 WAJIBS come together to set up their umbrella organization. The roles of the *Golbichas* are: coordination of WAJIBs to minimize the pressure on forest utilization, facilitate information flow between the user group and the government, conflict mediation, (as the formal legal system is inefficient in settling conflicts). They are also expected to be instrumental in creating legal and regulated access to marketing forest products for WAJIB members (as opposed to illegal trade of forest products whose policing has proved to be unsuccessful) .

Regarding the good governance aspect the community is actively participating in electing their representatives like the WAJIB and ‘ *Golbicha* ‘ leaders who can influence government decisions. They are also managing their resources with respect to regulating the supply for market by deciding who should go to the market and when. This will undoubtedly contribute to good governance eventually.

¹ Golbicha is a new association of WAJIB’s which is established to cater for needs /issues beyond the capacity of a single WAJIB

2.2 FARM Africa / SOS Sahel Participatory Forestry Management Programme

By Olani Edessa

Team Leader

Abstract

The Major objectives of the Chilimo PFM project are:-To develop, conserve and manage Chilimo forest through community participation, to build the capacities of the community (FMG's) and line departments (through training & experience sharing) and enhance agricultural productivity as a complementary non-forest products. The route map to the establishment of PFM in Chilimo consisted of three stages ,i.e, investigation, negotiation and implementation periods.

A typical feature of the Chilimo project as far as management and organization is concerned is that no functional traditional institutions were found and hence the project had to resort to the establishment of forest cooperatives on the basis of the will and consent of the community.



Obbo Olani Edessa presenting the experience of FARM-Africa /SOS Sahel Chilimo PFM project

Some of the recent achievements of the project include; formation and institutionalization of FMG and their subsequent development in to forest cooperatives, forest resource assessment and mapping, the fact that two forest management groups have taken over the resources and its overall management, introduction and dissemination of new technologies and visible changes towards sense of ownership over the forest resources by the community. The main challenges of PFM in Chillimo include newness and complexity of the approach and the altitudinal change it requires to bring about sustained changes. Lessons are that for successful PFM, investment and full commitment by both government and community is required and more efforts are needed to ensure the active involvement of women in forest management.

Discussions on the Presentation:

Q. It is believed that in forest management participation is costly. But in your explanation you said that PFM is cost effective in the case presented, which if proven, must be a strong case for PFM. Do we have tangible facts in terms of actual recorded costs that could be used to convince our decision makers?

In our experience people participate in the protection of forests, they prepare the tree seedlings, and the labor of forest management, all comes from the community. Therefore, these efforts contribute to cost reduction. Community participation is essentially an issue of burden sharing rather than cost sharing. In PFM initial costs are inevitable. We take farmers to different sites; organize workshops and sensitization to win the heart of the people. In all these activities costs are high during the inception of PFM projects. But if these costs are to be distributed when we cover large areas of forests and bigger size of benefiting communities, then costs can be argued to be reduced over time.

Q. From your experience the establishment of Forest Management Cooperatives is a good lesson the rest of us could learn from. What would you say are the main contributing factors for your success in this respect?

The establishment of FM cooperatives took almost one year, due to several consultative meetings held with the concerned regional and zonal bodies. A taskforce was set up comprising representatives from zonal office, forest cooperatives, Farm Africa and the Natural Resource Department to facilitate the process of cooperative formation. This indeed helped the organization process a great deal as there were a number of issues that needed to be resolved through negotiations and mutual understanding. . Meanwhile it is perhaps necessary to note that the establishment of forest Management

Cooperatives is still at its early stage. Cooperative plans, bylaws and book keeping systems are all being developed.

- Q. Chilimo is a relatively small area compared to other Natural Forests in the region. In addition, there will be high pressure on the rest of the forest as the forest area is very near to the big towns like Ambo and Addis. How are you prepared to extend your coverage in order to protect the remaining forests from the high pressure of the nearby towns? How do you support and follow-up the Kebele after handing over the forest to the user groups?**

Initially when we started organizing villagers, the participation was mainly in protecting forests in cooperation with government guards before other responsibilities come in. Similarly we follow the same approach for the uncovered forest areas. We make sure that the community protects the forest areas not yet covered by our project as we gradually increase the size covered by the project. With regard to follow-up after handing over, our main strategy is to provide training and capacity building for the Kebels while the government line department provides back stopping services. We try to link every activity we undertake in the community with the activity of the government to ensure continuation and sustainability when we phase out.

2.3. World Wide Fund (WWF-Bale)

By Oumer Wabe, Project Executant

Abstract

The project focuses on winning the confidence of the community towards conservation of natural resources and supports various micro projects such as organic coffee promotion, spring water development, improved bull production and community fruit tree nursery development.

HRM, accounting & Finance and in-country and abroad exposure visits have been organized by the project for representatives from Peasant Association (PAS) Women Affairs, Woreda regional and federal representatives local communities wildlife scouts, etc.



Obbo Oumer Wabe Presenting the Experience of WWF-Bale

The project supports MSc candidates in Tropical Resource Ecology and Wildlife Management, short term training in forest land restoration, management of natural resource, bamboo works, family planning, environmental protection computer software application. Other activities include, water harvesting, hand dug wells, traditional irrigation & scheme development, school -upgrading and maintenance, improved cattle promotion, basic bamboo works, and improved stove promotion have been undertaken. So far 1000 households and 10 cooperatives have benefited from improved stove promotion.

Discussion on the Presentation:

Q. The major objective of the project is developing feasible natural resource management plan for Bale, while from the presentation the focus was mainly on supplementary activities. What workable management plan have you prepared with the community before teaching the community on how to use the bamboo?

It takes time to win the heart of the people. Therefore we started from the provision of training on bamboo to create the necessary community awareness on the managed use of forest products and to create as well a smooth working environment for the upcoming forest conservation activities.

Q. Have you linked capacity building with forest conversation? Did your intervention contribute to the reduction of pressure on the forest?

It requires impact assessment in order to show up tangible results. But in general we could say that the capacity building effort has helped the community to improve the knowledge and skills on how to use forest products like bamboo in a modern way and conserve the forest resources properly.

4. Farm Africa / SOS- Sahel Borena Collaborative Forest Management Project

By Teklearegy Jirane, SOS -Sahel, BCFMP PFM Advisor.

Abstract

The objectives of the project are: To contribute to the long-term conservation of Forest Ecosystem through development and establishment of PFM in Oromia region, in Yabello, Arearo and Liben sites; To sustain and increase income opportunities from improved Natural Resource management and diversified livelihoods and to catalyze the adoption of PFM within Ethiopian Forest Policy and practice. Main project activities include, preparation and implementation of forest management plans and agreements, formation, development, and empowerment of Forest user Groups (Institutions) Identification of appropriate natural resource based livelihood and NTFP technologies,

Human and institutional capacity development and skill transfer and Establishment of Government /Community based monitoring system Some of the major accomplishments include: Formation and revitalization of five levels of forest management



Obbo Teklearegay Jirane presenting the experiences of BCFMP

institutions with specific PFM duties and responsibilities, that are linked with the Borena Gada traditional organization,(sustainability and local ownership fostered), Forest area mapping in the three project sites, Participatory Forest Resource Assessment conducted , Livelihood diversification activities undergone that helped boost Complementary NTFP and Income generation, Institutional development for Community Development Fund(CDF). Management through formation of business oriented Cooperatives and Capacity Building of government partners through skill development trainings, exposure visits, revitalizing traditional institutions (Gadda.) Women groups were equally active in PFM process and they were also able to discuss and think about the dwindling dry-lands resources and actively participate. With regard to impact it has been observed so far that community members are developing sense of ownership, good natural forest regeneration and return of wildlife have all been observed.

Discussion made on the Presentation:

Q. How was the traditional Borena structure operating in the whole system PFM? How was it linked to the user group?

Gumii is the highest structured meeting chaired by Aba Geda . The agreement is usually signed at PFM Block level while forest development and protection is done at Madda level, each level has specific duties and responsibilities to perform. And the project is trying to understand how the traditional systems functions and adapts its strategy accordingly to sustain the activities.

Q. Is it convenient to sign agreement with all PAs given the big geographical size of the Borena zone? When the units are bigger, how can you bring all the PAs to consult on the grazing and forest conservation issue? What criteria are traditionally used to demarcate lands for grazing and forestry?

Borenas are known for their shared common property management practices. All land belongs to all Borena people. As long as any body belonging to the Borena respects the traditional rules and regulations (Gada rule) he can participate in the recourses management. Borenas do not misuse the grazing land, water and forest. They have traditional grazing and land use systems. The already existing Borena tradition has indigenous knowledge on how to use the grazing land and the structure being commonly accepted by the Borena. What we are doing in the management plan is to integrate this local knowledge with already proven and tested professional knowledge.

III. Identifying Key Concerns and formulating Agenda Items

After the experience sharing and project updating session was concluded workshop participants were asked based on the presentations and discussions made in the morning and taking in to account their own project specific challenges , to write on cards their concerns regarding the practice of PFM in Oromia region, and to suggest agenda items for discussion in the afternoon, to address these concerns.

PART II AFTERNOON SESSION

The session was started by summarizing the concerns and agenda for discussion forwarded by the participants on the flipchart. Accordingly, the participants expressed their concerns as follows.

I. CONCERNS

1. "Isolated" efforts and successes
2. Government support to PFM activities
3. Trust building measures / community development activities within project
4. The link between community Development and forest management.
5. Financial and Technical Sustainability of PFM project after project handover
6. Limited experience exchange
7. Promotion of different approaches
8. PFM implementation is moving slowly
9. PFM implementation is limited to pilot projects only
10. Shall we post issues like participation as issues, which need further discussion?
11. Forest users cooperatives (legality)
12. Capacity Building of government as community

II. Proposed Agenda Items for discussion.

1. Quality control of PFM projects
2. Livelihood + PFM
3. Community FMG Institutes
4. Cooperatives
 - Forest management
 - Business management
5. Participatory Resource Assessment and Management Planning
6. Organization of user groups
7. Qualifying the impacts and contribution of PFM
8. Institutionalizing Forest Users Groups
9. Cooperative issues
10. Community development VS material incentives
11. Large scale implementation of PNRM
12. Advocacy and Policy advise to government
13. Streamlining PFM in ORLNRAA
14. Networking
 - Regular PFM-WG meeting
 - Establishment of PFM newsletter
15. Refining good practices
16. PFM Guideline preparation
17. Expansion of PFM in other forest areas
18. Establishment of task forces dealing with different problems
 - PFM, cooperatives, guideline preparation
19. Cooperatives as a reliable and optional institutions to manage resources
20. 'Right' who has the right and not to manage resources (right of urban Vs rural user groups)
21. System of financial management by community in PFM projects and technical sustainability

III. Group Discussions

Participants brainstormed in the plenary to cluster the ideas in to thematic agenda topics. As a result, the following eight topics were identified and agreed upon to be discussion items for groups.

- 1) Quality, guideline and best practice
- 2) Cooperatives, user groups organizations
- 3) Technical issues and methods
 - Resource management plans
 - Financial guideline
- 4) Policy and Advocacy, qualifying the impact
- 5) Community development
- 6) Expansion of PFM
- 7) Establishment of Task force
- 8) 'Right'

The final discussion items were then divided among three randomly established discussion groups whose results were presented to the plenary as follows.

IV. GROUP Work Results

Group 1: Policy Advocacy and Networking

Group Reporter:- Tsegaye Tadesse

1. Opportunity

- i. Existence of Regional forest Policy which supports PFM
- ii. Existence of PFM Unit in ORLNRAA

2. To be done

- a) Quantifying contribution of PFM and informing decision makers
 - Livelihood
 - Forest condition

- Food security
- Poverty Reduction
- b) Strengthening working Partnership
 - Woreda –Zone - Region - National
- c) Detail implementation modality for Regional Forest Proclamation

3. Networking

3.1 Problem

- PFM unit not functional
- PFM - WG

3.2 Solution

- PFMU should serve as a secretariat
- Strengthening the capacity of PFMU
- The WG should at least meet twice a year
- Establishing 3 taskforces attached to projects.

These are:

- a) **Guideline preparation** task force
- b) **Institutional/organizational** aspects task force
- c) **Policy and Advocacy** task force

GROUP II Quality, Guideline and Technical Issues

Group Reporter: Teklearegay Jirane

1. Quality

- Projects need to be problem oriented (demand driven)
- Participatory planning
- Partnership oriented/ Result full

2. Guideline & best practices

- Operational Manuals
- Clear and transparent by laws
- Conducive policy environment
- Experience exchange, training and study tour

3. Scaling up

- Assess the result of the previous output
- Use best practices from the pilot projects
- Review the previous guidelines and policies
- Enhance the capacity of key partners /stakeholders

4. Technical issues and Methods

- Resource Management plan
- Financial sustainability
- Improve the technical and managerial capacity of partners
- The Management plan has to be designed, prepared and implemented with full community participation
- The income and expenditure has to be managed in line with financial laws.

GROUP III : Cooperatives/User groups/Institutions/organization

Group Reporter: Ben Irwin

1. Community Organization:

- A key issue for PFM WG to watch is how to make balance between forest Management and business Management.
- Are cooperatives the only means of community organization?
- Some organizational features observed in PFM practicing projects

- ✓ Chilimo - Forest cooperatives: Forest /Business are combined
- ✓ Borana - Forest Management Institution: livelihood Business cooperatives
- ✓ Adaba-Dodola - WAJIB Associations - Golbicha

Will it work? / What are the Risks? / Still experimental

2.Community Development:

- ✓ Forest Management
- ✓ Livelihoods
 - Don't "buy" interest
 - Negotiate
 - Development partnership
 - Do not develop a dependency syndrome or transaction relationship
 - Incentives
 - Capacity Building
 - Training
 - Office supply

3.Rights:

Urban /Rural

- Rights have been given to defined group
- The system is restrictive, closed rather than open
- Urban users are excluded /are they primary or secondary stakeholders?
- Negotiation between PAs
- Conflict Management
- Right to development
 - Services from development actors

Discussion: -

- The participants noted with keen interest and agreed to most of the points raised by the three groups. Concerning the three taskforces raised by Group I, a question was raised whether the WG should decide now on who should be responsible for what activity or defer it to some other time in the future. Some participants suggested that since the group does not meet frequently, now is the appropriate time to decide on who should do what.
- The meeting debated at length on how to select the lead /focal / agency in coordinating each of the three task force activities proposed earlier on (group one proposal) and it was finally agreed that ORNRAA should take up the issue and select the appropriate focal agency that would rally the PFM WG member organizations around each task. It was also agreed that ORNRAA makes the selection with the consent of each of the respective organizations to be selected.

Closing of the Meeting

Each participant was invited to reflect on the results and process of the workshop and there was unanimity on the fact that participants learned a great deal from each other's experiences and enjoyed both the content and process of the workshop. Participants also stressed that a lot remains to be done particularly in revitalizing the PFM working Group and in making the three task forces operational.

The workshop was wound up by the closing remarks of Dr. Fikru Deksis. Deputy head of ORLNRAA, who thanked Farm-Africa / SOS Sahel for sponsoring the meeting and the four PFM-WG member organizations for sharing their experiences.

He emphasized that the PFM approaches, currently being implemented by the WG member organizations need to be enhanced further to protect the remaining forests of Oromia from further destruction



Dr. Fikru Deksis Making Closing Remarks

and allow the speeded up regeneration of this important and key resource of the region. In this regard, he called upon each of the PFM-WG members to continue to share their experiences and support each other in scaling up the implementation of their already proven PFM practices to cover wider areas as much as possible.

Finally Dr. Fikru expressed the regional government's commitment to continue creating a conducive and an enabling policy and legal environment, and providing the necessary support and guidance to all those engaged in this lofty and highly demanding work of promoting Participatory Forest Management in Oromia.

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Annex - 2**PFM Working Group Workshop
August 26, 2004, Queen of Sheba Hotel**

	Name	Organization & Title	Tel. Addresses P.Box
1	Semalign Belay	SOS-Sahel L/Advisor	06/450038 06450261 N /Borena
2	Teklearegay Jirane	SOS-Sahel PFM Advisor	06/450038 06450261 N/ Borena
3	Oika Belachew	FARM Africa	01.599438/39
4	Olana Edessa	FARM Africa	01.599438/39
5	Kassaye Tilahun	DANDI Woreda NR	599069(47)
6	Ben Irwin	SOS Sahel/FARM	550154
7	Ephrem Lemu	FARM Africa-Chilimo	599438
8	Tsegaye Tadesse	GTZ-Advisor	01615047 09622145
9	Oumer Wabe	WWF-Bale	06/611126
10	Diro Bulbula	ORLNAA	01/151073
11	Girma Amente	IFMP	09/650644
12	Dr. Fikru Dekisisa	ORLNAA-Deputy Head	151073
13	Workineh Denekew	WORKOD-CONSULT- Facilitator	01/508160
14	Bizuneh Gultu	WORKOD-CONSULT- Reporter	01/508160

Annex – 1

Oromiya PFM Working Group Meeting
26 27th August 2004
Workshop Programme

Time	Activity	Responsibility
8:30 - 8:45	Welcoming Address	Obbo Siraj Bekelle
8:45 - 9:30	Self introduction of Participants	Facilitator/Participants
9:30 - 10:15	Project update presentations -GTZ - IFMP	Obbo Girma Amente IFMP-GTZ Adaba Dodola Coordinator
10:15 -10:45	FARM Africa Chilimo PFM Project	Obo olani, Edessa Team Leder Chilimo PFM project
11:00-11:20	TEA BREAK	
11:00 - 11:30	JICA - Beleta Gera	Representative
11:30 - 12:00	WWF Bale Oumer Wabe	Obbo Oumer Wabe Project Executant
12:00 - 12:30	SOS Sahel - BCFMP	Obo Tekle Aregai, PFM Advisor & Obbo Semalign Belay Livelihoods Advisor
12:30-13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
13:30 – 14:00:	Plenary Discussion on setting & the agenda items	Facilitator/Participants
14:00-15: 30	Group Discussions	Participants
15:30 – 15:45	TEA BREAK	
15:45-17:00	Group presentations & Discussion on Next Steps	Participants/Facilitator
17:00-17:15	Closing remarks	Dr. Fikru Dekisisa/Deputy Head ORLNRAA

ANNEX 3

Opening speech of Obbo Diro Bulbula, Department Head ORLNRAA

Dear Participants,

On behalf of Oromia Rural Land Administration Authority, the organizing committee, and myself, it is indeed my pleasure to welcome you all to this regional participatory first management meeting.

As you all know, food security and poverty reduction is the most urgent and pressing concern of Ethiopian people, as well as the Government and its development partners. Forest resources are currently making significant, although often unrecognized, contribution to food security, income generation and diversifications and poverty reduction.

Through promotion of greater participation in forest management, these impacts could be greatly increased in the future. Because, PFM aims to establish sustainable management for forest conservation linked to sustainable rural livelihoods.

Work on PFM that is currently being implemented by your projects has proved to be a better way to conserve the remaining forests. To support it implementation of the approach in a wider scale:

- Forest development, utilization and protection proclamation was issued. PFM approach has been treated very well in this proclamation.
- PFM unit has been established in the regional and respective *Aanaas* Oromia Rural land and natural resources administration authority organization and structures.
- Management of 50% of RFPAs has been decentralized to aanaa level, with aim of bringing management and development of forests closer to the people.

- It has been planned to start-up implementation of PFM approaches in 30% of RFPAs over the coming 3-years period.

These achievements are the results of the working experience of your pilot PFM projects. In starting to develop PFM approach in the Region. Your efforts to develop PFM approach deserve mentioning in this regard.

PFM is a new concept in this country, and your projects have made good progress in a relatively short time. However, PFM is a complex and challenging process and much remains to be done on these experiences.

With respect to strengthen and expand PFM approaches, efforts are needed in the following key areas:-

- Participatory forest assessment and management planning:
- Strengthening self-organization of community user groups
- Developing PFM guideline for the Region from the experience gained.
- Strengthening the Regional PFM networking.

I hope that this PFM-WG would develop mechanisms to deal with these problems.

I feel if the above issues are considered seriously, existing pilots will have been rapidly expanded to cover more RFPAs to achieve the objectives of enhancing the conservation, management, and sustainable utilization of forest resources, and sustainable livelihoods in rural areas, as well. I also hope that the cooperation will be further strengthened through our joint effort in this common target of immense importance.

Thank you all.

ANNEX 5

FARM-Africa / SOS Sahel Participatory Forest Management Programme

Chilimo PFM Project

1. Location of Chilimo Forest

- One of the oldest ruminant forests existing in central highlands.
- It is found about 95 km from A.A. and some 5 km from Ginchi town on the way to Ambo - Wollega.
- The forest is located in between the altitude of 2350 to 2850 m.a.s.

2. Chilimo is endowed with different resources,

- The important plant and wildlife resources. The forest spps are, *Podocarpus falcatus*, *Olea europaea*, *Haginea abyssinica*, *Apodytes dimidiata*, *Juniperus procera*, *Prunus africana*, *Ficus spp.*
- According to wildlife surveys undertaken there are about 180 spp of birds and 21 mammals.
- The Forest is a potential source of rivers for Ethiopian two main basins, Awash and Nile. *The Rivers are Arera, Warabo, Sengota, Dabis, Awash, Lagabaatu, Jemjem, Anneno and Tiyo.*
- Chilimo is a source of indigenous tree seed
- It is a source of medicine for local communities and forage for animals

3. FARM Africa and SOS Sahel Initiatives of PFMP

- FARM Africa has started to work on the development activities since 1985 in the country.
- In Chilimo FARM Started in 1996 (worked up to 1998) - stopped due to Ethio - Eritrean war.

- 2002 PFMP has started to implement 4 projects under one program in Africa, 1 in Tanzania, 3 in Ethiopia.

4. The Major objective of the Chilimo PFM project are,

- To develop, conserve and manage Chilimo forest through community participation
- Empowering the community by organizing them as FMG to protect and develop the forest resources
- To enhance Agricultural productivity as a complementary non forest product activities by introducing different verified technologies
- To build the capacities of the communities and line departments through training and experience sharing tours.

5. What is Participatory Forest Management (PFM).

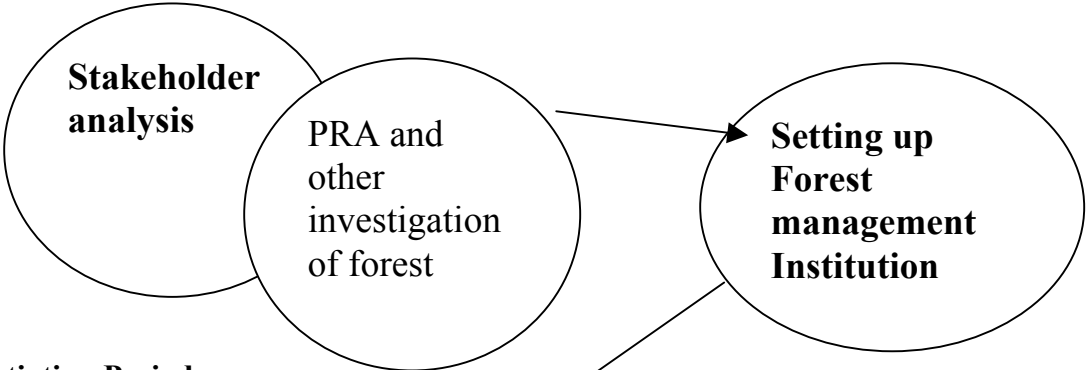
- ❖ A new model of forest management and conservation that involves all stakeholders,
- ❖ It is a system by which communities and GO work together, to define rights of forest users and ways of sharing forest resources mgt.
- ❖ Featuring decentralized decision-making,
- ❖ It is a means to create a common resource management method,
- ❖ A commitment to make unmanaged forest land a productive asset,

6. Why forest mgt is important through PFM.

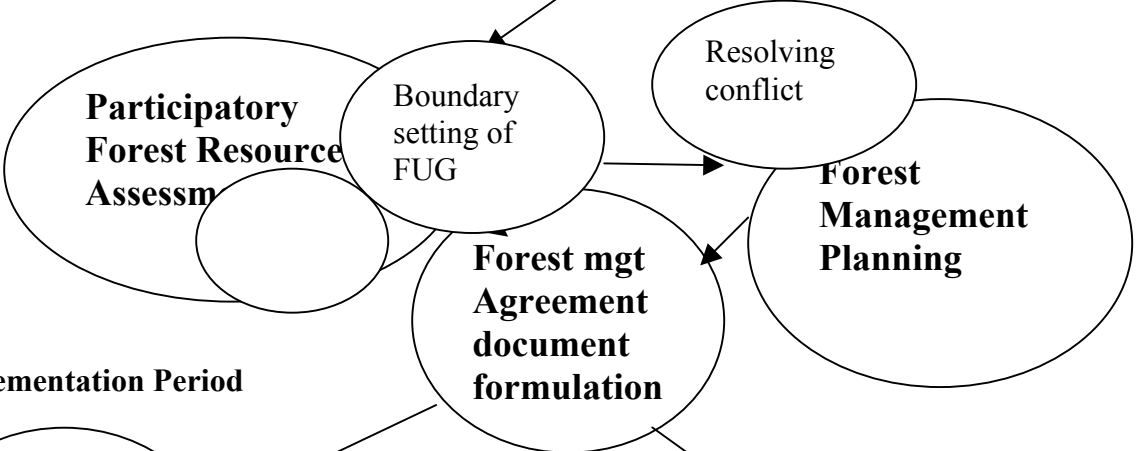
- ⇒ The plan of protecting forest by exclusion of community was not applicable in the world.
- ⇒ From the other countries experience it has shown that the forest better protected and conserved than by government alone.
- ⇒ It is both the governments and communities' interest.
- ⇒ A reduction in forest management cost - GO concern
- ⇒ Community based forest management can increase resource flows to rural populations, helping to alleviate poverty and distribute income more equitably.
- ⇒ Local people are closest to the forest and therefore best placed to manage it.
- ⇒ PFM is viewed as a means of supporting biodiversity conservation;
- ⇒ Recognition by local people that the forests were being degraded.

7. Route map of establishing PFM

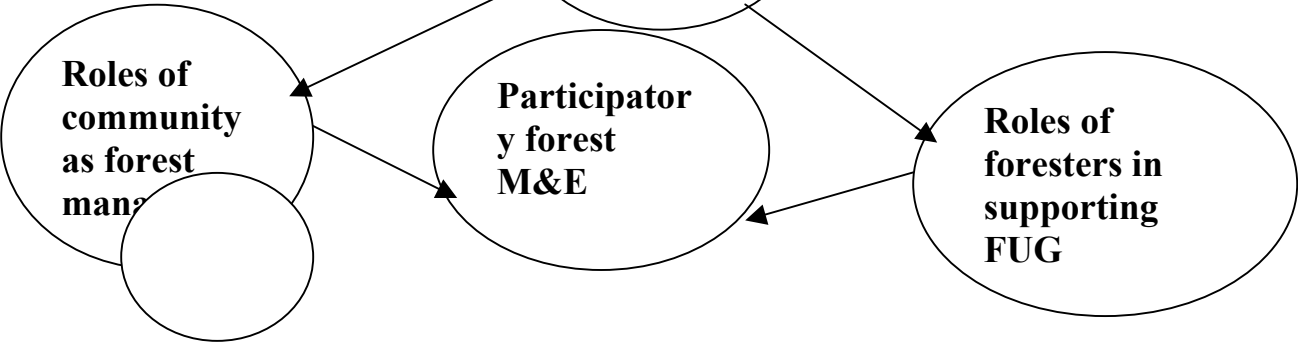
a) Investigation period



b) Negotiation Period



c) Implementation Period



8. Forest mgt institution setting - up

- Setting-up of a functional community based forest management institutions is the center of successful PFM.
- The strength of the institution for PFM is also very critical.
- Adequate time and investment must be made in building management skills and capacity for the established institutions.
- Identification of suitable traditional institution should be undertaken at the investigation stage of the process.
- Concerning the Chilimo's condition, no traditional institution was found to take the responsibilities due to unbalanced gender, and have got their intended specific activities.
- So that we were forced to form new forest mgt institutions.
- It is worth to mention that the community review the options and decide what type of institution they want to establish.
- After the institutionalization new incidents emerged. These incidents are,
 - Members started to protect the forest and forestland
 - Illegal grazers and tree cutters invaded the forest mgt group - big protest from this community come to the council.
 - Illegal grazers were asked to expose the forest poachers who are residing in the town as a primary condition to discuss on the issues.
 - Forest mgt groups resisted them and they became winner.
 - Though they are strong enough to protect the forest, unless the forest mgt groups entitled to get help from government, the opposing group could not give up looting and trying to graze illegally.

9. Participatory forest resource assessment (PFRA)

It is used to provide information about forest resources and how to use information for forest monitoring and management planning purposes.

The four key stages in PFRA processes are,

- Initial planning of the PFRA, including forest block mapping

- The actual conducting the PFRA
- The production of the PFRA report
- The development of mgt prescriptions for the forest mgt plan.

PFRA has to be carried out by a joint government and community team and it is a core part of PFM.

- It involves mapping of forest block boundaries and the physical assessment of the forest resources.
- PFRA provides the government with detailed knowledge of the forest resources at the time of assessment.
- It can also be used to determine any changes in the resources over time, by repeating the PFRA for monitoring purposes.
- PFRA provides the community with information to support the appropriate management of the resources.
- PFRA report is used as a document to prepare forest management plan and agreement that enables the community to take over the legal mgt of the forest resources.
- It could be also used as a mgt and monitoring tool for government as well as for communities.

10. Forest Management planning (FMP)

- The forest mgt plan has been set out to contain 4 management themes.
 - Forest protection
 - Forest utilization
 - Forest development
 - Forest monitoring
- Forest mgt activities should be developed through discussion with the community and noted on the plan.
- The plan should be carried out in a series of participatory forest mgt planning meeting held between the community and the Woreda natural resource department.
- Plans should be kept simple and brief.
- The plan should be reviewed in a regular basis

In the forest mgt planning document preparation, 8 sections are listed in the following order.

1. Introduction
2. Description of the forest
3. Objective of the forest mgt plan
4. Institutional set up
5. Forest mgt prescriptions
6. Monitoring and evaluation
7. Revision of the plan
8. Approval of the plan

Key issues in the plan are,

- The PFRA, is very essential in preparing the plan which,
 - Helps to develop meaningful and realistic forest mgt prescriptions based on actual forest conditions.
 - Provides the key information's for formulating the main sections of the forest mgt plan.

11. The Forest Management Agreement (FMA)

- It is legally binding contract document upon signing.
- The signatories will be the Woreda natural resource department on behalf of the government and executive committee members on behalf of the community.
- The core part of the agreement is the clear specification of the rights and responsibilities of the two parties.
- Rights and responsibilities should be developed through discussion with the community and then noted in the agreement.
- The agreement document should be kept simple and brief, clear and are not open to different interpretations.
- It contains 8 sections just like mgt plan. This basic sections are,
 1. Introduction
 2. Art.1 Definitions

3. Art.2 Objectives
 4. Art.3 Location and condition of the forest
 5. Art.4 Descriptions of agreeing parties
 6. Art.5 Benefits of Agreeing parties
 7. Art.6 Rights and responsibilities of agreeing parties
 8. Art.7 Condition, legality and duration of the agreement.
- Based on the above aforementioned line of activities,
 - Two of our user groups have signed and took over the forest resource.
 - They have fully started implementation.
 - Starting from here, they fully need support from all legal bodies and NR office.

12. Major achievements of the project

- Gathering and documenting data
- Formation and institutionalization of FMG
- The forest resource is assessed and mapped on participatory base.
- Two-forest management group has taken over the resource and overall mgt.
- Introduction and dissemination of new technologies
- The awareness of FMG members raised due to training and experience exchange tours, workshops, etc.
- The capacities of active partners and communities developed through training, w/shops, tour, etc.
- FMG rights, responsibilities and sense of ownership over the forest resource is developed
- Basic knowledge is gained in linking forest conservation with livelihood improving activities. eg. Forest seed sales
- Livelihood activities are on going - have started to improve the communities life. - NTFP activities
- The planning capacity of villagers and experts is developed.
- Promoting FMG to forest cooperatives.

- Some infrastructure development was undertaken
- Knowledge was gained on the mechanisms of conflict resolving.

13. Challenges of PFM

- ❖ The approach is new and complex and multifaceted task - Changing the attitude of Communities and other stakeholders are not as such simple because we are working where the illiteracy is too much.
- ❖ Inadequacy of the technology to be introduced for agricultural productivity.
- ❖ The process is not an immediate fix solution but rational utilization through conservation, since the forest destruction has taken place for longer period of time in the past.
- ❖ Resistance of the new approach is not only from the communities but also from the forestry professionals until they fully get in to track.
- ❖ Creating trust was not simple since the community has been in suspicion concerning the resource.
- ❖ Women's participation is inadequate and not as expected due to cultural and related issues.

14. Lessons learnt

- ❖ Success of PFM requires investment and full commitment by both GO and community
- ❖ It is absolutely empowering and changing the communities' role, capacity and confidence to manage the forest.
- ❖ In the project area, the team has strived to involve women but still more effort is needed to involve them in forest mgt.
- ❖ Though the communities took over the forest resource from the government, they need overall legal and technical assistance until they become strong enough in using their rights and to fulfill their responsibilities.

- ❖ NTFP activities and other livelihood activities could play essential roles in substantiating and longevity of PFM.
- ❖ Acquaintance and linking community-based tourism to participatory forest mgt could have substantial benefit in regard to improving the capacity of wildlife management and generating income for the community.
- ❖ Promoting the forest user group in to forest mgt cooperative association is important to enable the community to strengthen in exercising their right and in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

15. Finally, we cannot say "no hole in the wall" for the resource is a "sought-after" forest product by different community members but could be filled through long but precious outcome learning by doing.

Annex- 6

DGIS-WWF Ethiopia Project (ET0026)

1. Brief Summary

1.1 Long-term training

- **Two project-sponsored MSc.** candidates in Tropical Resources Ecology at the University of Zimbabwe and one MSc. candidate in Wildlife Management at Moi University / Kenya, successfully, completed training and returned to Ethiopia.
- Follow-up made and assistance rendered to the training of a fourth MSc. at Moi University in Kenya.
- **Four project sponsored** students from the Mweka College of African Wildlife Management returned to Ethiopia after successful completion of their diploma work. All have now assumed key positions including warden ships both for the BMNP and the Awash National Park.

1.2 Short-term training

- **Short-term training** in applications software (computer) Human resource management & development, accounting & finance management, project planning and implementation and, monitoring and evaluation policy analysis and planning, PRA, Gender development and management has been undertaken for EWCO (24) and Oromia (34) staffs. And also on the job training for BMNP and ORLNRAA staffs have been carried out.
- **Computer training** as a support to capacity building for Delo-Mena Woreda Administration offices.
- **Delo- Mena** Woreda Ten (10) trainees from six different offices have participated on the computer training for seven days which totals to 48 hours to enable them operate the already bought computers for the offices.
- The Administration offices participated on the computer training includes Woreda Administration (2) Capacity building office (1) Woreda Agriculture (2), Natural resources (2), Finance and Economic Development (1) and Woreda Health office and

- **Goba Woreda** Computer Training was also conducted for Goba Woreda ministration offices where by eleven (11) participants seven different Woreda offices participated of the training these include Woreda Administration (2) Agriculture (2) Education (2), Finance and Economic, Development (2), Health (1) Natural resources (1) and Rural and Agricultural Development Coordination Office (1). **These twenty-one** trainees for thirteen different offices will surely give a remarkable capacity support to their respective offices.
- **Sinana Dinsho Woreda: Ten** (10) trainees from **six** different offices.
- **Seven (7)** selected MOA/EWCO, Oromia and DGIS-WWF Project staff participated on the Study visits to Zimbabwe and Namibia.
- **24 representatives** from the six pilot peasant associations (12) Woreda level administrations (3); women's affairs (1), BMNP and MA-NFPA staff (8) participated on local study visits.
- **50 community members** from three pilot PAs of the Mena Angetu NFPA and three pilot PAs from BMNP completed.
- **Eight (8)** federal and regional authorities participated on Forest land restoration held in November 2001, Mombassa, Kenya, was facilitated. These were senior representatives from the Federal MOA, Amhara Gambella Southern Peoples Nation & Nationalities, and Tigray Regional self-Governments.
- **Twenty wildlife scouts** drawn from the EWCO (seven from Awash National Park and there Yangudirassa, National Park and ORLNRAA ten, from the BMNP received one month training at the Managsha Suba Training Centetren.
- **The National Project Coordinator and the Projects Community Forest Officer** attended a two weeks training course on co-management of natural resources at the MSTCDC in Arusha Tanzania.
- **Ten in-depth project orientation workshops** were held in Addis Ababa, Goba Robe and Mena towns for representations of key partners at Headquarters, Zonal, Woreda and Village Administration levels.
- **Thirty-one representatives** of local communities (from the Rira Village Administrative BMNP) received a three months training on modern bamboo works.
- **40 couples** (80 members) of local communities at Rira Village Administration have participated in Family planning training.

1.3 Important documents compiled/ produced

- A vegetation situation /base map of the BMNP and MA-NFPA prepared to help facilitate the project's various consultancy studies and develop the management plans for the BMNP and MA-NFPA.
- **A field Guide on the process of adopting/developing** a CBNRM system within the project areas prepared, enriched (by key project partners) and is being used.
- **Substantial relevant PRA data generated** (after extensive rapport building on the six selected peasant associations in and around the BMNP and MA-NFPA by the project team, which will serve as input to the revision of the management plan for the BMNP and development of strategic plan for the MA-NFPA.
- **Various in-depth workshops**, to enrich the PRA findings with members of the peasant associations held.
- **A brief survey of the hunting dogs** in the MA-NFPA financially assisted and a technical report produced.
- **Interim Technical Reports** by the six national (socio-economic survey, Anthropological studies, wildlife ecology, capacity need assessment, CBNRM Community Development/PRA) and two international consults) reviewed and comments forwarded to all concerned.
- **Two international consultancy studies carried out** (one on conservation planning and the other on Integrated Conservation and Development programme (2003).
- **Additional economic survey** in seven village administration completed (Burkitu, Kumbi, Oda Dema Buluk Hurfa, Gerbigala, Bokorie and Bubie)
- **BMNP settlements GPS** reading and settlement impacts survey work is completed.
- **Forest inventory work** on the MA-NFPA by over 20 forest and forest related professionals/ technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is now complete and forest inventory analysis is underway.
- **A one-week international consultancy** towards initiation of the respective management strategic planning process for the BMNP and MA-NFPA carried (2004)

- **Various publications** on the participatory approach and lessons learned including relevant journals (for school nature clubs and key stakeholders in the project area) subscribed received and distributed to nature clubs.
- **A respective 1000 copies**, each, of a project brochure and poster were produced and distributed to the EWCO, ORLNRAA and other key project partners in the Governmental Organizations.
- **Six concept papers** (two of which has been developed to the HK-FPA ICD and second phase (GMP implementation) proposal, and
- Two concept papers developed, in collaboration with the Natural Resources Department of the Somali Regional Government, for donors support.
- One concept paper on wetlands developed, in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Authority for support by the Nile Basin Initiative.
- A four -man Internet project evaluation by the then Ministry of agriculture the facilitated.
- The implementation of a total of 20-village administrations need-based micro project (worth USD 59,993) has been initiated through financial support from in the DGIS-WWF Ethiopia Project and Ethio-Italy Arsi-Bale Development Project.
- Selection of communities development committee realized through establishment of district-based Project Advisory Team

Implementation status of the various micro-projects

Type of micro-projects at each village administration	Overall contribution of the micro-projects to conservation	Number of beneficiaries/HH	Number of cooperative members capacity	Number of fruit tree seedlings distributed	Number of trees planted
A. Kumbi, MA-Nfpa					
1.Organic coffee promotion	Improve livelihoods through generation of alternative income	50	50	-	-
2.Spring water development	Minimize water-borne disease	95	-	-	-
3.Improved bull introduction	Improved incomes and reduced negative pressure on forest resources	123(348cows)			
4. Community fruit tree nursery development	Improved food security and reduced poverty through alternative income generation	260	-	8,380	19
B.Oda-Dima ,MA-NFPA					
1.Organic coffee promotion	Same as above	60	60	-	-
2.Water harvesting	Improved food security and reduced poverty through alternative income generation	200(Community nursery users)	50 m3	-	-
3.Hand dug wells	Reduced women's load in traveling far in search of potable water	245	-	-	-
4.Community fruit tree nursery development	Same as above	200	0-	6553	12
C.Shawe,MA-NFPA					
1.Traditional Irrigation scheme development	Improved food security and reduced poverty through agricultural diversification	750	-	-	-
2.Community fruit tree nursery development	Improved food security and reduced poverty through alternative income generation	300	-	8,714	18
	SUB-TOTAL			23,647	50
Type of micro-projects at each village	Overall contribution of the micro-projects	Number of beneficiaries/HH	Number of cooperative	Number of fruit tree	Number of trees

administration	to conservation		members capacity	seedlings distributed	planted
D.Rira, BMNP					
1. School upgrading and maintenance	Environmental education and awareness as well as releasing community members from the village through education, thereby, reducing negative pressure on the resource	280	-	-	-
2.Improved cattle promotion through artificial Insemination (AI) service	Improved income and reduced negative pressure on forest resources	1,848/yr	1,848/yr	-	-
3.Family planning	Reduced population pressure on forest resources	40	-	-	-
E.Hora Soba, BMNP					
1.Spring water development	Minimized water-born diseases	200	-	-	--
2.Improved cattle promotion((AI service)	Improved income and reduce negative pressure on forest resources	1,848/yr	1,848/yr	-	-
3.Furnishing school	Serve as a renter for environmental awareness	200	200	-	-
F. Gojera, BMNP					
1.Improved cattle promotion(AI service)	Improved income and reduced negative pressure on forest resources	1,848/yr	1,848/yr	-	-
2.Furnishing Dinsho school	Serve as a renter for environmental awareness	400	400	-	-
G. DGIS WWF/ASRDP					
1. Basic Bamboo works	Alternative income generation and diversification of forest resource use	31	31	-	-
2.Improved stove promotion	Reduced pressures of fuel wood	1000	10	-	-

1.4. Equipment and infrastructure development:

1.4.1 Equipments

- Vehicles: 5 of which 4 are 4X4 and one Toyota Sedan, three are for BMNP component and two for PIU
- Motorcycles: 4 for the livestock improvement micro projects
- Office facilities for Project Implementation Unit (PIU) staff including NPO and Mena -Angetu site office (11 sets) procured.
- Computers 11 for the PIU, Gaba and MA-NFPA and BMNP as well as for ORLNRAA were procured.
- Photocopy (2) fan Fax machine (2) for PIU and Goba site office procured
- Five GPS procured to facilitate the field work
- Video camera and digital photo camera procurement completed

1.4.2 Infrastructure development

- Construction of roomed office for Mena Angetu National Forest Priority Areas and
- Four duplex store residences at Angesso and Rira, and a ticker office at Angesso are completed

II. Project No ET0027.01

2.1 Additional capacity for ORLNRAA and EWCO

- Project Executant's completed Conservation Leadership Course offered by WWF College
- Two vehicles procured and handed over to BMNP to strengthen surveillance in IMNP
- Ten Diploma holders form EWCO and Oromia (five from each) joined the five-year BSc course at Wondo Genet College of Forestry)

