LASER PULSE Research for Development (R4D) Workshop

“Transforming the Paradigm in the Partnership Model for Research Translation-Derived Development Solutions”

Youth Empowerment through Livelihood Transformation in Agro-Pastoral Areas of East and West Hararghe Zones, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia

Muluken G. Wordofa (Ph.D.), Principal Investigator

20-21 Sep 2022, Inter Luxury Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
LASER PULSE HU Research Team

Delivering practical, research-driven solutions to global development challenges
Delivering practical, research-driven solutions to global development challenges

East Hararghe Zone Research Translation Partners – Bureau Head (Mrs. Bonsitu/Mr. Michael; Midega Tola Woreda (Mr. Abdi); Chinaksen Woreda (Mr. Gezahegn)
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West Hararghe Zone Research Translation Partners – Bureau Head (Mr. Adinan); Mr Gossa (Miesso Woreda); Mr. Aliyi (Gumbi Bordede Woreda)
Introduction: Overview of the HU LASER PULSE Project

**Sector of inquiry/research focus areas**
- "Youth Development, Civic Engagement, and Leadership"

**Geographic Focus Area(s)**
- Oromia region (four districts of East and West Hararghe Zone), Ethiopia

**Project length (years, months):** 24 months

**Geographic Focus Area(s)**
- Oromia region (four districts of East and West Hararghe Zone), Ethiopia

**DURATION**
- Start year: 01/09/2021
- End year: 31/07/2023

**Donor/funding organization:** Purdue University (LASER PULSE)

**Lead Institution:** Haramaya University Ethiopia
Objectives of HU LASER PULSE Project

1. Assess occupational aspirations of male and female youth in agro-pastoral areas of East and West Hararghe zones.

2. Evaluate existing policy strategies, practices, and development interventions in Ethiopia and identify factors that may enhance/constrain effective participation of rural youth in the study area.

3. Evaluate the impact of existing development interventions in improving livelihoods and empowerment of rural youth (economic independence, income, self-employment, access to and control over economic resources, and food and nutritional security).

4. Identify competitive advantages and potential sources of sustainable livelihood opportunities for agro-pastoral youth.

5. Design, implement and evaluate demand-driven capacity-building interventions that may enhance rural youth’s entrepreneurial skills and capabilities, livelihood, and empowerment.
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Partnership/Stakeholders
- co-design and iterative research topic and problem identification
- exploration of Multi Stakeholder Innovation Platform (MSIP)
- Oromia Irrigation and Pastoralist Development Bureau – policy partner
- FDRE parliament – policy partner
- East and West Hararghe Coordination Office – other collaborators
- Agriculture and Rural Innovation Incubation Hub (ARIHUB) – entrepreneurship training
- Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) development office
- Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs)
- Women, Children and Youth Affairs Office
- NGOs
- Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
- School of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
- School of Rural Development and Agricultural Innovation
- Institute of Peace and Cultural Studies

Process
- participatory approach and two-way communication
- formation of a steering committee
- participatory planning, implementation, M&E, dissemination, and scaling-up
- inception workshop
- regular meetings, discussions, and periodic workshops
- frequent conversations using ICT/social media
- collaboration with partners at different levels
- preparing and validating data collection tools
- developing selection criteria
- conducting TNA
- facilitating training
- preparing M&E guidelines
- conducting M&E
- information and resource sharing
- networking, monitoring, and evaluation
- result dissemination
- inputs for youth strategy document
- policymaking
- the MSIP serves as a platform

Product
- research translation products
- policy briefs
- training
- multimedia products
- technical/training manuals/modules
- youth unemployment
- gender inequality
- engagement

Dissemination strategy
- employ locally available media outlets
- use locally available social media
- publicize project findings on LASER website
- publish articles, policy briefs, proceedings/working papers/reports
- ensure the project’s sustainability
- draw additional funding sources
- increase possibilities for upscaling the project and increase its wider adoption
- research outputs, datasets, relevant information and success stories will be shared on LASER PULSE website (laserpulse.org)

General ERT Model: Partnership, Process, Product, Dissemination

Design and/or revise youth development policies/strategies and interventions

Reform agenda to address:
- youth unemployment
- gender inequality
- empowerment

Information and resource sharing
- networking, monitoring and evaluation
- result dissemination
- inputs for youth strategy document
- policymaking
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Study Area, Sampling and Methods

East and West Hararghe Zones, Oromia Region

4 Woredas (two from each zone)
- Chinaksen, Midega Tola (East Hararghe)
- Mirasa, Gumbi Bordede (West Hararghe)

3 Kebeles per Woreda (i.e., 12 Kebeles in total)

400 rural youth
- 160 will participate in capacity-building intervention

Mixed methods research approach (qualitative and quantitative)
Study Area, Sampling …

- Key informants’ interview (40)
- Focus group discussion (12)
- Life history interviews (20)
- Baseline and endline survey (400)

Qualitative data analysis (thematic and content analysis)

Descriptive, inferential, econometric model (quantitative data)
Key ERT Activities, Outputs and Achievements
Haramaya University Sign a 249,377 USD Grant Agreement with Purdue University to Launch a New Project on ‘Youth Empowerment in Agro-Pastoral Areas of East and West Hararghe Zones, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia’.

Dr. Jemal Yousuf, President of Haramaya University, signed a two years Foreign Research Subaward Agreement (effective Sep. 2021 to July 2023) with Purdue University on 26/08/2021 to undertake an action-oriented research project titled ‘Youth Empowerment through Livelihood Transformation in Agro-Pastoral Areas of East and West Hararghe Zones, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia’. The project budget 249,377 USD covered by Purdue University.

The project will cover 4 Woredas in East and West Hararote.: In a project inaugural meeting held virtual on 9th and 11th of August 2021, Dr. Mulken Gezahegn Wordofo, Principal
# LASER PULSE Proposal Registration (HUGMS)

- **Registered proposal (05 Oct 2021)**

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[Complete this form and submit in two copies to Office of Directorate of Research Groups and Partnerships]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Registration Number (HU)</th>
<th>EFP_2021_05_06</th>
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<tr>
<td>Award Reference Number (Donors)</td>
<td>Grant No. 15100068</td>
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<td>Subaward No. F9002550402135</td>
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Project/Grant Title
Key Activities Completed and Milestones Achieved

- IRB ethical clearance
- Enumerator and facilitator training
- Qualitative data collection (FGD, KII, LHI)
- Quantitative data collection (Survey)
- Field report, policy briefs, posters, working papers, leaflets, presentations
- Desk review report into articles
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IRB Ethical Clearance

Haramaya University, College of Health and Medical Sciences
Institutional Health Research Ethics Review Committee (IHREC)
Address: Tel:0356460211 P.O.Box 339 Fax 035648093, Harar-Ethiopia
e-mail: harem.ihrec@gmail.com
institutional Health Research Ethics Review Approval Form

Name of the institution: College of Health and Medical Sciences, Haramaya University, Harar Campus
Name of P.I: Dr. Mulukzen Gashghe Wonders (PhD) Tel +2519012590465, Email: mgwud@gmail.com
P.O.Box:138, Haramaya University, DireDawa, Ethiopia.

Title of the proposal/project: Youth Empowerment through Livelihood Transformation in Agro-Pastoral Areas of East and West Hararge Zones, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia
To: Office of the Chief Executive Director, College of Health and Medical Sciences, Haramaya University, Harar Campus, Ethiopia.

The IHREC has reviewed the aforementioned project proposal with special emphasis on the following points:

1. Are all ethical principles concerned?
   1.1 Respect for persons Yes □ No □
   1.2 Beneficence Yes □ No □
   1.3 Justice Yes □ No □

2. Are the objectives of the study ethically achievable? Yes □ No □

3. Are the methods ethically sound? Yes □ No □

Based on the above mentioned ethical assessment the Institutional Research Ethics Review Committee has approved the proposal for: Implementa

- Expired date of the approval 31/03/2023
- Date of the implementation
- Conditionally approved
- Not approved

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to request your office to facilitate his request for the proposal study.

With Best Regards

Chairperson: Negga Baradi

Signature: 06/04/2022

Date: 05/04/2022

Secretary: Bhrha G/Michael

Signature: 06/04/2022

N.B. For any information, question or clarification don't hesitate to contact the Committee with the addresses at the top.
Youth Empowerment through Livelihood Transformation in Agro-Pastoral Areas of East and West Hararghe Zones, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia
Aim of the systematic review

- Produce reports on existing policy strategies, practices and development interventions, their strengths and weaknesses;

- Assess factors affecting youth participation in existing development interventions;

- Identify pathways for youth to benefit from the interventions (Research Output 1);

- **Contents of the desk/systematic review template**
Occupational Aspirations, Opportunity Structures and Barriers for Youth Livelihood Transformation in Gumi Bordeled Woreda of Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia

Muliken G. Wolidota; Getachew S. Endris; Chanyawel S. Aweke; Jamal Y. Hassen; Jeylan Wolyq; Dereje Kith; Million Sleith; Kadjia Kadri; Abdulmuan I. Ibrahim; Kidesena Sabise

Although the youth are regarded as a force of change in many countries, economic sectors and contexts, they grapple with tremendous challenges to achieve the required knowledge, training, life skills and experiences to compete for job opportunities as well as realize their dreams and aspirations.

Key Findings

- Aspirations are found to be influenced by a range of demographic, socio-economic, institutional and cultural constructs, including parental background and socio-economic status, age, gender, social norms and expectations, infrastructure and economic opportunities.
- Accessibility of the study area and cattle marketing towns near the main road, local livestock marketing, knowledge and management, cultural mitigation of cattle and available cattle marketing facilities to be the important opportunities for youth participation in livestock marketing.
- The study found a number of opportunities for youth livelihood transformation in the study area such as opportunities to livestock marketing, tourism, beekeeping, part-time, edge trading and petty trading, 56 schools, 1 health center, 2 health posts, 1 extension office, 1 school, 6 animal health posts, 5 human health clinics, 11 pastoral training centers, 32 shaded tourism sites and various water resources and customary rights.
- There is identified challenges include: lack of job opportunities, lack of demand and market productivity, lack of electricity, lack of food and livestock productivity, lack of availability and accessibility of livestock products, limited livestock products availability and accessibility, 11 youth to engage in on cattle fattening business, limited participation in livestock marketing, limited participations in beekeeping, charcoal production and petty trading; 56 schools, 1 health center, 2 health posts, 5 human health clinics, 11 pastoral training centers, 32 shaded tourism sites and various water resources and customary rights.

Recomendations/Implications for Policy & Practice

- Youth development and livelihood transformation interventions should take into account differences among male and female youth occupational aspirations strengthening family and education, identity and behavioral change, communicative interventions should be prioritized.
- Design of business skills and entrepreneurship training, start-up capital, market information and integration, and basic services and infrastructure development is greatly needed.
- There is recommended for government institutions and NGOs operating in the study area should concentrate on addressing all forms of discrimination and to impact on male and female youth expectations, employability, empowerment and social cohesion.
- Enhancing the participation of male and female youth through a carefully designed targeting and selection criteria, exclusively targeting vulnerable segments of the population, and coordinating programming projects using a multi-sectoral, innovation and engagement platforms.

Selected References

Inception Workshop (Miesso Woreda)
Engaging Policy-/Decision-Makers at Various Level

Outputs: Minutes of the workshop; newsletter article (English and Afan Oromo)
LASER PULSE – RUFOURUM (Triennial Conference, Benin, 2021)

Project overall goal
The current research is an effort to identify youth aspirations, competitive advantages, and potential sources of sustainable livelihood opportunities, challenges, and ways of addressing them in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of the East and West Harargeh zones.

Specific objectives
1. Assess occupational aspirations of male and female youth in agro-pastoral areas of East and West Harargeh zones.
2. Evaluate existing policy strategies, practices, and development interventions in Ethiopia and identify factors that influence rural youth participation in various sectors.
3. Evaluate the impact of existing development interventions in improving livelihoods and opportunities for rural youth.
4. Assess the impact of development interventions on improving livelihoods and opportunities for rural youth.
5. Design, implement, and evaluate demand-driven capacity-building interventions that may enhance rural youth’s entrepreneurial skills and capabilities.

Target beneficiaries of the project
Youth and women in Oromia region (four districts of East and West Harargeh Zones), Ethiopia.
Data Collection Tool Preparation

- Questionnaire
- Focus group discussion
- Key informant interview
- Life history interview
Training for Enumerators and Facilitators
The Field Research Team: Supervisors, Enumerators, Facilitators
### Distance (km) from HU to Study Woredas and Kebeles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Woreda</th>
<th>Distance (km) from HrU</th>
<th>Kebele</th>
<th>Distance (km) from HrU</th>
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<td>Urji</td>
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### Enumerators, qualitative data collectors, supervisors, local research translation partners, translators, guides

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Completed Surveys by Zone, Woreda, Kebele and Gender

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<th>Zone</th>
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## Completed Qualitative Responses by Type of Data Collection Tool, Woreda and Gender

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Pictures from the Field
Summary of ERT Products and Dissemination

- Consultative meetings
- Enumerator and facilitator training
- Joint implementation of field-based data collection
- Supervision by HU and local research translation partners
- Newsletter article (by translation partners) about field work
- Result dissemination – research review workshop at HU, Regional Workshop in Adama
- Progress sharing – project status updates to translation partners
Opportunities, Challenges, and Measures Taken

Challenges and Measures Taken

- Delay in IRB approval
- COVID-19
- State of emergency
- Road (Roba – Bordede)
- Very hot weather
- Vehicle repair & maintenance
- Female enumerators and facilitators
- Some enumerators went back to HU before completion
- Security (Gololcha – Bordede, Lugo – Chinaksen)

Opportunities

- Support from HU
- Weather condition
- Safety and security
- Enthusiastic research team
- Committed enumerators and facilitators
- High cooperativeness and adequately informed youth
- Support from local partners
Key Action Items for Next Quarter

- Data entry, cleaning and analysis
- Complete review report, prepare working paper/article
- Technical research report; Data analysis, interpretation
- Workshop/conference paper/powerpoint
- Policy briefs in various languages
- Result dissemination/validation workshop
Acknowledgements