

First version: September 14, 2007

Updated version: May 5, 2009

HUMBO COMMUNITY-MANAGED NATURAL REGENERATION PROJECT

SOCIAL ASPECTS STUDY DURING PRE-FEASIBILITY & SOCIAL MITIGATION ACTION PLAN

by Mesfine Admasu (first version)

with comments and updates by World Vision Ethiopia (updated version)

1. Introduction

The Humbo Community-Managed Natural Regeneration Project is a community-based afforestation/reforestation project which is aimed at the restoration of locally indigenous, biodiverse forest species in a mountainous site found in South Western Ethiopia in the Humbo area. An estimated 2,728 ha of land will be enclosed for revegetation of degraded land into natural forest.

The overall goal of the project is the sequestration of carbon in a biodiverse native forest and the alleviation of poverty in the Humbo district of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR) of Ethiopia. The benefits that flow from this project are expected to be channeled to the cooperatives for community-based projects or to individual households to enhance the living standards of the communities living adjacent to the mountains. Such benefits will mainly be derived from the financial resources gained from the sale of sequestered carbon expected to be purchased by the BioCarbon Fund of the World Bank. This will be supplemented with additional non-timber forest products be harvested by the community from the project area.

Preparation work was undertaken initially by World Vision Ethiopia supplemented by a World Bank preparation team in January 2006 and in subsequent months focusing on consultations with relevant stakeholders including government offices at the federal, regional and woreda (district) levels as well as community representatives. The information gathering also included the identification of proposed sites and assessing the potential for natural regeneration, gap filling plantation, appropriate mechanisms for protecting the sequestered carbon, legal issues, incorporation of communities, and developing a mechanism for social mitigation arrangements for main users of the degraded land.

Several training and capacity building forums, awareness workshops and public meetings were conducted since the beginning of project preparation so as to initiate active participation of all stakeholders in the process of implementing the envisaged project. Accordingly, the communities and concerned government bodies have been acquainted with the objective and significance of carbon project and/or Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

The goals of the project can be articulated as follows:

- To sequester carbon dioxide through the regeneration of native forests, utilizing the farmer-managed natural regeneration (FMNR) technique, alongside traditional forest establishment.
- To monitor, measure and certify carbon sequestration from the projects site and pilot the development of expertise in Ethiopia.
- To enhance the biodiversity of the region by increasing the connectivity of the fragmented forest resources, and generating large areas of native vegetation which can be utilized as a refuge to migratory species.
- To reduce soil erosion, increase water infiltration and help maintain supply of subterranean streams which contribute to the region's water supply.
- To provide an income stream for the local communities through carbon credit payments, cut-and-carry of grass fodder, fuelwood from pruning, and medicinal plants.

The activities undertaken to achieve the above goals include:

- Restoration of 2,728 ha of biodiverse natural forest in Humbo, using a mixture of locally indigenous flora along with some plantation.
- Formation of a model for community ownership and management of forest area with the objective of sequestering carbon, enhancing biodiversity, managing natural resources and poverty alleviation.
- Formation of 7 forest development and protection community cooperatives; securing legal title to manage the proposed revegetation area; incorporating the forest management groups into cooperative societies; and adopting by-laws which stipulate the core values by which the project is to be managed.
- Establishment of a monitoring system to assess biomass growth and wider environmental and social impacts.

2. Access Restrictions and Need for a Social Mitigation Action Plan

It is important to point out that the project area enclosed in Humbo was highly degraded before the project and not very significant as a source of income generation to the communities living around the site. Nevertheless, the project area was commonly used by some members of the communities living around the project sites as a source for fuelwood, fodder, charcoal making, etc. The selected project site is transferred to the local communities as community holdings. For that purpose each kebele (sub-district) has formed a cooperative under the cooperative law and title deeds with enhanced user rights are provided to the cooperatives for the areas reforested in the project.

The management of the enclosed areas will be undertaken by the 7 cooperatives in the respective sites with support given by the project proponent, World Vision Ethiopia, as well as the woreda Agricultural, Rural Development and Forestry Development Coordination Office (ARDFCO). Along the preparation of this project, the communities

have organized themselves as cooperative societies in accordance with the cooperatives law of Ethiopia in order to attain legal entity for the management of the project as well as to enter into contractual agreements for selling the sequestered carbon as a result of the reforestation project or, before reaching full capacity to do so, to enter into sub-contractual agreements with World Vision Ethiopia (WVE) which will manage the emission reductions during the initial period of the project and will hand over the authority to do so to the community organizations. At present all communities have organized themselves as cooperatives. World Vision Ethiopia will act on behalf of the cooperatives until end of September 2012, when the latter are expected to attain sufficient capacity to manage the financial and administrative aspects of the project.

As the World Bank (WB) has approved commencement of the project on 1 October 2007, the area has been closed and the project has become operational; subsequently Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) has been signed by WV and WB. The World Bank's Operational Policy and Bank Procedure on involuntary resettlement (OP/BP 4.12) do not apply to this project since it entails restricted access to natural resources as determined by a participatory, community-based process. OP 4.12, under note 6, states: "This policy does not apply to restrictions of access to natural resources under community-based projects, i.e. where the community using the resource decides to restrict access to these resources, provided that an assessment satisfactory to the Bank establishes that the community decision-making process is adequate, and that it provides for identification of appropriate measures to mitigate adverse impacts, if any, on the vulnerable members of the community."

The above policy provision, therefore, requires two basic conditions to be fulfilled to ensure that appropriate social safeguards are put in place before making operational a community-based natural resources management project. These conditions are:

- That the community decision-making process to restrict access to the resources in the proposed project area has been conducted in an adequate manner; and
- That identification of appropriate measures to mitigate adverse impacts on the vulnerable members of the community has been provided, if any.

This social mitigation action plan addresses the above two issues in the context of this project to show the adequacy of the communities' decisions to restrict access to resources in the project area as well as identify and propose remedial measures to mitigate adverse impacts on vulnerable members of the community who have depended partly or entirely on the areas to be reforested. However, before proceeding to discuss the above issues, it is essential to outline the objectives and key principles on which the project is based.

3. Objectives and Key Principles of the Approach for Developing a Social Mitigation Action Plan

3.1 Objectives

The major objectives of the participatory approach are to:

- a) Ensure that the project fully benefits the local communities and is culturally appropriate and acceptable to the participating communities and other concerned stakeholders.
- b) Undertake adequate consultations with the communities living around the project area in order to ensure that the project is undertaken with their full consent and active participation.
- c) Identify and carry out full consultations with all members of the community that would be disproportionately affected by restricted access.
- d) Create appropriate mechanisms to avoid, minimize or mitigate the potential adverse impacts on the vulnerable members of the communities as a result of restricted access to the project area.
- e) Ensure that the members of the community that are affected by restricted access to the natural resources in the project area themselves define and propose activities as mitigation measures.

3.2 Key Principles

The following key principles guide the project and the process of ensuring that adequate measures are put in place for addressing the adverse impact that may result on vulnerable members of the community as a result of restricted access:

- a) **Consultation and Participation.** Consultation and participation are undertaken with the communities participating in the project as well as with all potentially affected people and all other stakeholders including local authorities. The communities themselves play the major role in the decision-making process from project planning up to the implementation phase and in monitoring and evaluation of all activities in the project.
- b) The potentially affected people are offered a range of options so that they can make an informed choice regarding mitigation measures which they prefer. As action plans on mitigation measures are put in place with the participation of the communities, the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of such action plans will be undertaken with the broad participation of the local communities and other stakeholders.
- c) **Information and Communication.** Information and communication regarding the project are an essential basis to create trust and understanding among the participating communities and the public at large. Accordingly, the project provides adequate and timely information about the objectives, scope, benefits and potential adverse impacts of the project to the beneficiaries of the project including all stakeholders such as government authorities, non-government organization and the general public. Detailed information regarding the rights and duties of project beneficiaries is disseminated in the appropriate local language and in an accessible manner.
- d) **Control of New Settlements inside the Project Area.** During preparation, the project took the necessary precautions not to include areas where there was human settlement during the selection of the project area. During the

- implementation phase, the project takes measures, with the active participation of the communities, to prevent new human settlement inside the project area and ensure that there will be no encroachment such as grazing or woodcutting.
- e) Forest Management and Conservation. The project area is managed through the direct participation of the community associations of 7 kebeles which have been organized as cooperative societies for the accomplishment of the overall project objectives. The project management plan has been designed with the objective of enhancing natural forest regeneration, increasing biodiversity, conserving natural resources as well as generating income that promote food security and meet the economic needs of the local community.
 - f) Respect for Cultural Identity of the Local Communities. The development of the project management plan has given due respect to the cultural identities and practices of the local communities.

4. Participatory Approach in the Community Decision-Making Process

During the project preparation, considerable time and resources was invested to ensure that the communities living around the project area are fully informed about the project objectives and the benefits accruing from it. The project proponent, World Vision Ethiopia, started the process of community consultations from the inception of the project. A World Bank team of multi-disciplinary experts visited the project area in January 2006 to assess the feasibility of the project and to ascertain the fact that the communities living around the project area are willing to actively participate in the project.

A series of subsequent consultations and focus group discussions was undertaken with the communities living around the project area to ascertain their commitment and readiness to participate in the project and to identify problems and potential impacts that may arise as a result of restricted access to the natural resources in the project area. The results of the community consultations as evidenced in all focus group discussions indicated that the communities are willing to participate in the project. The consultation result is presented in Annex 1.

In the same vein, a socio-economic survey was also conducted by a consultant with the objective of identifying social groups and individuals who may have been affected positively or negatively due the closure of the project area and to recommend certain mitigation measures for those who may have been adversely affected. The results The consultation result is presented as Annex 2.

During the preparation of the adapted process framework to develop the social mitigation action plan, a subsequent rapid social assessment was conducted by the social facilitators of World Vision Ethiopia based in the Humbo Area Development Programs (ADP), and it included rural land and natural resources experts of the Woreda authorities. The approach taken in conducting the assessment was to have focus group discussions with community representatives from all the kebeles participating in the project. The community representatives comprised elders, women, youth, and the landless.

The objective of the rapid social assessment during May 2006 was to conduct a preliminary identification of those social groups and individuals that would be disproportionately affected by restricted access and to consult with the community on appropriate mitigation measures that ought to be undertaken by the project. The focus of the social assessment was on the “vulnerable” groups who may be potentially affected by restricted access. One of the difficulties was to define the term “vulnerable”. The definition given to the term in OP 4.12 has been used as a guideline for this purpose although it needs to be contextualized to the specific context of the project as well as the social and economic circumstances of the community. This issue will be further discussed in detail in the next section which discusses the eligibility criteria.

Accordingly, in Humbo Woreda, the community indicated that the members of the community who would be disproportionately affected are: i) the landless who totally depend on the forest land for their livelihood; ii) female-headed households who depend on the forest land for most of their income; iii) Potters who depend on getting clay from the forest area to make and sell pottery. The communities pointed out that the above social groups used the project area as a source of supplementary income since most of them are engaged in agriculture. However, they indicated that around 20 households in Hobicha Badda kebele and 30 households in Hobicha Bongota kebele (out of a total of seven kebeles) were fully dependent on the resources in the project area.

5. Eligibility Criteria

The criteria for eligibility was mainly premised on the requirements of the World Bank Policy OP 4.12 on involuntary resettlement, particularly as it relates to community based projects discussed in Section 2 of this Action Plan. In the case of community-based projects, the policy provides for the identification of appropriate measures to mitigate the adverse impacts of the project on *vulnerable members* of the community.

Paragraph 8 of the policy provides a general description of categories of social groups that require special attention in addressing potential impacts as a result of involuntary resettlement. These include: those below the poverty line, the landless, the elderly, women and children, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities or other displaced persons who may not be protected through national land compensation legislation. Although most of the latter social groups are considered “vulnerable” in most cases of involuntary resettlement or in this case, restricted access to natural resources, it is essential to define the term “vulnerable” in the context of the economic conditions and situations of a specific project and to take into account the views of the communities themselves as to who should be considered vulnerable.

It should be noted that there are no indigenous ethnic minorities around the project site, and all inhabitants speak the zonal language (Wolayitigna).

For the purpose of developing a social mitigation action plan for this project the term “vulnerable” has been taken to mean “those members of the community who would be disproportionately affected as a result of restricted access to the project area”. In large

part this would include most of the social categories included in the World Bank Involuntary Resettlement Policy.

In general, poverty is a major factor that would render specific members of a community less able to cope with changes induced by project actions. In the specific context of the rural population living around the project site in Humbo, it may be accurately said that most of the population (more than 80%) are below the poverty line. Taking the factor of “poverty” alone would make the majority of the population eligible for assistance under the mitigation action plan.

Although poverty is an important factor in determining eligibility in the project context, it was considered necessary to further define the term to fit the specific situation of the population residing adjacent to the project areas. In terms of poverty, age and gender are important criteria for eligibility. In this respect, female headed households who mostly depended on forest resources in the enclosed area to meet household needs, orphans and vulnerable children who did not have other alternative and sustainable means of support were taken into account as criteria of eligibility in planning social mitigation measures. The physical capacity such as the aging farm population was also taken into account. Moreover, the severity or degree of negative social impacts as a result of restricted access to natural resources, dependence on forest-based resources and incidence of poverty (which sometimes correlates with family size) was taken into account as criteria for eligibility.

6. Mitigation Action Plan

6.1 Approach for Developing the Mitigation Action Plan

The initial briefings of the communities by World Vision in late 2005, the community consultations between January 2006 and March 2006, the socio-economic survey conducted during the same period, and the rapid rural appraisal conducted in preparation for the Social Mitigation Action Plan together laid the foundation for the Action Plan. On the basis of those “building blocks” a well-designed participatory process was undertaken with the assistance of two social workers of World Vision Ethiopia during which all individuals eligible for mitigation/compensation were identified. The process aimed to ensure that eligible, affected persons are assisted in their efforts to restore or improve their livelihoods in a manner, which maintains the environmental sustainability of the forest resources in the enclosed areas.

The preparation of the action plan was conducted with the active participation of the affected communities in collaboration with the technical staff of World Vision Ethiopia and the participation and collaboration of relevant government sectors, such as the woreda forestry, natural resources and agriculture coordination office and other concerned non-government organizations working in the area so that existing resources and services provided by line government agencies and development projects are used to meet the needs of the vulnerable members of the community which are negatively affected by the project. Inter-sectoral coordination is a prerequisite to effectively prepare

and then implement the mitigation action plan. The responsibility for inter-sectoral coordination of all relevant stakeholders will be with WVE, as it is the focal point and the main implementing institution.

6.2 Proposed Options for Mitigation

Mitigation options include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- a) Creating alternative income generating schemes such as bee-keeping; fruit production; poultry; providing employment opportunities in various project activities such as nursery management, planting, etc.
- b) Supporting the engagement of forest-dependent people in harvesting and cultivation of non-forest products (fruits, medicinal herbs) without affecting the forest management activities.
- c) Ensuring the inclusion of such groups into the on-going area development programs of the WVE such as the Productive Safety Net Program.
- d) Assisting in fodder production for the livestock through support of forage production.
- e) Facilitating credit schemes for off-farm activities such as livestock fattening, dairy farming, tailoring; and similar activities.
- f) Giving priority to vulnerable households/individuals for cut and carry of grass to their cattle and collection of pruned branches for firewood from within the demarcated project site.
- g) Training, demonstration and support for local production of fuelwood and other alternative energy sources.

The proposed options for mitigation are elaborated below in Table 1.

An update on mitigation options chosen and actions taken by April 2009 is provided in Appendix 3.

Table 1: Humbo Mitigation Action Plan

S/N	Descriptions	Unit	Annual		Quarter I		Quarter II		Quarter III		Quarter IV	
			Plan	Budget	Plan	Budget	Plan	Budget	Plan	Budget	Plan	Budget
1	Further refining for the negatively impacted households/social groups				x							
2	Undertake series of discussion with identified households (HHs) and respective government staff				x		x		x		x	
3	Capacitating those identified members											
3.1	Training on apiculture value chain	No	15	2650			15	2650				
3.2	Training on poultry production and management	No	50	1597			50	1597				
3.3	Training on fuel saving stove and mud break production	No	50	2340			50	2340				
3.4	Training on forage management and stall feeding	No	75	778			75	778				
3.5	Training on off-farm activities	No	59	595			59	595				
3.6	Training in fattening, tailoring and carpet making	No	50	610	189	2333	189	2333	189	2334		
4	Support to those trained											
4.1	Training in poultry, apiculture, fattening, tailoring and carpet making	No	50	610	189	2333	189	2333	189	2334		
4.2	Poultry support (five chicken per HH)	No	50	1162			50	1162				
4.3	Beehives support (two per HH)	No	25	2900					25	2900		
4.4	Forage seed support	Kg	15				15	400				
4.5	Fattening animals support (one per HH)	No	10	1162			10	1162				
4.6	Mud bricks production tools support	No	21	1000	21	1000						
5	Participate in seed production	MD	11450	13066	11450	13066						
6	Employment in nursery activities	No	50	11812			50	3937	50	3937	50	3937
7	Follow up the participation in productive safety net program				x		x		x		x	
8	Monitoring by PrO and National Office				x		x		x		x	
	Total			40081								

MD= Man day, PrO= Program Office, x= indicating for action accomplishing quarters

6.3 Identification of Households/Individuals Requiring Social Mitigation measures

World Vision Ethiopia assigned two full-time social scientists to work on the Social Mitigation Action Plan beginning in June 2006. These knew the area well, given their past work in the Humbo Area Development Project of World Vision Ethiopia.

The Social Scientists started identifying potentially affected households by consulting relevant stakeholders including government offices at Kebele Administration level as well as community representatives. They spent much time in the 7 kebeles, and they tentatively identified all households and individuals and their level of social mitigation needed. These lists are available with WVE. Once the project commenced and ERPA was signed, the social scientists have worked on affected and forgone income of each and prepared a summary of the affected households. as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Humbo Area List of Affected Households/Individuals

Kebeles	Affected households or individuals	Households/individuals listed by estimated level of income lost due to area closure				
		1-25	25-50	50-75	75-100	Total
Hobicha Bada	Female-headed households					
	Male-headed households	6	10	4		
	Widows					
	Orphans					
	Total	6	10	4		20
Hobicha Bongota	Female-headed households					
	Male-headed households	23	7			
	Widows					
	Orphans					
	Total	23	7			30
Abela Longena	Female-headed households					
	Male-headed households		5			
	Widows					
	Orphans					
	Total		5			5
Bossa Wanche	Female-headed households					
	Male-headed households		11			
	Widows					
	Orphans					
	Total		11			11
Bolla Wanche	Female-headed households		3	2		
	Male-headed households		16			
	Widows					
	Orphans					
	Total		19	2		21
Abela Shoya	Female-headed households		1			
	Male-headed households		6			
	Widows					
	Orphans					
	Total		7			7

Abela Gefeta	Female-headed households					
	Male-headed households	4	5			
	Widows					
	Orphans					
	Total	4	5			9
	Grand total	33	64	6		103

NB=The estimated income level is based on cooperative executive committee estimate on the amount of fuelwood or charcoal those households were selling and the current price.

7. Conflict Resolution and Grievance Mechanisms

The conflict resolution and grievance procedures should best be addressed initially at the lowest appropriate level which is likely to lead to amicable results. In the context of the project, conflicts may arise among individuals within the communities; among different social groups and resource users; among the communities and administrative authorities. In the case of conflict among individuals or between different sections of the community, traditional conflict resolution mechanisms already in place within the communities can be used. Elders within the communities are usually given the role of resolving conflicts in such cases. Where conflicts cannot be resolved in such manner, parties aggrieved can go to the next administrative channels already being set-up by the communities themselves. The communities have already established the seven cooperative societies for the management of the project, and by-laws have already been approved to deal with such situations. Thus, any aggrieved party can go to the executive committee or the forest management committees established within their respective area to resolve such conflicts.

Where conflict and grievance resolution mechanisms cannot be resolved by local systems of conflict resolution mechanisms or administratively through the project management, or in cases where there are serious grievances or violation of rules agreed upon by the communities themselves for forest management, then redress can be sought through the established law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities.

Where conflict arises between the communities and government authorities, the aggrieved party(ies) may initially submit their grievances to the appropriate authority for resolving conflicts administratively. Where the decision is found to be unacceptable, then the aggrieved party may resort to the courts which have jurisdiction over the case.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the actual implementation of the mitigation action plan is done in a participatory manner with the active involvement of the beneficiary communities. Such participatory monitoring and evaluation is incorporated in each project implementation phase throughout the implementation period. This helps to generate feedback on the on-going activities and to take timely corrective actions where necessary. Relevant and measurable monitoring indicators have been put in place to

effectively monitor actual results and identify possible gaps of social mitigation action plan.

9. Institutional Arrangements

World Vision Ethiopia is the focal institution for the implementing the social mitigation action plan in collaboration with the seven cooperative societies. Since the participation of relevant government authorities, non-government organization and development partners are necessary to effectively implement the action plan, WVE has created a coordinating mechanism to this effect.

9. Budget

The cost for social mitigation plan is born from available sources of funding including Federal level projects like the Productive Safety Net Project, regional or local level projects, World Vision Ethiopia, or other civil organizations or NGOs (or later from the benefits derived from the project).

Appendix 1: First and Second Round of Community Consultations

This appendix summarizes the findings of initial consultations between January 18 and 20 and a second round of more in-depth consultations between February 28 and March 10, 2006. While the overall objective of the consultations was to try and understand, accommodate and integrate the community needs and expectations of the project, the specific objectives of the community consultation were:

- To understand the perception of the different stakeholders about the degradation of the natural resources;
- To find out their commitment and readiness to participate and look for possible solutions and opportunities to the problem in a community based forest management program; and
- To provide information, create awareness and give opportunities for discussions, and seeking feedback on specific issues.

In order to meet the above objectives, the following methods were followed:

- Consultation meetings were undertaken with relevant government officials at the regional (Awasa), woreda (Humbo) and kebele levels (each seven kebele) and Alaba Woreda for experience sharing; and
- A Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) was conducted on communities from selected Kebeles of Humbo Woreda to gather information on different aspects of people's participation in the envisaged project. The RRA involved informal interviews with farmer's focus groups made-up of elders, representatives of women and the youth, user groups and local leaders.

Meetings with government officials

At the regional level, consultations were held with the Natural Resources and Rural Land Administration Office at Awasa. In addition to providing a brief on the project concept, discussions were undertaken on different topics including the regional government's policy on land ownership system, including communal lands, issuing of land rights to individual farmers or communities, and organizing of farmers into cooperatives.

At the woreda level, consultations were held with members of the Humbo Woreda Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Office. The project preparation team was briefed on the natural resources situation of the woreda including the physical features, rainfall pattern, land use, population size and distribution, major constraints especially with reference to natural resources degradation and measures taken.

Rapid Rural Appraisal

The consultation was done in two rounds through focus group discussions. The first round consultation was more of an exploratory type of consultation and was undertaken on three of the 5 possible sites considered for the project (Sites 1, 2 and 3). The second round consultation focused on one site which was ultimately selected to be the project sites, i.e. in Humbo Woreda,. An in-depth consultation was done with communities from 7 kebeles of the Humbo Woreda surrounding the selected site. The names and some statistics of the kebeles visited in the second round consultation are shown in Appendix 1 Table 1.

First Round Focus Group Discussions

During the first round visit, seven focus group discussions were held: three at Humbo, more specifically at kebeles Longena, Bosa Wanche and Obecha .

The focus groups were first given an explanation of the purpose of the meeting. In the introduction it was emphasized that both WVE and the World Bank firmly believe in communities' participation in decision making and implementation process of any development program and their active and sincere participation in the discussion is very important. Then they were consulted on different topics with regard to the natural resources condition and management of their respective villages/kebeles, including:

- The historical background of their natural resources situation (Trend analysis).
- Identification of the major current user groups
- Identification of the major current problems.
- Possible solutions to the problems identified
- Demarcation and user rights of communal lands

Since there are similarities in responses by the different communities, the responses are summarized below and not reported for each kebele separately. The results of the discussion are as follows:

Historical perspective. In the trend analysis elders described how the natural vegetation condition has changed over the last few decades in their respective kebeles, and what pressures or factors caused these changes.

In all sites they indicated that, when land was privately owned during the Imperial (Haile Selassie) regime, some 30 - 35 years ago, the natural vegetation cover was abundant and areas were covered with thick forests and there were lots of wildlife including lions and leopards. Different tree species that were used for timber, fuelwood and wild fruits were abundant. Since the land was owned by landlords, they were strictly controlling the cutting of trees. After the fall of the Imperial Regime and the emergence of the socialist military regime (Derg), land was nationalized by the Government and this has led to a loss of sense of ownership and as part of the open access regime the “tragedy of the commons” occurred that led to the destruction of the forests including the wild animals. This period was further affected by the drought and famine that had occurred during this

period and the community was generating its income through sale of wood and charcoal by destroying the forest.

Recurrent droughts, increased population pressure, poverty, and lack of ownership have further aggravated the situation and the natural resources degradation has gotten worse.

User groups. The current user groups of the communal land in the different kebeles include livestock owners for grazing land, fuelwood collectors for home consumption and for sale, charcoal makers, and hay collectors for sale (such a classification may be a bit misleading as all households are not purely dependent on one activity). For instance livestock owners are also collect fuelwood for consumption and some may also collect for sale. So one could simply state that the communities are using the project area as sources of fodder, firewood, charcoal making, etc. both for own consumption and sale livestock

Current problems. Some of the problems identified by the different communities include climatic changes with shortage of rain and moisture, shortage of grazing land, overgrazing, illegal cutting of wood and charcoal making, encroachment of their grazing area by neighboring villages/kebeles, soil erosion, and wild animals like monkeys and warthogs destroying their crops and hyenas killing their livestock.

Possible solutions. The communities firmly believe that the area has to be demarcated and the natural vegetation has to be protected. Different options for protection were discussed including community sensitization, area closures, live fencing and/or guarding. While some communities believe that communal lands should be fenced and protected by guards, others believe that the community has to be conscious enough and be aware of the possible consequences of natural resources degradations and the community should therefore take the lead to protect its forest and grazing land. The communities believe that awareness creation programs including seminars and training should be organized. Cost to be incurred for fencing and/or payment to guards was also discussed. In general, most kebeles indicated that they don't have the resources to pay for fencing and/or for guards, which would have to be covered by other projects like safety-net and employment generating schemes until the project ensure full protection by all community members. Some communities indicated that they would take turns to guard their areas.

Demarcation and User rights of communal lands. Demarcation of the communal lands and user rights between different kebeles and communities within kebeles were also discussed. It was generally felt that this has to be dealt with in a general meeting (or series of meetings) that would involve all the stakeholders. However, the user rights of the current different user groups of the communal lands including charcoal makers, fuelwood collectors and those that graze their livestock and cut hay for their animals, were discussed. For the charcoal makers and wood sellers, it was proposed by the communities that alternative income generating activities should be investigated including involving them in the safety net or other employment generating schemes or employing them as guards of the communal land. Farmers who used to graze their livestock in the communal land could be allowed to harvest hay (cut-and-carry) from the

closed area. In addition, improved fodder production directly adjacent to the households will be enabled. Alternative grazing land should be sought until the grass regenerates in the closed area and is ready for cutting hay. The agreed alternate grazing land is managed by separate holdings of each community member. Another alternative suggested by some communities was not to close the whole area at once but do it in phases, thereby allowing some area for grazing. Five kebeles agreed to close their area altogether from year one, while the two other kebeles agreed to close only 75% in the first year and the remaining 25% in the second year.

Note in April 2009: The above was negotiated and closing-off of all the areas was done. Immediately after closing-off for three months, huge grass biomass growth was observed, which had a strong encouraging effect towards all community members. On the other hand the livestock number per strata found 264 to 1217 head which is not bigger than individual farmer land holding.

Second Round Focus Group Discussions

During the second round consultation, three focus groups with key informants were formed in each of the concerned kebeles. The first focus group was composed of the Kebele Cabinet which included the Kebele Administration Chairman, his Deputy and other members of the cabinet representing different sectors such as education, health, agriculture, social and economic affairs, etc., and community Development Workers and some government offices representatives such as teachers, school directors, health officers, etc. The second group was composed of community representatives including elders (men and women), youth (male and female) and user groups (farmers, wood sellers, charcoal sellers, etc). The third group was composed of women (youth and elders) only. Each focus group was consulted separately. The number of the different focus groups consulted in the different kebeles is shown in Appendix 1, Table 2.

Members of the focus group in each of the kebeles were asked to draw the map of their kebele or refer to the map that is already found in the Kebele administration office. The different focus groups were asked to locate on the map the proposed site for the regeneration program in reference to their kebele and also indicate their neighboring kebele(s) that share the same boundary of the proposed site and discussion was undertaken using the map.

Major topics discussed during the second consultation meeting were:

- Project concept and communities commitments to the project
- Border demarcation
- User rights
- Protection of the area to be closed
- Forest Management
- Benefit sharing
- Role of Women

Since the responses from the different kebeles/communities and focus groups have a lot of similarities, it is found unnecessary to report here on kebele by kebele basis or on a focus group basis. Rather, references are made to the specific kebele(s) or focus group when there are divergent views.

Project concept and communities' commitments to the project. The discussion with each focus group was started by reiterating to the participants of the focus group what elders have told us during the first round of community consultation on the historical trend analysis of the conditions of the proposed sites and by emphasizing the possible consequences that will follow if the trend is going to continue unchecked. The consequences of climatic changes, globally and nationally and the possible causes for it, including carbon emission, were intimated to the different groups. Carbon emission reduction (CER), as one of the solutions to the problem and the A/R project concept in support of CER and the role of the World Bank/World Vision were explained to them.

It was also emphasized to the communities that their participation in the proposed project is purely voluntary and the whole idea of the consultation is to discuss the project with them and to try and understand, accommodate and integrate their needs and expectations from the project as well as from the site to be regenerated.

They were then asked if they have understood the concept and if they had any question and if they were willing to participate in the project. The responses from all the focus group discussions were that they fully accept the concept of the project and are committed to it. However, they have indicated that the area to be closed in the communal land has been the only means of livelihoods for some and a coping mechanism for some of the other members of the community during times of drought or until the next crop harvest is ready through the sale of fuelwood, charcoal and hay. Invariably, all focus groups raised the major question of what plan(s) does the project developer have for those that are going to be directly affected by the closure of the communal land. They also indicated that the communal land was used for grazing their animals and asked where they will be grazing their animals if the whole area is to be closed.

In response it was emphasized to them that the project is theirs and that they are equally responsible to seek solutions to the problems they have raised. However, they were also reminded that the problems are only temporary and will occur during the first 6 months to one year of the project life and starting the second year, the project will start generating income from the sale of non-wood forest products and possibly from carbon which can be used to alleviate some of the problems they have raised. They were also assured that the project will try to find out alternative income generating activities including job opportunities and alternative income generating activities for those who will be affected. The problem of grazing land will also be something that will be addressed during demarcation of the site at the implementation of the project. It was suggested to them that the alternative solutions that the community could consider during demarcation include, among others, to either set aside an area for grazing or to close the site in stages.

Border demarcation. Each kebele was asked if they know their border(s) with their adjacent kebele(s) within the communal land and if there is or had been any history of border conflict with their neighboring kebele(s). Most kebeles indicated that they know their borders and where it is not known clearly; it can be resolved through elders selected from the respective kebeles. There was no reason for border conflict among kebeles since an open access system of the communal land has been practiced, and no border disputes are currently being reported within the communal areas.¹

The actual demarcation of the area to be closed at both sites has been completed. Humbo WVE ADP, with the help of GPS experts and the assistance of the respective Kebele administrations have completed measuring the area that could be considered for inclusion in the project. WVE, local government staff and some kebele officers that participated during the measurement told us that in taking the measurements, enough care was taken to exclude private holdings and settlement areas. The data is being compiled at the WVE headquarters in Addis Ababa, and the size and the map of the area has been completed.

User rights. The user system followed in the communal lands of the site before the project was implemented was an open access system where any member of the bordering kebeles, or anyone for that matter, can go to the communal land and graze his/her animals, cut hay, collect fuelwood or make charcoal including uprooting the stumps. User right certificates are given to individual holdings by Humbo Woreda and community user rights certificate for communal lands has been issued.

Each community/kebele was asked if they prefer to protect and develop the communal land as one group with all the kebeles that are bordering the area to be closed, i.e. all the 7 kebeles to delineate the boundaries of each kebele within the area to be closed in the communal land and each kebele to be responsible for its respective area within the communal land. Invariably, all the kebeles indicated that they would rather have their boundary delineated and they would be responsible for their own share of the communal land. When asked if they knew their boundaries within the communal land, most of them indicated that they do.

Each community is subdivided into sub-kebeles (or zones) and each sub-kebele is further subdivided into Development Teams (“Mengistawi Buden”) as shown in Table1. The communities were asked if the communal land within their respective boundaries should be sub-divided into sub-kebeles or Development Teams and user rights be given to each sub-kebele or Development Team. Moreover some sub-kebeles are adjacent to the area to be closed whereas others are far away from it, and each kebele was asked if user rights should be given to only those sub-kebeles that are adjacent to the closed area. Again, invariably, all the kebeles responded that there should be no subdivision of their

¹ However, border disputes **outside** the communal land have been reported for Bosa Wanche with Abela Shoya; Bosa Wanche with Bola Wanche; Gurmu Koisha with Damot Gale; Abela Longena with Abela Gafeta; Hobicha Bongota with Wolayta zone (Wolayta and Sidama conflict). It appears, though, that most of these conflicts are past history and have been resolved.

respective areas into sub-kebeles or into Development Teams, and the whole area should be developed and managed by the whole kebele together.

Protection of the area to be closed. Communities were asked about the best way(s) of protecting their respective area within the site to be closed. There were mixed views by the different kebeles and also by the different focus groups within kebeles. For example, in Abela Longena Kebele, while the kebele cabinet and development workers focus group indicated that the area should be fenced with barbed wire, the community focus group indicated that fencing is too expensive and unattainable and instead guards should be hired. In Hobicha Bongota Kebele the community focus group did not want to make any suggestion at all but said the community at large should make the decision at a general assembly while the cabinet focus group of the same kebele suggested fencing using barbed wire and treated poles as the preferred option. In general, most kebeles believed fencing with barbed wire was the best option, provided the project could cover the cost of the materials. However, the reasoning did not consider what the preference would be if the project would not cover the cost, or assess in detail the functionality of existing fencing systems without barbed wires. In the focus group discussions the communities indicated an initial preference for fencing, but later on they changed their mind after thorough discussion of the cost (physical and human costs) of fencing. If fencing with barbed wire was not possible, live fences were recommended by some kebeles such as Abela Shoya, in which community would be responsible for providing the labor and the planting material.

During the consultation workshop held in Sodo on April 10 -12, 2006, there was a general agreement by the community representatives that fencing could be avoided but paid guards would still be essential and alternative means of payment should be investigated.

Forest Management. Communities were asked whether they would prefer to form their own Forest Management Group or jointly with all the bordering kebeles in each of the kebele. Nearly all kebeles said that it is better to have a separate management body for their own kebele but they also saw the merits of the idea of a joint management of all kebeles to be formed at the Woreda level with their representation in the joint management, as Forest development and protection Union.²

Focus groups were also asked if their share of the communal land should be subdivided into their respective sub-kebeles and managed by the sub-kebeles or whether no subdivision should be made and the management should be done by all sub-kebeles together. Most kebeles indicated that there should not be subdivision into sub-kebeles.

Benefit sharing. As indicated above, nearly all kebeles, indicated that their respective area of the communal land should not be subdivided into their respective sub-kebeles.

² There is an issue of how best the community should be organized i.e. as a self-help association/non-profit organization or as a cooperative. The issue was followed-up by the legal consultant and has been resolved.

Accordingly, all kebeles believed that the benefit accrued from the closed area should be shared by all members of the kebele according to the size of their project site. They also indicated that the benefits from the project should be spent on community priority development areas amongst which, water, both for drinking and irrigation, was the most suggested priority area by most kebeles. Flour mill, school (higher grades), road, health facilities (clinics, health officers and drugs) maintenance and control of gully formation were the other priority areas suggested.

Role of Women. During the focus group discussion with the community representatives, both men and women were participating together in the discussions. At the end of the discussions, women members were asked to stay behind and were encouraged to air out their opinions on the proposed project. More specifically they were asked to respond to three questions, namely:

- How would they be affected as women as a result of the closure of the communal land?
- What do they think their role should be in the implementation of the project?
- How do they think they should benefit from the income that would be generated from the project?

There were mixed opinions with regard to the first question. While some believed that both men and women are equally affected, others believed that it is women and small children that collect fuelwood and hay from the communal area and sell in the market, and they would be the most affected if the area was to be closed. They indicated they use the money from the sale of fuelwood and hay to send their children to school. Women also collect fuelwood from the closed area for cooking food.

With regard to their role in the project, they indicated that they are ready to participate in any activity including in management. They also indicated that, although they might not be involved as forest guards, they can play a significant role in many forest development activities such as weeding, hay cutting, nursery establishments, etc.

As far as benefit sharing is concerned, they believe income generated from the project should be spent to alleviate some of the problems that women face such as grinding grain at home, lack of medical attention during pregnancy and at giving birth, lack of cash to cover some expenses, etc. They suggested money earned from the project should be spent on projects such as establishing flour mills, building clinics that would help women during pregnancy, training midwives, creating alternative income generating activities such as small businesses, poultry production, dairy cows, sheep and goat rearing, and handicrafts.

Conclusions and Recommendations

During the first visit in January and the second more comprehensive visit from February 28 to March 10, 2006, focus group discussions were held to initiate a process of provision

of information to all communities, to create awareness, and to get communities' feedback on specific issues regarding the A/R Project. In general, the representatives of the communities were convinced that the natural vegetation should be restored and protected and they have indicated their commitment and willingness to participate in the project. There would be little, if any problem to get sufficient sense of ownership of the project by the community and this would form a basis for a successful natural regeneration of the sites selected. While the community fully believed in the closure of the area and the regeneration of the natural resources, it would have also liked to see alternative solutions for problems that might arise as a result of the closure of the area.

There were generally small differences among the focus groups on the modalities of the implementation of the project and how the communities perceive the management regime of the closed area should be. Each community/kebele preferred to develop its own share of the communal land. Nearly all members of the community believed that the best option for protecting the area to be closed was by fencing and employing guards/forest wardens. However, they also recognized the fact that this option is costly and they cannot afford it. On the other hand, if funds could be made available to buy fencing materials they would be ready to contribute free labor. They were also ready to guard their respective area in turns without compensation until the community could afford to hire guards. This issue will be paid further attention along project implementation.

As far as management of the sites was concerned, each kebele/community preferred to manage its own forest area and to have its own Forest Management Group (FMG). However, there was a general consensus by all communities/kebeles to support the idea of having an overall coordinating body at the Woreda level for all those formed at kebele level.

It was noted that additional provision of information and follow-up discussions by World Vision were needed with the community at large in each of the kebeles. There would be a segment of the community that would be negatively affected especially during the initial stages of the project (charcoal makers, hay and fuelwood venders, livestock owners). The livelihoods of some members of the community entirely depended on the area to be closed. There was a need for World Vision to come up with different livelihoods diversification programs through on-farm and off-farm income generating activities. For example for on-farm activities, the introduction of honey-bee hives, poultry, silk production on an experimental basis were suggested, and for off-farm activities employment of those most affected in different activities of the project including guarding and fencing on a permanent basis could be considered as possible sources of supplementary income. For longer term livelihoods diversification programs, plantation of fruit trees like mango, guava, avocado etc., spices, and valuable medicinal plants could also be considered. It was also suggested that community woodlot or backyard plantation be considered by WVE in order to minimize leakages.

It was seen that for the protection of the natural resources in the communal land and the maintenance and sustainability of the program, in principle, the community would have to agree to mobilize its own resources, including human resources, and to assume full

responsibility. Where the community would decide to build fences around the closed areas, it should be cost effective and the pre-condition for fencing should be to use locally available fencing material or live fences and the community contributes labor and local material.

It was outlined that the FMG would be expected to be a people-centered local institution that would give local leadership and play an important role in enlisting people's participation, mobilizing people's resources and energy. It was seen as an institution that would have the responsibility for the management of the closed area and would be expected to provide motivation and leadership to the community on an ongoing basis. It was recommended that the formation of the committee should, therefore, be thought thoroughly and carefully. The candidates and the final selection of FMG members should be approved by the majority of the community. Issues such as the number of female members and representatives of interest groups, and who should hold which post would also be decided by the community.

In order to make the program truly participatory, it was seen as vital to have a mechanism that would ensure continuous two-way dialogue between the community and the FMG. This would be enhanced by creating “community facilitators” from each sub-kebele who would be chosen from the community and provide regular feedback to the FMG from their respective field experiences.

After the establishment of the FMG, each community was suggested to undertake a Participatory Self Assessment (PSA) every 6 months. The outcome of such evaluation would also help the External Evaluation Team of the World Bank and/or WVE. In addition, a monitoring and follow-up visit would ideally take place six months after closure of the area by a multi-disciplinary team including WV staff working on the Humbo Assisted Regeneration project, Woreda Agriculture and Rural Development Bureau staff, together with the FMG, to monitor the regeneration of the natural resources in general, and tree stumps and grasses in particular.

Appendix 1, Table 1: Kebeles Covered in the Consultation

No.	Name of Kebele	Number of Sub-Kebeles	Number of Devt. Teams	Number of Households
HUMBO WOREDA				
1	Hobicha Beda	9	40	1765
2	Hobicha Bongota	8	36	1726
3	Bosa Wanche	7	31	906
4	Abela Longena	6	20	
5	Abela Gefeta	4	20	876
6	Bola Wanche	3	17	525
7	Abela Shoya	2	11	428

Appendix 1, Table 2: Number of Participants in the Focus Group Discussion

No.	Kebele	Cabinet and Dev. workers	Community Representatives.	Women Representatives.
HUMBO WOREDA				
1	Hobicha Beda	12	22	8
2	Hobicha Bongota	7	16	6
3	Bosa Wanche	5	32	10
4	Abela Longena	20	24	8
5	Abela Gefeta	7	27	8
6	Bola Wanche	8	37	11
7	Abela Shoya	10	16	4

Appendix 2: Socio-Economic Survey

1. Introduction

A Socio-Economic Assessment was undertaken in the kebeles to be covered by the Humbo Assisted Natural Regeneration Project”. The information obtained on the socio-economic status of the households, the area to be protected, the natural resources potential (in particular fodder and fuelwood), and the livestock population in the project area.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the assessment were to:

- a) Assess the socio-economic aspects of the selected peasant associations in Humbo Woreda;
- b) Identify individuals or social groups who may be negatively impacted as a result of the closure of the communal land; and
- c) Based on the responses of those individuals that are negatively impacted, find mitigation measures that can help secure their livelihoods.

3. Methodology

In order to achieve the above objectives, both quantitative and qualitative methods were used:

- a) Qualitative method: Discussions with focus groups in every peasant association living near by the proposed project sites. The number of individuals in each focus group was between 8-12 and involved a diversity of individuals based on their sex and age.
- b) Quantitative methods: A standard questionnaire was designed and used for 18-22 individuals in sub-kebeles of each peasant association. They were randomly selected for the interviews, and enumerators were employed for this purpose.³

4. Findings

The survey indicates that 158 respondents (79%) are farmers, 14 (7%) rely on trade as secondary means of livelihood, and the rest are unclassified. The Humbo Wereda has 34 peasant associations. The number of interviews conducted in each association is shown in Table 1 below: 164 households were randomly selected and interviewed in Humbo woreda.

Survey areas/zones

³ The questionnaire is available upon request.

Table 1A. Surveyed woredas

Woreda	Total household heads	Percent
Humbo	164	82.0
Total	164	100.0

Table 1B. Surveyed Kebeles

Name of Kebeles	Number of households	Percent
Abela Longena	22	11.0
Abela Kolshobo	22	11.0
Abela Gafta	19	9.5
Abela Faricho	20	10.0
Bossa Wanche	20	10.0
Bola Wanche	20	10.0
Hobicha Bade	20	10.0
Hobicha Bongata	21	10.5
Total	164	100.0

The Criteria used for selecting the peasant associations in the two sites were agro-ecological zones. On this basis 32 households (16%) were selected in Dega; (55.5%) in Kolla, and (28.5) in Woina Dega (Table 2).

Table 1C. Agroecology of surveyed areas

	Number of households	Percent
Dega	26	16.0
Kolla	91	55.5
Woina Dega	47	28.5
Total	164	100.0

The total number of household heads is 164; of these (85.5%) are male and (14.54) are female. With regard to literacy rate 60.5% can read and write and (79) cannot read and write. 44.0% have no formal education. Forty-one per cent have completed grades 1-8, while 15.5% have completed grades 9-12 (tables 3-5). In a national context, and given the rural nature of the area, the educational attainment figures are high. This can be attributed to the long presence of the missionaries, as well as the efforts of the Government in the in the area.

Socio-economic status information (Tables 2A-2F)

Table 2A. Gender

	No. house hold heads	Percent
--	----------------------	---------

Male	140	85.5
Female	24	14.5
Total	164	100.0

Table 2B: Literacy status

	No of house holds	Percent
Yes	99	60.5
No	65	39.5
Total	164	100.0

Table 2C: Level of education

	No. of house holds	Percent
No formal education	72	44.0
Completed grade 1-8	66	40.5
Grade 9-12	26	15.5
Total	164	100.0

The other question raised to the respondents was the number of children above 15 years living with the household heads. 53.0% household heads have children living with them who are above 15 years, and 47% of them have no children above 15 years (Table 6). Note that, though children are dependant, they are also contributing a lot in terms of securing money to the family. They collect fuelwood and fodder from the communal land and also from distant areas like Lake Abaya for sale to town dwellers.

Table 2D: Households with children above 15

	No. of Households	Percent
Yes	87	53.0
No	77	47.0
Total	164	100.0

The respondents were asked if they have access to land. 157 (95.5%) have land while 7 household heads (4.5%) have no land of their own; instead they use their parents' land.

Table 2E: Access to land

	No. of households	Percent
Yes	157	95.5
No	7	4.5

Total	164	100.0
-------	-----	-------

In the last five years, 150 household heads (91.5%) have faced shortage of food, while 14 household heads (8.5%) were fully self reliant.

Table 2 F: Households heads facing Food shortage

	No. of households	Percent
Yes	150	91.5
No	14	8.5
Total	164	100.0

The main coping mechanisms for households during times of food shortages include reliance on relief, food for work, or sale of agricultural items such as coffee, and chat.

Coping Strategies

Table 3: Coping Strategies for food shortage

	No. of households	Percent
Take part in relief/ food for work	43	23.2
Sold agricultural items	22	11.9
Children didn't go to school	13	7.0
Sold firewood	8	4.3
Take part in relief/ food for work and sold agricultural items	26	14.1
Take part in relief/ food for work and sold firewood	20	10.8
Other	21	29.8
Total	164	100.0

In the selected Humbo project site the number of livestock owner status was also raised. To this end responses were 87% have livestock, while 13 per cent households have no livestock. The number of oxen, cows, sheep, goats, heifers, calves, horses, mules and donkeys are shown in annex 2. Indicating the number of livestock in the area will help in better resolving the problem of fodder in the future; this can be met by introducing improved grass species and better managing the protected area.

The respondents were also asked if they have participated in afforestation projects in former time any where. 145 households (72.5%) have participated, while 55 (27.5%) did not participate. Their participation is only in food for work programmes where they are paid wheat and oil or cash for the work in planting seedlings on the hillsides within village and on farm.

With regard to their source of feed for their livestock 31 per cent respondents rely on the communal land, 23.2% households use both their own and the communal land, and 22% households have their own grazing land. While 59.5% households use the communal land as the source of fuelwood, while 18% use their own plantations (Tables 11 and 12).

Fodder and fuelwood utilization

Table 4A. Fodder utilization

	No. of households	Percent
Own grazing land	38	22.0
Communal grazing land	50	30.5
Purchased hay	14	8.5
Own and Communal grazing land	38	23.2
Communal grazing land and crop residue	13	7.9
Other	13	7.9
Total	164	100.0

Table 4B. Fuelwood utilization

		No. of households	Percent
	Own plant	30	18.0
	Natural forest	97	59.0
	Own and natural forest	15	9.0
	Natural forest and crop residue	9	5.5
	Other	12	7.0
	Total	163	99.0
	Missing System	1	1.0
Total		164	100.0

With regard to their expectations about the proposed project, 43 per cent respondents believe that the project will create an opportunity to work as daily laborer. Among respondents (15%) believe that the project will be a good source for fodder and fuelwood.

Expectations about the project and farmers suggestions on protected areas

Table 5A. Expected Benefits

	No. of households	Percent
Source of fodder	10	6.0

Opportunity to work as daily laborer	70	43.0
Source of fuel	6	3.5
Source of fodder and opportunity to work as daily laborer	10	6.5
Fuelwood and fodder	25	15.0
Source of fodder, fuelwood and opportunity to work as daily laborer	22	13.5
Other	20	12.0
Total	163	99.5
Missing System	1	0.5
Total	164	100.0

According to the respondents their immediate expected problems when the project starts are a shortage of fodder and fuelwood. Among all 51 per cent respondent households expect a problem, while 23.5% respondents believe that they will not face a problem.

Table 5B: Expected problems (negative impact)

	No. of households	Percent
Loss of agricultural land	2	1.5
Loss of grazing land	4	2.5
Fuelwood shortage	8	5.0
Other	27	16.5
No problem expected	29	23.5
Loss of grazing land and shortage of fuelwood	83	51.0
Total	153	100.0

Given explanation on prons and cons of the project these were the expected problems of the households. Their suggestion on how the communal land can be protected was the question raised to the respondents, their responses are the following: Fifty one per cent respondents suggested the employment of guards, 31% believed that the communal land must be fenced with iron, and 12% are in favor of both barbed wire and employment of guards.

Table 5C: Suggestions about protecting the area demarcated

	Frequency	Percent
Barbed wire	51	31.0
Employ guards	84	51.0
Barbed wire and guards	20	12.0
Other	9	5.5
System missing	1	0.5
Total	164	100.0

The other question raised to the respondent was how they survive if they lose their source of income as the result of the closure of the communal land. Their responses are: 30%

respondents believe that their lives will not be affected. 28% would try to get employment with in the project.

Table 5D: Possible sources of income due to area closure

	No. of house holds	Percent
Will not affect me	49	30.0
Work as daily laborer	46	28.0
Try to get employment	37	23.0
Work as daily laborer or try to get other employment	18	11.0
Other	11	7.0
System missing	2	1.0
Total	164	100.0

If there is shortage of fodder as the result of the closure of the communal land, about 34 per cent respondents indicated that they would from other areas 14.5% would use crop residue and about 20 per cent respondents have their own private land for fodder.

Table 5E: Coping mechanism for fodder shortage

	No. of households	Percent
Collect from other areas	55	33.5
Buy from market	19	11.5
Use crop residue	24	14.5
Collect from other areas and buy from market	7	4.5
Collect from other areas and use crop residue	20	12.5
Other	39	21.5
Total	164	100

Their suggestion on how the communal land can be protected was a point raised to the respondents. Sixty six per cent of households believed that the land has to be partially protected while 31 % of households were in favor of total closure area.

Table 5F: Suggested options for area closure

	No. of households	Percent
Total closure	50	30.5
Partial closure	108	66
Other	6	2.5
Total	162	99.0

	System missing	2	1.0
Total		164	100.0

The final question raised to the respondents was, what do they expect from the project, NGOs, and the government when the area is protected? About 49 per cent households wanted to have an opportunity to work with in the project while 20% were in favor of food for work schemes and 11,5% of households demanded that an opportunity to work with in the project and also to involve in food for work programs.

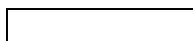
Table 5G: Expectations about project

	No. of households	Percent
Opportunity to work within the project	80	48.5
Food for work	33	20.0
Project developed for us, like cooperatives	10	6.0
Opportunity to work within the project and Food for work	18	11.5
Other	23	14.0
Total	164	100.0

Source of fuelwood and fodder in selected and adjacent Peasant Associations of Humbo

No.	Name of the PA	Woreda	Sources of fodder and Fuelwood	Distance
1	ABELA Longena	Humbo	- BADANUA- near Lake Abaya - Longena Tawaya - Longena Gamo	Average 3-4 hours
2	ABELA KOLSHBO	Humbo	- Gafata Karuna - Gafata Hoka - SHASHA	2 hours
3	ABELA Gafata	Humbo	- DELSHA - CHOFRE (West Abaya) - Wachie (near Lake Abaya)	2-4 hours
4	ABELA FARICHO	Humbo	- Lalana - Maraka (FARICHO)	1 hour
5	BOSA WANCHE	Humbo	- BOSA Wanchie AMBA - BOSA Wanchie Zuria	Near 1-2 hour
6	HOBICHO Bongota	Humbo	- Merera in HOBICHO Bongota	2 hours
7	HOBICHO BADA	Humbo	-	
8	Bola Wanche	Humbo	-	

N.B. 1. The sources are within and outside of the communal land.



Distribution of impacted households by Kebele of Humbo Woreda

No.	Name of the peasant association	Affected Households		Total	Type	Mitigative measure
		M	F			
1	Abela Longoena	30	25	55	30F 15G 10C	guards road construction nursery establishment, seedling preparation etc
2	Abela Kolshebo	10	15	25	15F 10G	Guard, nursery establishment.
3	Abela Gafata	30	30	60	30G 30G	The same measures (all of them are feeding grasses from Kolla)
4	Ablea Feracho	5	15	20	20C	There is a nursery site they can work here
5	Bola Wanche	7	3	10	10C	Guards, and means of support has to be devised
6	Bosa Wanche	5	10	15	15C	Charcoal traders to SODDO They have Eucalyptus on their private land
7	Hobocha Bada	10	40	50	40F 10G	Need govt support Project must be designed
8	Hu Bucha Bon Gata	40	10	50	50G	They have to go Low land in search of grass

Source: Humbo Wereda Safety Net and Food Security Desk (2006)

Key

F = fuelwood

C= charcoal

G= Grass (fodder)

Appendix 3: Update in April 2009 on Social Mitigation Measures Taken

During later stages of project preparation and after the project implementation has started, decisions on mitigation measures have been refined. This is a short summary on the mitigation measures that World Vision Ethiopia has taken:

- a) Creating alternative income generating schemes: such as bee-keeping; fruit production; poultry; providing employment opportunities in various project activities such as nursery management, planting, weeding and cultivation, forest guarding etc.
- b) Ensuring the inclusion of such groups into the on-going area development programs of the WVE such as the Productive Safety Net Program.
- c) Assisting in fodder production for the livestock through support of forage production.
- d) Facilitating credit schemes for off-farm activities such as livestock fattening, sewing machine purchase, skill training on tailoring, and similar activities.
- e) Giving priority to vulnerable households/individuals for cut-and-carry of grass to their cattle and collection of pruned branches for firewood from within the demarcated project site.
- f) Training, demonstration and support for local production of fuel wood and other alternative energy sources. Like introducing fuel saving stoves, establishing their own wood lot at their home stead areas. These has been implementing too.

The reasons for selecting these alternatives were:

- Selected by the communities interest during preparation of annual plan
- Thought relevant to give fast return on sustainable bases
- Simple to be implemented as the technique and the trend is already there within the community
- Low potential adverse effect on the ongoing project.