

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A GENDER STUDY:

Shared Analysis of Gender Approach in the Spanish Cooperation funded Programmes in Ethiopia: Progresses, Challenges and Strategies

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	2
2. Background	2
3. Objective and Study Scope.....	2
4. Questions and Criteria.....	3
5. Actors involved.....	4
6. Methodology and Work Plan	5
7. Documents and Information Sources	6
8. Expected Products.....	7
9. Assessment Team.....	7
10.Premises for Assessment and Dissemination.....	8
11.Schedule	10
12.Submission of the Technical and Financial Bid, Budget and Evaluation Criteria	10
Annex 1: Programmes' Briefing.....	13
Annex 2: Key Informants	17

1. Introduction

Four Spanish organizations working on the social sector, namely Cáritas Española, Fundación Ayuda en Acción, Fundación Promoción Social and Rescate consortium, have been granted with a long-term Spanish Cooperation funding instrument in Ethiopia, which is a 4-year programme intended to contribute to Development promotion in third countries. The four organizations together with the Spanish Cooperation Office in Ethiopia, have agreed to jointly promote an external Study focused on Gender, taking the three Programmes as case studies for the purpose of this consultancy service.

Cáritas Española, Ayuda en Acción and Fundación Promoción Social / Rescate consortium have agreed to foster the Gender Study as a way to analyse and evaluate to what extent the Spanish Cooperation programmes, in spite of not being specifically focused on Gender issues, are contributing towards enhancing women rights and opportunities in Ethiopia. Moreover, the four organizations would like to promote the Study as a learning process through which their current programmes can benefit. The organizations consider the Study as an innovative opportunity to improve the results of their respective programs through knowledge management processes; at the same time, the Study can contribute important inputs to the Spanish Cooperation actors in the country. By making the three programs available as an object of study, it is expected to obtain not only a more comprehensive and representative analysis of the situation of women in relation to development processes, but also an increased knowledge of strategies, challenges, good practices and future opportunities, so that the Spanish Cooperation and its partners organizations would be in a better position to design more effective and appropriate gender-oriented programs, thus, contributing to increase Aid Quality.

2. Background

The current four-years Programmes are: Ayuda en Acción (18-CO1-1170) that is implemented in Arsi Zone (Oromia region); Caritas Española (18-CO1-1167) which is implemented in West Arsi Zone (Oromia region); and FPS/Rescate (18-CO1-940) implemented in Fafan Zone (Somali region), whose scope covers the period from February 2018 to December 2022.

A short briefing on the Programmes can be found in Annex 1; complete programmes' documentation will be handled to the awarded consultancy team.

3. Objective and Study Scope

The overall purpose of this research is to analyse the strategies for reducing gender gaps in Ethiopia based on the Programmes experience, and how the Programmes contribute to transforming gender inequalities, with the aim of generating learnings and recommendations useful for the whole Spanish Cooperation in the country.

The Gender Study should assess the main contributions, impacts and effects of the three Programmes from a gender perspective, analysing strategies, gender mainstreaming along the programme cycle, and effects in Programmes' beneficiaries, particularly in women. The Study is expected to identify relevant findings, conclusions and related structured recommendations to improve the Programmes' implementation from a gender perspective. Complementary, the Study should offer analysis and recommendations that may be extrapolated at country level, thus helping to inform Gender Strategies at a higher level for the whole Spanish Cooperation initiatives in Ethiopia. The Study analysis, conclusions and recommendations may even eventually feed and inform the Gender approach within the new Spanish Cooperation Country Agreement Spain-Ethiopia, which is currently under development.

The Study conclusions are expected to contribute to capitalize on best practices, highlighting the weaknesses and strengths as well as impacts, drawing lessons learned and developing concrete recommendations for further Programmes improvement. Therefore, we understand the assessment as part of a learning process that will facilitate and legitimize the future decision-making, thus contributing to guide the planning.

Based on the above, the study seeks the following **objectives**:

- To identify gender inequalities at local contexts and to analyze how they have been addressed through the Programmes' design and implementation.
- To measure the Programmes' alignment and coherence with local women's needs and interests, as well as with the national and international commitments on gender matters.
- To find out good practices, highlighting the weaknesses and strengths as well as impacts, developing recommendations for further improvement in Gender approach.
- Assess the capacities, performance, strengths and weaknesses, resistances and potentialities (SWOT+PR = strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats + potentialities and resistances) of Spanish organizations and their local partners in mainstreaming and implementation of gender approach in the Programmes.

4. Questions and Criteria

The consultancy team is expected to develop a consistent and comprehensive assessment matrix, integrating all the required gender sensitive tools and criteria for achieving the general objective of the Study.

The following assessment topics and questions are intended to work as a guideline to show the focus of interest for the Gender Study. It is welcome to acknowledge the different roles of women in their lives: productive, reproductive and communal, framed in the power relations logic that marginalize women from the access, control and use of resources and products, the limited women participation in political processes and the different forms of violence against women. The criteria considered during

the assessment should be aligned with the OECD guide: Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact and Sustainability; with a higher weight in the Impact and Sustainability criteria due to the nature of the Gender Study.

These are example of assessment topics and questions, based on the study objectives, that are relevant for the Gender Study:

1. Identification and analysis of gender inequalities during the design and implementation:
 - Do the Programmes count with a previous gender analysis in the context of the intervention?
 - Have the needs assessments and programmes acknowledged and integrated the different needs and interests, with participatory methods, of women and men in the communities? If yes, how?
 - Have the outcomes, indicators and activities included gender-disaggregated data and are there specific indicators to measure the changes in gender inequalities?
2. Alignment and coherence with local women's needs and interests:
 - Have the planned actions been aimed at modifying the gender roles and favouring the participation of women according to their needs and interests?
 - Have women and their organizations actively participated in the implementation of activities, and their inputs were listened to and, when possible, integrated?
 - To what extent are female and male beneficiaries satisfied with the implementation of activities regarding gender equality?
3. Impacts, learning experiences and recommendations:
 - How the Programmes contribute to reducing the gender inequality gap (productive, reproductive, communal roles) between men and women in the communities?
 - Have the planned actions aimed at modifying the gender roles and favouring the participation of women? What could be done to improve these actions?
 - Has there been any unintended consequences (positive or negative) for the women and girls of the community due to the contribution to gender equality?
 - Have there been any learning experiences to reduce the gender inequality gap in productive, reproductive and communal terms?

5. Actors involved

The promoters of the Gender Study are the four Spanish organizations, Cáritas Española, Ayuda en Acción, Fundación Promoción Social and Rescate.

The Study Steering Committee is composed of Cáritas Española, FPS, Rescate and Ayuda en Acción country representatives. It will be responsible for preparing and validating the TOR, selecting the consultancy team, monitoring the quality of the process, validating the final report and associated products, and disseminating the results.

The Study Management Unit is composed of Cáritas Española, FPS/Rescate and Ayuda en Acción country representatives, and their respective local partners' representatives. This management unit will be responsible for facilitating the consultancy process and access to key informants, and will also be involved in disseminating the results.

It is worth mentioning that the Spanish Cooperation Office in Ethiopia has fostered a Gender Working Group in which Spanish NGOs participate and maintain regular meetings, share information and promote some activities. The GWG has served as a platform through which some in-country Spanish NGOs interested in the topic have been acting informally as a *consultative group*, giving inputs and contributing to settle the focus of this Gender Study. The NGOs which have already flagged their interest to participate are: Medicus Mundi Guipuzkoa, Amref Ethiopia, Jóvenes y Desarrollo, Asociación Nuevos Caminos and Cives Mundi. However, in the course of the process and in particular during the study development on the ground, more GWG members could be involved.

A resume of key informants can be found in Annex 2; nonetheless, consultants should decide who must be contacted for the purpose of the Study.

6. Methodology and Work Plan

The consultancy process should be impartial, independent and it must be as open as possible with respect to the results achieved. Methodological rigour in the assessment design will be valued, in order to enable:

1. Ensuring application of techniques addressing the validity and reliability of social research.
2. A methodological approach suitable to validate all four levels of assessment analysis: findings, interpretative analysis based on data, facts and information found, final judgments (conclusions) and recommendations.
3. A standard interpretation to be made, taking into account all the intervention dimensions (design, structure, resources, processes and results) and interpretation of causes and influential factors.

The consultancy team should consider a retrospective and prospective approach in the process of engaging targeted respondents and we recommend the use of quantitative and qualitative techniques such as open and semi-structured interviews, focus group discussion, visits and direct observation.

The research must involve the beneficiaries, partners, donors and all the stakeholders (right holders, duties bearers and responsibility holders, with emphasis in applying throughout the process a human right based approach.

Interviews and/or research participatory workshops with key informants (gender experts from local partners, representatives from the Women Bureau/other relevant Bureaus at Woreda level,

representatives of CSO involved in the intervention, other Spanish Cooperation actors) will be desirable as well.

It is expected to conduct meetings along the whole process for exchange and comparison of information with the Study Steering Committee. During the planning phase the assessment team should submit its final work plan, together with an assessment matrix and a preliminary proposal of methodologies and tools to be used.

The consultancy team should provide feedback to the Steering Committee and the local partners on the preliminary results before completing the field work phase.

The consultancy team is expected to present a draft report to the Steering Committee for submitting comments.

7. Documents and Information Sources

The consultancy team will have access to the documents listed below, plus any other that the team may require as the process progresses:

Document	Location
Programmes Formulation Programmes Reports year 1 and year 2. Identification assessments / base line / end line from previous phases	Cáritas Española, Ayuda en Acción, FPS/RESCATE
Spanish Cooperation thematic guidelines (Gender Mainstreaming Guideline)	Cáritas Española, Ayuda en Acción, FPS/RESCATE
Spanish Cooperation Country Agreement	Cáritas Española, Ayuda en Acción, FPS/RESCATE
Studies carried out in Arsi Zone (GBV, Employment, Market, Value Chain, Etc.)	Ayuda en Acción
Mid Term Evaluation Programme code 18-CO1-11	Ayuda en Acción
Spanish Cooperation Gender Report 2015 based on Programme code 14-CO1-115	Caritas Española
Programme code 14-CO1-115 Case Study	Caritas Española
REPORT. Organisation and Programmatic Gender Capacity Assessment	Fundación Promoción Social

8. Expected Products

Requirements for the presentation of the final products:

- An Inception Report before the field phase, including preliminary assumptions and premises of assessment, proposed methodologies, and final work plan.
- A PowerPoint presentation or any other friendly format is required for the first in-country feedback (or wrap-up meeting) right after finalizing the field phase.
- A Final Report of maximum 40 pages, plus annexes.
- The Final report must include an executive summary of max. 10 pages.
- The report should be delivered in both Spanish and English languages. The consultants are responsible for obtaining the relevant translations, the costs of which may be included in the assessment budget.
- A PowerPoint presentation or similar friendly format is required, setting out the main conclusions and recommendations presented at the Final Report, max. 20 slides.
- Four hard (paper) copies and one electronic copy to be delivered in each language

The report or final research document is expected to include a section explaining the methodology used, as well as a section of analysis explaining evidences found; inclusion of case studies or testimonies from direct programme participants will be highly valued.

The report should be focused on establishing well-funded conclusions and offering specific and feasible recommendations, if possible even addressing those recommendations to the relevant stakeholders. A final section of Annexes may include the TOR, the methodology adopted, the information-compiling tools used, the work plan, the make-up and description of the mission, views expressed and comments made by the various actors on the draft report, and any other information considered relevant.

9. Assessment Team

The study is expected to be led by a consultant with appropriate experience in program evaluations and/or assessments, deep knowledge in human rights approach and gender perspective, as well as deep knowledge and experience in the framework of actions addressing gender rights violations, barriers that disempower women skills in rural and urban areas. The composition of the team of experts should be balanced to enable complete coverage of the different aspects of study.

The team must assure the following objectives:

- Quality of the assessment in terms of methodology.
- Quality of technical conclusions and, by extension, technical knowledge of the main topic.
- Credibility and legitimacy of the conclusions drawn and recommendations made.
- Independence of the analysis and conclusions with regard to the Ethiopian government, the donor, Spanish NGOs and local partner's organizations, and beneficiaries.

- Knowledge of the local context, customs, traditions, legal framework, etc.

Taking into account the objectives, a team of at least two people is proposed; highly desirable gender-balanced and at least one person must be a gender expert (ideally a woman) to allow profiles to be combined and the analysis of the information to be triangulated.

Details of the profile sought for the assessment team are as follows:

CONSULTANT TEAM MEMBERS	PROFILE
International, national, or mixed consultant team	<p>Broad experience in project assessment and/or evaluations, sectorial evaluations, gender evaluations, gender assessments.</p> <p>Extensive knowledge of the topic: gender inequality, gender in development, gender mainstreaming in development programmes.</p> <p>At least one gender expert (preferably a woman) with experience in rural and urban contexts in Ethiopia.</p> <p>Extensive knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods and techniques.</p> <p>English-language skills. Knowledge of Oromo, Somali and Amharic languages will be highly valued. Knowledge of Spanish will also be valued</p> <p>Experience in working with non-for-profit entities and knowledge of Spanish Aid policy will also be highly valued</p>

Any changes in the composition of the team proposed must be communicated in advance to the Steering Committee.

10. Premises for Assessment and Dissemination

The following basic premises are required for ethical, professional behaviour by the consultancy team:

- **Anonymity and confidentiality:** The assessment must uphold people's right to provide information anonymously and in confidence.
- **Responsibility:** Any disagreement or difference of opinion that may arise among the members of the group or between them and those in charge of the intervention regarding the conclusions or recommendations should be mentioned in the report. Any claims made must be sustained by the team and any disagreement reported.

- **Integrity:** The assessment team will be expected to cover any issues not specifically mentioned in the ToR, if doing so will help a fuller analysis of the interventions to be arrived at.
- **Independence:** The team must assure its independence from the interventions under assessment, having no links with their management or any of their component parts.
- **Data protection:** The Consulting firm undertakes to maintain the strictest professional secrecy and confidentiality in respect of any personal data to which it has access in consequence of the assessment carried out and to duly comply with the duty of custody of such data required under the Personal Data Protection Act 1999 (15/99, of 13 December). This requirement shall apply to the consultancy firm throughout the terms of the service contract and subsequent to its expiry for any related cause. The consultancy firm further expressly undertakes to take the necessary technical and organizational steps to protect the security of any personal data to which it has access and to prevent any alteration, loss, unauthorized processing of or access to such data, taking into account the current technology available, the nature of the data stored and the risks to which it is exposed, whether from human action or from the physical or natural environment, complying in this respect with the relevant provisions of the Personal Data Protection Act 1999 at all times.
- **Verification of information:** The assessment team is responsible for assuring the accuracy of the information compiled for the preparation of its reports and shall be responsible in the last instance for the information presented in the final report.
- **Incidents:** Any problems arising during the field work or at any other stage of the assessment must be communicated immediately to the NGDOs, which at its own discretion will forward the relevant information to the funding agency. Otherwise the existence of any such problems may not be used to justify any failure to obtain the results established by the NGDOs under these ToR.
- **Copyright and dissemination:** It should be clear that all copyright corresponds to the entities contracting the assessment. The dissemination of the information compiled and the final report remains the prerogative of the NGDOs. However, the Spanish Cooperation offices reserve the right to reproduce, distribute or communicate the assessment report publicly without the need for prior agreement with said entities, when it requires the correct development of administrative procedures and will do so with prior authorization from themselves, when required for other reasons.
- **Penalty arrangements:** In the event of any delay in the delivery of reports or if the quality of the reports delivered is manifestly lower than what was agreed with the contracting NGDOs, the penalties and arbitration measures established by the contracting entities under the official terms and conditions of the contract entered into with the consultancy firm shall apply.

11. Schedule

The minimum estimated time required for the Gender Study is 10 weeks, however the consultancy team must propose a realistic schedule based on the complexity of the study taking into account that the three Programmes are implemented in different locations in order to assure the fulfilment of the expected results as well as the desired quality. Proposed timeline should show in detail the duration of each activity included within the methodology.

The deadlines will be formally fixed in the contract entered into with the consultancy team, together with the delivery dates for the products for each of the phases. A tentative start date may be around October-November 2021.

12. Submission of the Technical and Financial Bid, Budget and Evaluation Criteria

Proposals and Budget:

In order to participate in the tender process, the tenderer/s must submit its **proposal in digital format, ideally in Spanish and English language within fifty (50) calendar days following its publication (up to 6th September 2021)**. The technical proposal should include a work schedule setting out the milestones proposed by the firm for the various tasks, as well as a schedule setting the duration. **The tentative budget is 15.000,00 EUR, VAT/taxes included.**

The technical proposal should have the following characteristics:

1. Cover indicating:
 - Company name, person, assessment team, etc.
 - Title of the assessment
 - Contact details for the firm, independent consultant, etc
2. Technical bid, to include:
 - The firm's detailed CV (as appropriate)
 - Detailed CVs of the members of the team who will carry out the assessment.
3. Remit and working methodology, to include:
 - Objectives of the assessment.
 - Scope of the assessment.
 - Preliminary proposal for participatory methodologies, focusing on rights, gender issues, etc.
 - Preliminary proposal for information sources (documentary, key informants, beneficiaries, other stakeholders, etc.)

4. Work schedule, to include:
 - Assessment tasks.
 - Time planning for the review and reporting deadlines (detailed schedule).
5. Proposal for the report, giving details of its main features.
6. Budget, to include:
 - All expenses incurred in carrying-out the assessment.
 - Financial bid, broken down into as much detail as possible.
 - Including VAT and/or deductible taxes.

Bidders will be informed of their exclusion or success within 30 calendar days from the opening of proposals received, around 30th September.

Contract and payment details:

The corresponding contract will be signed within 15 days following receipt of the final-award notice. The contract will be signed by the four Spanish organizations as leading partners of the Programmes. Since the Study cost will be shared, a 3-payments schedule will be set, thus the awarded consultant(s) must invoice partially to each of the Spanish organizations. For such purpose, the payment schedule will be linked to the completion of milestones or tasks, to be determined at the contract signature.

The successful bidder undertakes to execute the contract in its own right, as any third-party assignment or subcontracting is prohibited, unless specifically authorised by the contracting entities.

Furthermore, the contractor shall be liable for any consequences derived from any inaccuracies in statements made in respect of compliance with the obligations under these TOR and the subsequent contract entered into.

Evaluation of Proposals:

The proposals submitted will be scored with a possible total of 100 points, broken down as follows:

- 1. Technical quality of the proposal** and its suitability for the purposes fixed: **40 points**. The quality of the bid submitted will be scored on the following basis:
 - Level of specialization in Gender.
 - The degree to which the consultancy team assures the issue of a systematic judgment.
 - Appropriateness of the techniques and methodologies proposed and deadlines required.
 - Whether a sufficient response to the Gender Study objectives is assured.
 - Participatory level of the methodology proposed.
 - Integration of Human Rights approach in the proposal.
 - Knowledge of Ethiopia context, in particular related with Gender.
- 2. Make-up of the work team: 40 points**

- Demonstrable experience in conducting assessment/evaluation/research focused on Gender.
- Demonstrable experience in assessment/evaluation/research of Spanish Cooperation Programmes.
- Experience in assessment/evaluation/research of topic related policies, strategies.
- Knowledge of local languages of the implementing country, specifically Amharic, Oromia and Somali; knowledge of the in-country situation and intervention sector;
- Skills in research methods and techniques.

3. Financial bid submitted: 20 points

- Precision and efficiency of the financial bid.
- Balance between information-compiling costs, fees, travelling expenses, etc.

In order for the bids submitted to qualify for valuation, evaluation firms/independent assessors must accredit their experience, citing any similar work done over the last three years.

Staff responsible for receiving tenders (send to all):

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Submission method

The submission method is in digital format.

Annex 1: Programmes' Briefing

CARITAS ESPAÑOLA

Caritas Española's four-years Programme (18-CO1-1167), entitled "Improve the food and nutritional security of rural communities by strengthening cooperatives and sustainable management of natural resources, to increase resilience and move towards the full realization of the right to food in 7 woredas of West Arsi (Oromia, Ethiopia)", started in 2019.

The Programme's overall objective is to Improve Food Security and Rural Development of rural communities in the West Arsi Area by strengthening cooperatives and the sustainable management of natural resources. The target *woredas* are Shashemene, Siraro, Shalla, Arsi Negelle, Wondo, Kore and Heben Arsi. The estimated number of beneficiaries are 77,548 people (63,507 farmers (18% women) members of the 200 agricultural cooperatives of Uta Wayu Union; 12,000 (75% women) members of the 150 savings and credit cooperatives (SACCOs) of Duro Shalla Union (25% are also members of Uta Wayu); and 4,291 members (51% women) of the 1,200 households in Shalla, who are not members of the cooperatives but will participate in environmental and nutritional actions) Some members of zone and woreda Government Offices related with the topic will participate as well either as trainers or as trainees; management committees members from Cooperatives' Union are participating as well.

The Programme is implemented in the field by the local partner Ethiopian Catholic Church-Social and Development Commission Branch of Meki (ECC-SDCO Meki) and is coordinated by Caritas Spain through the country responsible based at headquarters in Madrid, together with the expatriate staff deployed at the country.

The Programme design is based on three actions, corresponding to its Specific Objectives:

SO1 Improve the environmental conditions of the woreda of Shalla.

SO2 Improve the nutrition level of the vulnerable households in the woreda of Shalla through the promotion of the shared responsibilities between men and women.

SO3 Improve the socioeconomic situation of the population of the woredas of Shashemene, Siraro, Shalla, Arsi Negelle, Wondo, Kore and Heben Arsi through a sustainability approach.

The intervention strategy focuses on the following approaches:

1. Promoting sustainable Natural Resources management, identifying the most threatened cultivation areas and launching community activities to stop environmental degradation, increase soil fertility and increase and diversify production in a sustainable way, involving all the community in the maintenance and incorporation of agricultural models adapted and resilient to climate change;
2. Promoting nutritional knowledge and changes in attitudes and nutritional practices, with a preventive approach at the household level, in order to improve Food and Nutritional Security. A diagnosis will be made on the use of income and food consumption and community awareness and nutritional education activities will be launched especially aimed at mothers, and the intensive production of complementary alternative foods to the usual cereals will be facilitated (family gardens, animal husbandry, milk production, etc.);
3. Strengthening responsibilities' holders' capacities to provide services to rural cooperative members, guaranteeing the proper functioning and sustainability of the networks created. The coverage is

increased to another woreda (Kore) and the Unions will be reinforced to accompany the specific processes of strengthening and sustainability of each member cooperative. Functional literacy activities will be included to empower the most vulnerable cooperative members, especially women; 4. Strengthening Duty bearers' capacities: working with the Government Offices of the agricultural and livestock extension services and the promotion of cooperatives will be strengthened, and new offices with competencies in nutrition, NNRR and gender will be included.

AYUDA EN ACCIÓN

The four years Programme (18-CO1-11), implemented by Ayuda en Acción, started in 2019 and is aimed to *"Promote Resilient Environments and Livelihoods of Most Vulnerable Families through the reduction of Food insecurity, Migration and Youth Unemployment (Live) and Service Enhancement"*. The intervention is undertaken in consortium with two local partners: Organization for Women in Self Employment (WISE) and SoS Sahel Ethiopia.

The overall objective of the program is to *strengthen sustainable livelihood and resilient capacity of smallholders, women and vulnerable people through improved quality and quantity crops and livestock, create and diversify economic opportunities and reducing vulnerabilities using innovative pro-poor market and resilience building models*. It aimed to improve market access to smallholder by better positioning in the chain to gain income from value-added products from lower to higher-tier of market link and building partnership with various actors and supporters through already established economic collectives (SACCOs, primary cooperatives, and Union), enhanced quantity and quality of selected crops and livestock by enhancing access to technologies, inputs and business development services. Diversify and create income through addressing inequalities and limited job opportunities of women and youth and building resilience of vulnerable people affected by recurrent drought and climate change.

The project foresees 3 specific objectives:

- 1) Develop an innovative agribusiness model articulating Arsi cooperatives in the value chain;

This model includes enhancing productivity focusing on inclusive market and value chains. The action will improve production and productivity of small farmers through enhancing access to agricultural inputs, promoting improved agricultural practices, extension, technologies, and working with agricultural research centres. The action intends to bring together public-private partnership. The market actions focus on terminal levels (aggregate) through bringing previously established primary cooperatives and Union to build a sustainable market focused on win-win partnership by bringing smallholders at the centre of the chain.

- 2) Generate sustainable economic opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship for the most vulnerable and unequal population of the eastern part of Arsi Zone;

In the framework of this objective are targeted unemployed youth (men and women) - landless, unemployed graduates from universities/collage, returnees from different countries; vulnerable women (household head, widow, poor women, etc.) internally displaced people and other vulnerable groups. Local job creation in on-farm and non-farm incomes, diversifying and creating economic opportunities, and strengthening business services. The program also aims to improve knowledge and technical skills of youth through vocational training, so that they secure jobs in secondary and tertiary sectors, and foster new business visions and actions through investing in human and institutional capacity development of community and government institutions.

- 3) Strengthen the resilience and climate adaptation capacity of the eastern part of Arsi Zone communities most exposed to recurrent crises;

Within this objective, the action aims to enhance local risk management capacity to thrive, increasing exposure to climate crises and external shocks to increase stability in food security. This action is cross-cutting across all the results but with standalone actions. The project will ensure vulnerable households do not slip back into destitution and hunger and their resilience and capacity to cope with future shocks through: (i) strengthening alternative livelihoods for vulnerable individuals and communities most exposed to recurrent crises, (ii) community management of natural resources promoted, and (iii) Improved capacity to respond to natural disasters.

The project planned to directly address 7,500 Households (45,000 persons in total of which 40% are women) in the targeted area: Arsi Robe, Amigna, and Ticho woreda in Arsi Zone, Oromia. T Ayuda en Accion has been leading the consortium and discharging its responsibilities of implementation of agro-business promotion, WISE has been employment generation strategic objectives and SOS Sahel undertaking resilience building and natural resource management.

FPS/RESCATE

The four years Programme (18-CO1-940), implemented by a consortium of FPS, Rescate, ECC-SADCOH and Havoyoco, started in 2019 and is aimed to increase the capacities of the population, especially women, to generate resilience to face the shocks caused by the effects of climate change, as a means to contribute to the reduction of poverty. The overall objective of the framework agreement is to contribute to the reduction of poverty in the Fafan area of the Somali region in Ethiopia by strengthening the access of rights holders to resilient and sustainable livelihoods, and the reduction of gender inequalities.

The framework agreement seeks to contribute to the availability of productive resources and sustainable management of them, by: 1) Provision of catchment infrastructure, distribution (irrigation) and storage of rainwater and groundwater for agricultural use. 2) Training in the use of efficient and sustainable agricultural production techniques (intercropping, agroforestry, vermiculture), provision of quality inputs (improved seeds, bio fertilizers) and adapted agricultural machinery and 3) Introduction of animal species, improvement of animal health, conservation of pastures and forage banks, for the increase of livestock and dairy production. Work is also being carried out for the sustainable recovery of the local environment from the impacts of climate change and natural

disasters, by: 1) Reduction of erosion through physical, biological and mechanical measures. 2) Recovery of degraded areas through reforestation campaigns with autochthonous species and other techniques. 3) Increase biodiversity through the reintroduction of adapted species through the creation of a nursery and a seed bank. Likewise, work will be done to strengthen the community fabric by improving their management capacities and greater sensitivity in environmental matters: 1) Strengthening and / or creation of community management committees. 2) Improvement of the capacities in management for cooperatives and committees, and facilitation of resources. 3) Exchange of experiences among woredas to share lessons learned. 4) Sensitization in sustainable management of the environment. Finally, it will contribute to the accessibility of women to productive resources and greater participation in decision-making: 1) Access to productive resources and training. 2) Support for the incorporation of women into local committees and cooperatives. 3) Sensitization in gender in the communities.

The project foresees 3 specific objectives:

5. Improve agricultural production and productivity under a sustainability approach and with special attention to women.
6. Strengthen Right holders' capacities to manage the effects on farmland and rangeland caused by climate change.
7. Participation and empowerment of women to ensure their social, economic and participation rights.

The project planned to directly address 10.561 Right holders (which 51% are women) in the targeted area: Tuluguleed, North Jijiga, South Jijiga, Qebribeya and Gursum Woredas woredas in Fafan Zone, Somali Region.

Annex 2: Key Informants

Actors	Key informants (relevant sample of each woreda)
Right holders	<p>Members of the multipurpose service-cooperatives (MPSC) and Income Generating Groups.</p> <p>Members of the SACCO cooperatives.</p> <p>Members of established committees (WASH, RMC, IGG....)</p> <p>Members of vulnerable households.</p> <p>Unemployed youth.</p> <p>Women.</p> <p>Internally Displaced People and returnee's families</p>
Obligation holders	<p><i>Woreda</i> government offices and Area government offices.</p> <p>Woreda Sectoral Offices (water, agriculture, livestock, cooperatives, women, environment, etc...)</p>
Responsibilities holders	<p>Spanish Cooperation Office at Ethiopia</p> <p>Programmes' Coordination NGOs: Cáritas Española, FPS/Rescate and Ayuda en Acción.</p> <p>Programmes' Local partners: ECC-SDCON branch office in Meki and field office in Shashemene; WISE and SoS Sahel: office in Addis Ababa and Branch in Ars Robe; ECC-SDCBOH branch office in Dire Dawa and field office in Jijiga; and HAVOYOCO.</p> <p>Representatives of SACCO-cooperatives Union Duro Shalla;</p> <p>Representatives of MPSCs Union Uta Wayu.</p> <p>Youth enterprises</p> <p>Grass root level associations (Nursery and Irrigation Water Use Association members)</p> <p>Agricultural Research Centres in Arsi: Kulumsa and Melkassa</p> <p>Other Spanish NGOs in-country representatives: Medicus Mundi Guipuzkoa, Amref Ethiopia, Jóvenes y Desarrollo, Asociación Nuevos Caminos and Cives Mundi.</p>