

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

**PROSPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT
IN WONDO GENET AREA, SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA**

By
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RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD
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SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA**

**A Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies of Addis Ababa University in
partial Fulfillment for the Degree of Masters of Arts in Regional and Local
Development Studies**

By
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DECLARATION

I declare that this thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any University and all the sources of materials used for the thesis are duly acknowledged.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background, problem and justification

The lives of most rural people in developing countries are strongly tied up to renewable natural resources like forest. These resources have been exposed to many factors that degrade them which are classed as proximate and underlying causes (Barraclough, et al, 1997). Moreover, these people have not accumulated wealth from the utilization of these resources that could stimulate and sustain their economic development when the resources deplete. Thus pressures on the remaining resources have continued.

In Ethiopia, natural resource degradation has become the most serious environmental problem. For instance, currently only 2.4% of the total land of the country is under forest cover though it was estimated to have been about 34% in the past (Shibru and Kifle, 1999; Daniel, 1988). In a year, between 150,000 – 200,000 ha, i.e. about 6% of the remaining forest of the country, is cleared (MNR, 1993).

The fast growing population that has led to increasing need for farmland, wood for construction and fuel is taken as the major cause of deforestation in the country. In line with this, it was estimated that within a year about 80,000 ha of natural high forests is converted to farmland for subsistence agriculture; about 50,000ha of acacia woodlands are cleared for charcoal production and for state farm expansion, and about 30,000 ha of woodland, thickets and bush are cut for fuel wood in the country (UNDP/ World Bank, 1988). Moreover, political unrest, forest fire, insecure land tenure system, inappropriate conservation approaches, and lack of awareness are considered as the contributing factors to deforestation.

Deforestation in the country has many repercussions that include soil, water and biodiversity degradation. In this regard, EPA (1997a: 88) rightly states that

the Ethiopian rural environment has... got into a degradation syndrome which start with an accelerating devegetation leading to a loss of soil fertility, soil erosion, genetic erosion, disruption of the hydrologic cycle, increased severity of the impact of droughts, and a further reduction in the ability to produce food and other biological resources demanded by increasing human and animal population.

In the country, it was estimated in 1990 that the cost of crop and livestock production loss due to soil erosion was nearly Birr 40 million whereas crop residues and dung usage for fuel brought Birr 650 million costs to the country (EPA, 1997b). As to Pearce (1991, quoted in Aklilu, 2001), due to deforestation the country had been loosing 6-9% of her GNP in a year. Thus the impact of resource degradation on the economy of the country is very immense.

With the understanding of the impacts of resource degradation on the country, some measures have been taken in Ethiopia which include the establishment of protected areas like parks, game reserves and sanctuaries and mobilization of many people to construct physical structures to protect soil erosion and for reforestation through the famous ‘food for work’ program. Nonetheless, the measures taken could not guarantee long lasting protection and preservation of the country’s resources as they were coercive, and ignored the local people whose livelihood entirely depend on the resources. In other words, they were unsuccessful in most cases (Dessalegn, 2001; Hurni and Ludi, 2000; Feyera, 1999).

With regards to this, Feyera (1999: 5) states that

[a]ll over the world, traditional conservationists see the aesthetic and biological value of the object in concern, but don’t focus on people. Local communities are kept aside, often denied from the ecological, economic and cultural values they used to obtain from the resources. The philosophy that natural resources can only be conserved without people, has long influenced conservation policies in many aspects. People who have long been living within ecosystems are politically and culturally marginalized....This is the conservation system that has been in practice for a long period in Ethiopia.

As a result, local people have been denied access to ‘conserved resources’ and in some cases expelled from areas designated as ‘conserved’ without being sufficiently provided with alternatives to earn their livelihoods. This ‘expropriation and exclusion’ has brought negative socio- economic impacts on local communities. As local people face livelihood insecurity or poverty, they are forced to encroach into the so called ‘protected areas’ that intensify resource degradation. On the other hand, there are good evidences from many different environments indicating that local people value and manage resources sustainably when they are involved in management and share the benefits (Ashby, 2003). It is when they are “excluded that degradation is more likely to occur” (Feyera, 1999: 5).

Wondo Genet area, located at about 265km from Addis Ababa to the south, shares the aforementioned problems. The area is situated between two regional states: the Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples' Region (SNNPR) and Oromia Region. It is well endowed with varied natural resources: forest, wildlife, fertile soil, water resources, hot spring and favorable climate. Being endowed with such resources among others, it has attracted not only people from different resource scarce parts of Ethiopia but also many Organizations with different purposes. These Organizations include Wondo Genet College of Forestry (WGCF), former Munessa Shashemene Wood Industries Enterprise (MSWIE)/ Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development (WGYPFD) Project (currently the State Forest), Wondo Genet Essential Oils Research Center (WGEORC), Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Hotel (WGWSH), Manna Child Sponsorship, Family Aid and Community Development Organization and PATHMOS International.

The Organizations claim a good amount of land of the area so as to accomplish their purposes. Some of these lands had been obtained by displacing the local communities. The College has about 1000 ha of land, which comprises mostly natural forest, plantation forest, farmland, and residential areas. The natural and plantation forests serve the College as laboratory for practical teaching and research purposes. The former WGYPFD or the current State Forest owns about 2102 hectares of land that constitutes degraded hilly sides, natural and plantation forests in the area. Some of the objectives of this Organization are conserving and rehabilitating the remaining natural forest. On the other hand, WGEORC, WGWSH, and the two NGOs (Manna and PATHMOS International) own 80ha, 54.4 ha and 25 ha of land, respectively with varied resources. Forests cover most of the lands of WGWSH and WGEORC. The main purpose of the WGEORC is doing research on aromatic plants and herbs to select for industrial use. But as to Belaynesh (2002), the aforementioned two NGOs involve in development activities such as construction of road and school and help the poor segment of the community financially.

The coming of the Organizations to Wondo Genet has exacerbated resource scarcity alongside population pressure in the area. Some of the organizations took over additional land with all its resources at different times which displaced local people and also reduced their land holding size to about 0.5 ha (Tilaye and Menfes, 1993). The vast land (forestland) held by the Organizations has been a temptation to the local people that face scarcity of agricultural land.

In general in Wondo Genet area, the forest cover has been declining at an alarming rate. This is because of expansion of agricultural land to forested land, cutting of trees for fuel, construction, charcoal making and pit-sawing. Likewise, pressures on to the forests held by the Organizations have been immense and their degradation becomes a commonplace though they are trying to protect their resources. It is also argued that the approaches they have been pursuing in managing their forests did not involve the communities (Belaynesh, 2002). In line with this problem, the approaches major Organizations¹ have been pursuing to protect their forests are critically assessed in the current study. In addition, the study has identified the means of livelihoods of local people and the opportunities the Organizations have been generating to nearby communities. Also it has looked into other approach of resource management and opportunities that can be generated that might suit the area so as to promote sustainable forest management and development of livelihoods of local communities.

¹ Organization - In this thesis it refers to different entities like College, Hotel and Research Center. Wondo Genet College of Forestry, Wondo Genet Essential Oils Research Center, Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Hotel and the former Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development (currently known as the State Forest) are the four major Organizations covered in this study.

1.2 Review of existing literature on the study area

The varied natural resources of Wondo Genet are degrading at fastest rate. Land once covered by natural forest is now converted into agricultural land and settlement. For instance, according to Belaynesh (2002) in 1977, 13% of the Wondo Genet Catchment was under natural forest but in 2000 it was reduced to 2 percent. During the same period land under vegetation cover (forests, woodland and forest remnant) decreased from 36 percent to 24 percent. On the other hand, area for cultivation and settlement had increased from 55 percent in 1977 to 65 percent in 2000. In addition to the conversions of forestland in to agricultural land and settlement, cutting of forests for different purposes and unclear status of the forested land contributed to forest degradation in the area.

In Wondo Genet, the major land cover changes occurred at three different periods. The first change was during the 1940s and 1950s with the introduction of commercial farming and in migration of people particularly from resource scarce regions of Kambata, Walayita and Hadiya areas. The second was during the Derg time with its villagization program and agrarian policy and the establishment of many Organizations. The last one occurred at the time when recent government has come to power with its decentralization governance that converts the area into hot spot. Currently the area is forced to support too many people because of the past influx of people and the prevailing polygamy marriage practice. This has brought the formation of landless households in the area that furthers the pressure on the remaining natural forest and water resource (Belaynesh, 2002; Zerihun, 1999).

Both local people and Organizations are aware of the forest resource degradation. Valuable tree species were lost before their very eyes; community's access to forest is reduced as mainly the forest cover declined; inability to get fire and construction wood, edible plants, fodder for animals and irrigation water; loss of soil fertility and medicinal plants. Most of the Organizations in the area assume that their resource utilizations do not affect local people; rather they made available job opportunities to local people and employees with high purchasing power (Belaynesh, 2002). Nonetheless, no attempt has been made to clearly indicate the magnitude and trends of opportunities these Organizations have created for the communities. Moreover, the conservation approaches, Organizations have been pursuing to protect their forests, were not thoroughly dealt with.

It is not only natural resource degradation that characterizes Wondo Genet, rather resource scarcity too. This is because the many Organizations claim large amount of land in the area in addition to high population density. In response to mainly resources scarcity, changes in production systems have occurred: 'switching to' cash crop production, intensive use of irrigation, decreasing fallow land and period, and reducing cattle population size (Teshale, 2003 and Zerihun, 1999). Scarcity of agricultural resource base like land and water has led to competition and conflicts among the local communities (Zerihun, 1999; Tilaye and Menfes, 1993).

However, the study by Atesmachew (2004) indicates that though households in the study area shift their production systems to intensification, this current agricultural system (land use system in general) with less than

a hectare average land holding (Tilaye and Menfes, 1993) could not bring sufficient economic return because of fast population growth rate in the area. As to him, to sustain communities in the area the intensification of food crop production, the creation of other economic activities like off farm income sources and encouraging the local people to control their family size are important. Also to mitigate the problem of deforestation, the development of energy substitution technology is crucial. However, the study did not consider the influence of different Organizations in the area. These Organizations, among others, can play great roles in making real the potential solutions the study listed out to maintain the overcrowded population in the area and also improve their livelihoods that might have positive effect on the forest resources they are trying to conserve. In addition, none of the studies by the aforementioned researchers depict the livelihood of local communities particularly located out of the ‘proper’ Wondo Genet area but with suspected great impact on the forest resource of the area.

1.3 Objectives of the study

The general objective of this study is to describe existing natural resource management with emphasis on forests and indicate alternative mechanisms that may help the co-existence of local people, forest resources and Organizations in Wondo Genet area.

The specific objectives of the study are to

- i) identify the means of livelihoods of local communities,
- ii) assess the approaches that the major Organizations of the area pursue to conserve the resources they hold,
- iii) identify and analyze the trends of opportunities major Organizations have been generating to local people and the problems the communities faced with the coming of Organizations, and
- iv) explore other opportunities that can be generated and other approaches that can be pursued to promote sustainable forest management and development of livelihood of local people in the area.

1.4 Research questions

The research questions include:

- i) What are the livelihood strategies of local communities in Wondo Genet area?
- ii) What are the approaches Organizations have been following to protect the forest resources at their stake? What opportunities have emanated to local people from these approaches?
- iii) What are the opportunities and problems faced by communities with the coming of Organizations to the area?
- iv) Did the Organizations try to mitigate the problems? If not, why? And what implications do such actions have on the prospects of forest management and communities’ livelihood?
- v) What other opportunities can be generated and approach pursued to promote sustainable resource management and livelihood development in the area?

1.5 Reasons for the selection of study area and significance of the study

The forest resource of the study area is degrading from time to time before the very eyes of the Organizations meant to protect it and local communities. Moreover, conflicts on the use of this resource is becoming rampant, which even led to some casualties, as some people run to use it while others are trying to preserve. So, lasting solutions must be sought for the sustainable management of the remaining resources in the area, by mitigating the conflicting resource uses and reducing the pressures on these resources. To do so, one has to look closely to the matter and this work could be one of such attempts.

This study may serve as the basis to conduct feasibility study so as to initiate development projects to exploit the opportunities in study area to bring local developments that might reduce the pressure on the forest resource. The study may also urge the Organizations and local people in the study area to strengthen their cooperation, which can help to promote sustainable livelihoods development, and resources management that will create fertile ground for co- existence. Moreover, it could be the source of information for further research in the area.

1.6 Limitations of the study

While conducting this research certain constraints have been encountered. Most files of the Organizations are not kept well. Even for some Organizations it is not possible to locate their past files as they were taken to Addis Ababa where the Office that controls them found. Because of these problems, the time span covered in assessing the job opportunities Organizations generate to local people is short for some of the Organizations. For instance, in the case of WGCF, only the most recent six years are considered in looking into these opportunities as pay rolls were put in Ministry of Education before 1991 E.C. In spite of these constraints, maximum effort is exerted to obtain necessary data required that makes this study informative and valuable.

1.7 The Organization of the Study

This thesis is organized in five chapters. The first chapter is the introduction part where the problem of the study is justified; the objectives and research questions are indicated. In the second part, theoretical literatures are reviewed while the third chapter presents materials and methods. The fourth chapter has dealt with results and discussion. In its last part conclusion and recommendations are given.

2. Review of Theoretical Literature

This chapter provides the review of theoretical literature that guides this study as a conceptual framework.

2.1. Natural Resource

Nature does not define resource; rather it is people who do so. Physical substances in the environment remain ‘neutral stuff’ if people do not appraise their usefulness. The “basic preconditions” to be met to consider any element as a resource are the presence of knowledge, technical skills and cultural development to permit its “extraction and utilization”, and the existence of “demand for goods and services produced” from them. Therefore, natural resources are component of the physical environment, which are used to produce goods and services to meet human demand (Rees, undated, p.12). In general, it is the ability and demand of people that create resource, not the simple physical presence of substances (Zimmermann, 1951).

Natural resources are commonly categorized into two major types: flow or renewable and stock or non renewable. Substances like all metallic and non-metallic minerals take millions of years to form and now fixed in supply fall in the latter category. On the other hand, resources such as water, forest, soil, solar radiation, tidal and wind energy; animal and plant lives that replenish naturally within short time span represent the flow resources. However, these resources could deplete when exploitation rate exceeds the rate at which they renew themselves.

Many people in developing countries base their livelihood on flow resources like forest. They derive their basics like food, water, fire and construction woods from the same resources. These very resources that sustain millions of people, however, are under greater pressure, which has brought degradation and even depletion to them. Here follows a brief review of literature on the causes of degradation of flow natural resource particularly forest which is the focus of this thesis.

2.1.1 Causes of Flow Resources Degradation

The degradation of renewable resources is part and parcel of the broader environmental degradation that refers to a substantial “reduction in the availability of goods and services (quantity and quality- wise) from the physical environment and the renewable natural resource base” (Ermias, 2003:24). Deforestation, soil erosion, rangeland overgrazing, and wildlife exodus are some of the manifestations of flow resource degradation in particular and environmental degradation in general.

There are a number of factors that cause flow resources degradation. These factors are broadly classified into two, as proximate and underlying causes. The proximate causes of resource degradation include cultivation of steep slopes and marginal land, absence or application of inappropriate resource management technologies, poaching, fire and limited culture of tree planting; while the underlying causes consist of demographic change or pressure, poverty, agricultural/ economic stagnation, food insecurity, lack of appropriate institutional arrangements and policies on the resources, political unrest or civil war and deep-rooted bureaucracies and rampant corruption (Ermias, 2003; Barraclough, et al, 1997). The degradation of renewable resource, in general, is a result of the dynamic interplay among these diverse socio-economic, institutional and technological factors.

Proximate causes are simply the symptoms of other basic causes of renewable resource degradation that are termed as underlying causes. For instance, people poach from forests to get wood for fuel and construction purposes. Also there exists annual burning of vegetation in many parts of developing countries to help grasses grow. But this practice inhibits forest regeneration (FAO, 1980, quoted in Allen and Barnes, 1985). Moreover, forests exposed to degradation have to be conserved to ensure their existence and utility. Nonetheless, it is hardly possible, particularly in developing countries, to apply or adapt appropriate conservation technologies to all vulnerable resources as they could be costly and/or unacceptable to farmers (Dessaiegn, 2001). Thus, discussion on some of the underlying causes of resource degradation is in order.

1. Population pressure

Different people view the relation between demographic change and natural resource degradation differently. Malthusians have been considering population pressure as the main cause for natural resource degradation and also a threat to people's well-being. The opponent's of this group, on the other hand, argue that population pressure brings sustainable resource management and utilization. Thus, there are at least two schools of thought about the relationship between population pressure and resource degradation: Malthus' and Boserup's approaches.

The Malthus' approach has been started with the pessimistic work of Thomas Robert Malthus in 1798. The basis of Malthus' theory was that population when left unchecked would grow geometrically but the means of supporting this population would increase arithmetically. This will result in a chronic imbalance between population and physical resources, i.e., the carrying capacity of resources will be exceeded and brings resource degradation, famine, and war. To create balance between the two some checks are needed to be taken (Malthus, 1798).

The Boserup's approach has been started by the optimistic hypothesis of Boserup (1965) about the relationship between population pressure and resources. As to her, the extensive forms of resource use such as slash and burn agricultural system efficiently supports low population densities. But when population densities increase intensive agricultural systems and improved land management like multiple cropping are initiated. These practices offer higher levels of production and sustainable resource management. Her theory therefore, is best explained by the proverb "necessity is the mother of invention." This is because, as to her, increased population pressure will force people to adopt more advanced agricultural and resource conservation technologies.

Nonetheless, the relationship between resource degradation and population pressure is a complicated one as many local level case studies reveal. In some instances, rapid population growth has led to fragmentation of agricultural land, absence or reduction in fallow period, clearance of forests for different purposes. These practices have brought deforestation and soil erosion. But in other instances, fast population growth is found to be a stimulant for intensification activities and more careful land use system rather than setting in degradation of natural resource (Barraclough, et al, 1997). For instance, in Machakos district of Kenya population pressure coupled with tenure security and market availability among others, allowed the development of better livelihood and resource conservation mechanisms (Tiffen et al., 1994). Therefore, a valid conclusion seems that it is not the mere size of people that lead to resource degradation or conservation, rather "how those people act within particular socio- economic and ecological contexts" (Barraclough, et al, 1997:40).

In *enset* growing Southern part of Ethiopia there exists a natural resource friendly farming practices though the region supports the highest population density (Dessalegn, 1996). Contrary to this, in other parts of the country population pressure has significant impact on natural resources. For instance, Pender (2002 quoted in Ermias, 2003) indicates that, in Tigray high population pressure has contributed to the break down of collective actions like community wood lots and grazing land management. According to him, in the three regions of the country,

namely, Amhara, Oromia, and Tigray there is direct relationship between population pressure and resource degradation.

In most parts of the country, given the current situations, population pressure is one of the major underlying causes of resource degradation. This is because the agricultural economy cannot feed the fast growing population (3% per annum) without degrading natural resources. New entrants to the society require additional agricultural land, fuel and construction woods among others that exacerbate the degradation of forest and soil to mention only few (Ermias, 2003). In line with this, it was estimated that within a year about 80,000 ha of natural high forests is converted to farmland for subsistence agriculture; about 50,000ha of acacia woodlands are cleared for charcoal production and for state farm expansion, and about 30,000 ha of woodland, thickets and bush are cut for fuel wood in the country (UNDP/ World Bank, 1988).

2. Poverty and Agricultural Stagnation

Like population pressure, the issue of considering poverty as the cause of resource degradation is contentious. There are people who argue that there is a direct relationship between poverty and resource degradation. This group puts the poor as the major agent of resource degradation. The Brundtland report (World Commission, 1987) also held this causal relation between poverty and resource degradation. The report stressed that as far as poverty exists, sustainable resource management in particular and long-term development in general is unthinkable. On the whole, this group believes that people value and manage natural resources more when they progress.

On the other hand, an opposing view refutes the simple causal link between poverty and resource degradation by arguing. As to this group, the poor are primary victims and they become secondary agents of resource degradation. For instance, Guha and Martinez- Alier (1997), take the position that wealth rather than poverty renders great threat to natural resources. They also argue that resource degradation increases with economic growth. As to them, there is the “environmentalism of the poor” to defend natural resources which are the bases of their livelihood. And diverse form of ecological struggle such as indigenous peoples’ opposition to save the Amazon rain forest manifests such environmentalism.

The livelihood of the poor depends more on natural resource than that of well-to-do and it provides more diverse advantages than man-made capital to them. The natural capital helps the poor to be resilient and survive stresses and shocks they face in their livelihood system, particularly when the ecosystem is diverse which helps it recover from shocks and stress (Ashby, 2003). So the poor takes care of natural resources because the degradation of these resources mainly affect them (Dessalegn, 2001: 103).

Nonetheless, the connection between poverty and resource degradation is a complicated one. A number of factors intervene between them to shape their link that includes property ownership, environmental shock and

population pressure (Dessalegn, 2001; Rogers, 1996). The property right system, for instance, can discriminate the poor who had customarily access rights and based their livelihood on those resources. When the poor are excluded from and expropriated of natural resources by the state or rich and powerful companies, they will be powerless and “natural alienation” develops. As a result, resentment develops among local people toward such resource and now they may turn to deliberately destroy this resource when conditions allow (Guha, 1989, cited in Dessalegn, 2001).

In the World there exists over 0.8 billion poor people who face severe food shortage and famine among other problems because of environmental shocks (Ashby, 2003). As Dessalegn (2001:105) rightly argues;

In such situations, the poor quickly exhaust their crisis management potentials.... For all groups of peasants, crisis managements involves depleting available environmental resources, in particular forest, woodlands and grasslands. Selling grass, fuel wood, and other forest products is a standard coping measure employed during food shortage and irrespective of their form of ownership such resources are encroached upon and rapidly depleted. The poor, who to begin with are heavily dependent on the environment [natural resource], are often the first to put greater pressure on their surrounding.

Thus, poverty forces people to deplete the resources in their vicinity for mere survival. In other words, for people in absolute poverty short-term survival becomes their priority than sustainable resource management (Carney, 1998).

Moreover, the loss of soil fertility through erosion leads to reduction in agricultural production. This forces farmers to clear forest and woodland to get additional plots. And such practices exacerbate soil erosion problem, and bring the degradation of forest and woodland. But the productivity of land reduces rapidly after the removal of natural forest or woodland. This leads to little or no progress in agriculture. To satisfy the requirement of households, therefore, more forest and woodland have to be cleared to expand agricultural land (World Bank, 1978, quoted in Allen and Barnes, 1985). In Ethiopia, within a year between 150,000 – 200,000 hectares of forest and woodland is cleared to expand farmland among others (MNR, 1993).

3. Insecurity on Property rights

Institutional arrangements like property rights regime have bearings on resource conservation and degradation. Property rights regimes are the systems that reveal the kinds of property ownership by creating classes. They constitute “property rights, privileges and duties in the use of allocated resource.” They also include others’ obligation to the holder of the right. Owner, non-owner and authority systems are the three legal entities to construct and implement property rights regime (Melaku, 2003:45-46).

There are four types of property rights regimes: private, public/state (commercial and non- commercial), common (regulated and unregulated) and open access. Private property rights regime refers to the situation

where an individual exercises right over the property. In most cases, the individual may face different legal constraint to exercise absolute power over the use and disposition of the property. However, the system provides individuals various incentives like the capacity to alienating others from the resource that increase the likelihood of their sustainability though sometimes they may prefer to maximize profit by over investing in their property that brings externalities which include the degradation of the property (Melaku, 2003; Schlager and Ostrom, 1992).

In State or Public property regime the state agencies exercise rights over resources and it is “assumed to be the ultimate bastion of the nation’s resources” but “lack of awareness, corruption, need of institutional and organization capacity, knowledge often prevent effective control and administration of assets under” its control (Melaku, 2003: 49). In most cases, degradation of natural resource owned by the state is inevitable as the result (Dessalegn, 2001). On the other hand, common property regime refers to property system where resources are owned commonly and it excludes the non-members. It has two sub-categories: regulated and unregulated common property regimes. What makes them differ is that in the former case resource utilization is controlled and “benefit to members is proportional to input from each,” while in the latter “consumption may not be necessarily equal among members because utilization is uncontrolled.” Common property rights, particularly the regulated one, guarantee the livelihoods of members. However, unless these property rights are legalized they remain “defenseless and non- durable in the face of an intrusion by the state” (Melaku, 2003:51).

Open access ‘property’ regime refers to the system where “no one holds rights to a resource, and nobody is excluded” or otherwise, i.e. resource “owned and used by all” (Melaku, 2003:51). Hardin’s (1968 and 1994) ‘tragedy of the commons’ works under such situation. This is because individuals run to maximize their gains from the open access resources, which leads to overexploitation and ultimate destruction to the resource.

Thus the type of property rights regime has implication on the utilization, improvement and management of resources. This is because some property right types provide incentives for such activities while others not. But what is very important is that an unambiguity and stability of the property rights regime “to generate security, and motivate investment” in “and optimal use” of the resource. Stability reduces future uncertainty and makes individuals confident to wait for the fruit of long term investment and management they made on their resources. They are also conscious of the consequences (e.g. reduction in production) of over exploiting the resource, which is meant to remain with them for long time (Yeraswork, 2000:55). In any case the open access ‘property’ is excluded from the options of appropriate property rights regime for sustainable resource management.

In Ethiopia property rights insecurity like tree tenure insecurity prevails, which has led to inefficient resource utilization and degradation (Alemneh, 2003). The instability of property right system and the existing tenure system, i.e. public or state ownership, forced farmers to concentrate on short-term gains rather than on long-term benefits (Degefa, 1999, quoted in Ermias, 2003). At different times the state has frequently redistributed

land in few years time that took away the land held by one peasant to new holder disfavoring its sustainable management (Yeraswork, 2000; Belay, 2000). Tree planting which is a long term investment is lacking because of fear to lose the land with the investment. Thus, tenure insecurity is considered to be one of the underlining causes for flow resource degradation in the country.

The causes mentioned so far might have either direct or indirect contribution to the degradation of flow resource 'conserved' by State or its agencies. But of all, the approach being pursued, as it is indicated in the following subsection, to conserve the resource has direct and obvious contribution to its degradation.

2.1.2 Resource Management Approach

Concern about changes in the environment was started back over two millennia ago, when Plato wrote about hills of Attica in Greece that had lost forest cover. However, “throughout subsequent history only a few scientists and philosophers saw the changes that were taking place on the face of the earth.” Except in the past few decades, during all human’s occupation of the earth, change in the natural resources has been extremely slow and as the result passed unnoticed. Moreover, very few considered man as factor for these changes because “[a]t least in Western cultures, recognition of man’s voluntary causal role was clouded by the religious belief that such changes were expressions of ‘God’s Will’.” Thus, awareness about the degradation of natural resources because of anthropogenic impacts was crystallized very recently and that recognition initiated the idea of conservation. For instance in Northern America the degradation of large areas of forestland by settlers led to setting up of conservation programs (Talbot, 1984:6-7).

Initially, natural resource conservation in general has been reactive in large part, i.e. responding conservation to the perceived problems like threatened forestland. In other words, conservation approaches have been taking modernization approach (Pretty and Shah, 1997; Talbot, 1984).

Modernization is an approach to resource conservation where scientists and planners identify problems such as severe degradation and search for rational solutions or technologies, which are tested under controlled environment to be taken up by farmers. Peasants are expected to change their previous practices which, most of the time, involve altering their livelihood to comply with new technologies. And the approach assumes that conservation technologies are universal that leads to standardization. This universality of technologies has brought environmental homogeneity because

Where [peasants] used to use a range of biological and physical measures to control soil erosion, now they might have terraces. Where they used to rely on wild plants and animals for food, medicine and fuel, now they might only rely on markets for these products. Modernization has brought with it steady erosion of cultural and biological diversity (Pretty and Shah, 1997:40).

The basic assumption behind the modernization approach is that farmers are the cause of natural resource degradation such as deforestation, soil degradation and overgrazing. Thus, it recommends the exclusion of people from forests to protect trees and wild life and the adoption of externally developed water and soil conservation technologies (Pretty and Shah, 1997).

Being influenced by modernization or traditional conservation approach, conservation policies of governments have been focused on biological value of resources and ignored the people who depend on such resources (Feyera, 1999). For instance, the North American governments’ parks management system is mainly aimed at preserving the scenic beauty and protecting natural wonders by closing the areas from local people. National authorities at the highest level are responsible for the management and protection of the parks (Nepal, et al, 1995; Pimbert, et al, 1995 quoted in Hurni, and Ludi: 2000:187).

Most Africans' national forest and parks management systems have been dictated by modernization approach too. Local communities do not participate in the management, as the basic concept in their design and management is to protect from them. Under extreme scenarios, local communities were relocated to other places that broke down their tradition, culture and moral systems, and livelihoods (Hurni and Ludi, 2000). The local community faced with resource scarcity to sustain ever increasing human and livestock population and also to protest the conversion of the resources to 'protected area', to which ones they had full access rights to meet their need, frequently poach from these resources (Dessalegn, 2001, Hurni and Ludi, 2000; Feyera, 1999).

In most developing countries in general the conservation of forest has been vested in the state. It has the power to give rights to use to others such as private companies and local people as it sees appropriate. Nonetheless, it has never managed the vast forestland at its stake effectively simply because it lacks the resources (Carney and Farrington, 1999; Swanson and Cervigni, 1996). Even monitoring the agencies granted use rights and preventing "public sector staff in isolated locations from abusing their positions" have been difficult to the state (Carney and Farrington, 1999:12). On the other hand, it has destroyed the local management system of forests and thereby disturbed local people's livelihood and expedited the rate at which this resource is converted to open access 'property'. Moreover, the state has been granting logging concessions to exploitative companies and also privatizing forestland completely. The privatized forestlands are converted into farms like ranching of cattle, which is of low productivity. On the other hand, the displaced local people face severe impacts on their livelihoods sometimes (Carney and Farrington, 1999).

In Ethiopia large forestlands have been owned by the state starting from mid 1960s when the Imperial government proclaimed all large-scale forests as state property. Again in 1975 the Derg regime nationalized all the remaining forests. These expropriations of forest were not welcome by local communities, which were the base of their livelihoods in one-way or another. There have been frequent encroachments and illegal utilization of these state forests as both governments were not effective in controlling. Above all, in response to such state measures three major waves of clearance of forest and woodland owned by the state occurred in the country of which the first two major deforestation occurred following the mid 1960s Imperial and the 1975 Derg regimes' proclamations while the third one happened when the Derg fell and the recent government took power (Dessalegn, 1996; Alula, 2001).

The Derg government promoted tree planting or afforestation. The state forestry of the Derg government, however "posed a threat to peasant livelihoods" as "it encroached on farm land, evicted households living in and near it, and took away land that was customarily used for grazing"(Dessalegn, 2001:52). Most of the state forestry was enlarged through expropriation of farmland and pastureland (MOA, 1989).

Before the coming of interferences from the state, in many parts of the world, local communities have been managing forests in sustainable manner. This is because local peoples have protective mechanisms/institutions to do so. These people were able to manage natural resources via complex interplays of reciprocity and

solidarities. Their old-age knowledge and skills played vital roles in managing the resources. Nonetheless, the coming of state interventions with their keen interest to have control over those commonly managed resources brought a downfall to the traditional natural resource management systems. Moreover, “the rise in power of modern ‘scientific’ practices induced severe losses in local knowledge and skills” (Borrini-Feyerabend, 2000:7).

The Maya of Totonicapan in Guatemala who have managed the dense forestland of Parcialidades for centuries best exemplifies such management. The Mayan’s community used to elect forest guards that control outsiders and check forest product use, give permission to individuals to cut tree when they need and punish who disobey, follow selective felling system and some part of the community also has the belief that trees have spirits and that their place and function in the universal order is equal to human being, among others. However, over the past ten to fifteen years many of these mechanisms either have stopped working or become less effective because of the emergence of exogenous and endogenous factors that weaken Mayan’s traditions. The state came up with a new regulatory code that introduced licensing system to regulate tree felling and this alienated many communities as the system was costly and time consuming. In addition, armed gangs raid in night time the forest and stripped off the bark of white pine to sell for use in leather curing; corrupted higher authorities and abandonment of reforestation by local communities as they started to see the beneficiaries are bark strippers (Utting, 1993).

Most of the conservation efforts made so far in modernization framework have not brought lasting effects though they have conveyed considerable success in the short run (Talbot, 1984 and Pretty and Shah, 1997). Under most circumstances they have aggravated resource degradation, as it is the case also with the interferences of the state in traditional common resource management. This is because resource conservation measures in modernization approach succeed only with coercion and when such external pressures were removed the local people reject the measures in place (Pretty and Shah, 1997). These rejections are reflected in purposeful destruction of conserved resources among others, as it happened to State forest in Ethiopia. As a response to this failure, alternative approach to resource management has been developed starting from the mid 1980s and mid 1990s (Carney and Farrington, 1999).

Postmodernism, the new approach to resource management rejects the “meta- narratives, or large scale plans, technologies or theoretical interpretations that purport to have universal application.” In this approach the central issue is that people know best for themselves. So one has to listen to and actively seek after their voices, which are “authentic and legitimate”, and brings positive effects or sustainable resource management (Pretty and Shah, 1997:40). This new approach incorporates and glorifies the term ‘participation’ of particularly local people in natural resource management (Carney and Farrington, 1999).

Participation comprises the strategy to involve the beneficiaries in development programs / projects, including resource management. This concept has won the acceptance of many people most probably as it can be interpreted differently. There exists no consensus on a single definition of participation and participatory

approaches that has brought paradoxes. Some also view participation as a means to an end while others view it as an end in itself (Yeraswork, 2000; Pretty and Shah, 1997). Also some pay only lip service to participation for reasons of its political usefulness (Brohman, 1996). As Chambers (1974:84) puts, “[r]hetoric has important political functions and relies on the loose use of [participation] with ideological overtones.” Thus, the ways participation is interpreted and used by different entities are many. These

“range from manipulative and passive where people are told what is to happen and act out predetermined roles, to self mobilization, where, people take initiatives largely independent of external institutions” (Pretty and Shah, 1997: 53).

The first four participation types, indicated in Table 2.1, do not have lasting effects on development programs or project and can be even considered as non-participation. This is because they involve no more than telling what is going to happen or requiring responses to some questions where the local people respond and contribution of resources like labor in return for food or cash to put to practice what has been already decided by ‘outsiders’. On the other hand, the last three participation typologies are genuine participation where local people actively involve in decision-making, implementation activities affecting their lives and also sharing the benefits. As one moves from the fifth down to the last typology the effects are more sustainable though the three tend to bring positive lasting effects. Thus one has to be cautious in using and interpreting participation and reference must be made to the type of participation because most of them threaten the goals of projects or programs rather than promoting (Pretty and Shah, 1997).

Despite its rhetoric uses, participatory approach to development programs in general and resource management in particular are believed to bring many benefits that include enhancement of efficiency, transparency and accountable, empowerment of the poor and disadvantaged, sense of belongingness and capacity to learn and act (Uphoff, 1992; World Bank, 1994).

Table 2.1 A typology of participation.

Typology	Characteristics of each type
1. Manipulative participation	Participation is simply a pretence, with ‘people’s’ representatives on official boards who are unelected and have no power.
2. Passive Participation	People participate by being told what is going to happen or what has already happened. This involves unilateral announcement by an administration or by project management without listening to people’s responses. The information being shared belongs only to external professionals.
3. Participation by consultation	People participate by being consulted, or by answering questions. External agents define both problems and information- gathering processes, and so control analysis. Such a consultative process does not concede any share in decision-making and professionals are under no obligation to take on board people’s views.
4. Participation for material incentives	People participate by providing resources, for example labour, in return for food, cash or other material incentives. Farmers may provide the fields and labour, but are involved in neither experimentation nor the process of learning. It is very common to find this called participation, yet people have no stake in prolonging technologies or practices when the incentives end.
5. Functional participation	Participation seen by external agencies as a means to achieve project goals, especially reduced costs. People may participate by forming groups to meet predetermined objectives related to the project. Such involvement may be interactive and involve shared decision making, but tends to arise only after major

	decisions have already been made by external agents. At worst, local people may still only be coopted to serve external goals.
6. Interactive participation	People participate in joint analysis, development of action plans and formation or strengthening of local institutions. Participation is seen as a right, not just the means to achieve projects goals. The process involves interdisciplinary methodologies that seek multiple perspectives and make use of systematic and structured learning processes. As groups take control over local decisions and determine how available resources are used, so they have a stake in maintaining structures or practices.
7. Self-mobilization	People participate by taking initiatives to change systems independently of external institutions. They develop contacts with external institutions for the resources and technical advice they need, but retain control over how resources are used. Self-mobilization can spread if governments and NGOs provide an enabling framework of support. Such self-initiated mobilization may or may not challenge existing distributions of wealth and power.

Source: Pretty J. N. 1995 quoted in Pretty and Shah, 1997.

Participatory (joint or collaborative) natural resource management which is also known as co-management of natural resource is one of the many activities coined the term participation today. It refers to “a situation in which two or more social actors negotiate, define and guarantee amongst themselves a fair sharing of the management functions, entitlements and responsibilities for a given territory, area or set of natural resources”. It is a pluralistic approach to natural resource management through the involvement of partners with the end goals of sustainable use and conservation of the resource and equitable sharing of benefits and responsibilities related to it (Borrini-Feyerabend, 2000:6). Though it may be expensive and involves long process, co-management is effective as it makes use of knowledge, skills and resources of different stakeholders, makes sound decision and internalizes socio-economic and ecological costs of resource degradation like food and fodder shortage (Borrini-Feyerabend, 2000; Agrawal, 2000). It also renders equity, social justice and democracy required in resource management (Borrini-Feyerabend, 2000). It is the approach that recognizes the importance of local capabilities and experiences in resource management (Skutsch, 1999).

In nutshell, Pretty and Shah (1997) argue that participatory resource management brings benefits: economic (e.g. improved livelihood security), social (e.g. reduction of conflicts over resources), and environmental (e.g. reduction in deforestation or increased number of trees). In other words, it facilitates sustainable livelihood development and resource management.

2.2 Sustainable Livelihood

Livelihood is defined as “the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living” (Carney, 1998:4; Chambers and Conway, 1992). And sustainable livelihood is a livelihood that can cope with and recover from economic, social and natural “stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base”(Carney, 1998:4).

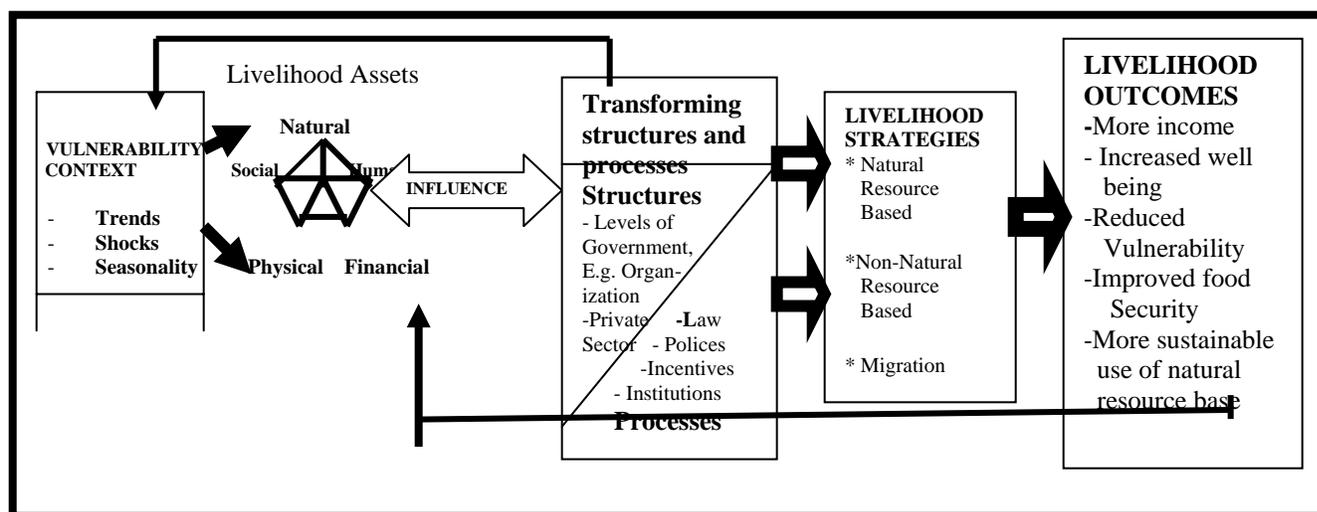


Figure 2.1: A framework for rural sustainable livelihood.

There are five different types of assets, as indicated in figure 2.1, from which households or individuals draw livelihoods. These are natural capital (land, water, wildlife, forest, biodiversity), social capital (networks, memberships of trust, access to wider institutions of society), human capital (skills, knowledge, ability to labor, health), physical capital (basic infrastructures like transport, shelter, water, energy; the production equipment, and means) and financial capital (savings, supplies of credit or regular remittances or pensions)(Scoones, 1998). Having more of the assets or access to them help the people to rise out of hardships (shocks and stresses) they face. This is to say that such access renders robustness to the people. The same robustness enhances people’s ability to influence the transforming structures and processes. The structures include organizations from layers of government to the private sector in all its appearances while processes include laws, institutions and policies. The transforming structures and processes define the livelihood strategies or options of people whether they have to be based on natural resource or migration or non- natural resource or a combination of them. In addition, “[t]hey are critical in determining both who gains access to which type of asset and what the effective value of that asset is.” Thus they are important. For instance, market and legal restrictions do have immense impact on assets convertibility, which can increase options for people to improve their livelihoods and ability to withstand shocks and stresses all else equal (Carney, 1998:8).

In general, as Bingen (2000:1) puts,

Sustainable livelihood comprises three interrelated components: 1) some combination or portfolio of capabilities, assets and activities, 2) that enable people deal with events and trends as well as develop various strategies to pursue desired livelihood outcomes, 3) while maintaining or enhancing their capabilities and assets over time.

Rural people rarely depend totally on single activity or source of income to sustain themselves. Rather different “activities and income sources among which crop and livestock production alongside many other contribute to family well being.” The livelihood activities could be based on set of natural resources (gathering, hunting, food and non-food farming, pastoralism, non-farm activities like weaving, thatching, etc) or non- natural resource activities (rural trade, other services like car repair, rural manufacturing, remittance and other transfer like pension). The sources of income could be to farm, off-farm and non-farm activities or combination of them. Migration could be one of important method of diversifying rural livelihood, which can take the form of circular, seasonal or permanent or international (Ellis, 1998: 53).

The diversification of livelihoods in developing countries is done for reasons of necessity rather than choice. Livelihood is not static but it is dynamic. This is because changes that frequently occur in the full range of physical, economic, political and social environments at international, national, regional and local level have direct or indirect, large or small and immediate or delayed impacts on peoples’ livelihood systems. As coping or adaptive strategies people will be forced to modify or cease the former activities on which their livelihoods have been set up. In addition, new components of livelihood system may emerge because of the impacts of these factors (Elliot, 1999). For instance, in rural areas population growth and farm fragmentation among other factors can lead to declining returns from agricultural activities which force rural people to look for other sources of income like off farm or non farm activities (Ellis, 1998). In line with this, in Sub Saharan Africa between 30-50 percent of rural household income is obtained from non – farm sources while in South Asia this figure rises to 60 percent (Sahn, 1994; Reardon, 1997, cited in Ellis, 1998). In developing countries in general, perhaps one – fifth of the rural labor force may be engaged in non- farm activities (Chuta, and Leidholm, 1990, cited in Elliot, 1999).

In any case, the lion’s share of income for rural livelihood is derived from activities that depend on natural resources. For example, the agricultural sector, which relies on natural resource base, provides over 85 percent of the total employment (and therefore income) to rural population of Ethiopia (CSA, 1998). In relation to this, Woldeamlak and Stroosnijder (2004) find out that households’ in one Watershed in Northwestern highlands of Ethiopia drive almost all their incomes from their farms. So in the country, like in most developing countries, livelihood security is inextricably linked to the exploitation of natural resources.

However, as it has been observed in ‘modernism’ approach to natural resource conservation, particularly forest, livelihood base of local communities have been disrupted and neglected because of the expropriation and exclusions while they are not provided with alternative means of subsisting. This situation coupled with recurrent environmental crises make poverty rampant that force local people to encroach into ‘protected’ resources. Even if the local people are able to cope with the scarcity after expropriation and exclusion, and environmental crises among others to sustain their livings, they develop negative attitude towards the

'conserved' resource. Thus, resource management has to pursue post-modernism or participatory approach so as to address at least some of the livelihood issues of local people or help them shift their livelihoods and also to win the acceptance of local people.

3. Materials and Methods

In this chapter the description of the study area and the methodology employed in the study are given.

3.1 Description of the study area

3.1.1 Location and topography

Wondo Genet is situated in Awassa Zuria district of Sidama Zone within the Southern Nations, Nationalities & Peoples' Region. It occupies the northeastern portion of the district. Shashemene and Kofele districts of Oromia region border it in northwestern, northeastern and north, and eastern directions, respectively.

Topographically Wondo Genet area comprises the hills of Abaro, Bachil Gigissa, Gariramo, Kentere and Cheko, and the depression surrounded by these hills. The height of land varies between 2,580m a.s.l. at Abaro and 1,600m a.s.l. around the marshy area (Belaynesh, 2002). The major Organizations found in Wondo Genet and the forests at their stake occupy most of the northeastern parts of the area. The hillsides and their foot belong to these Organizations.

Two of the sample *Kebeles*, namely Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma are found in Wondo Genet. They occupy mostly the area to the southwest and northwestern of the land the major Organizations hold. The other two sample *Kebeles*: Abaro and Bachil Gigissa are located out of Wondo Genet area. These *Kebeles* are found in Shashemene & Kofele districts, respectively. They occupy the area to the north, northeast and east of chain of hills that surround Wondo Genet depression. The two *Kebeles* border the remaining highly disturbed natural forest in Wondo Genet. Currently there exist allegations that people from areas out of Wondo Genet, like these two *Kebeles*, greatly involve in clearing the natural forest in the area. Then, they do have stake in the management of this resource.

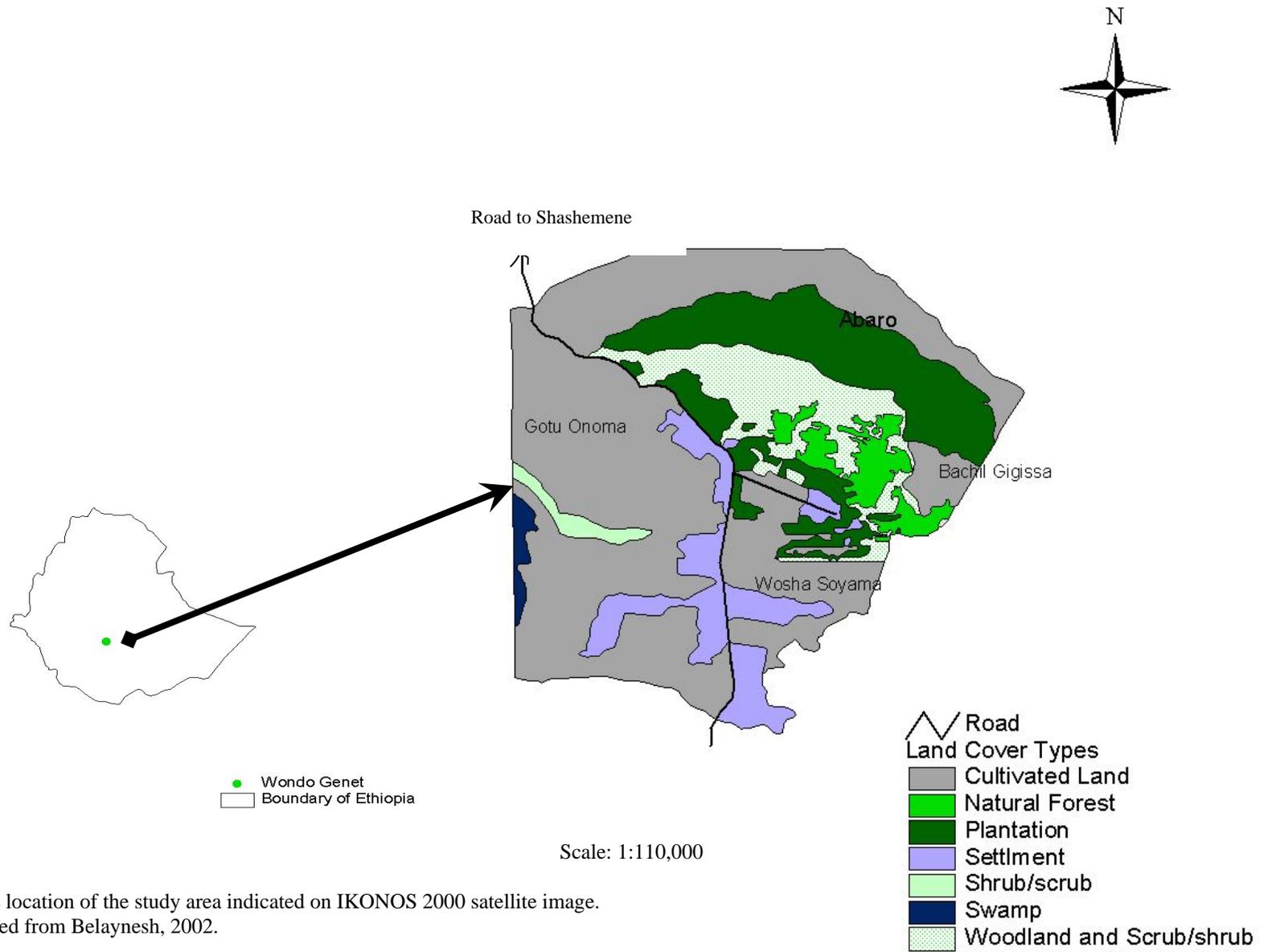


Figure 3.1. The location of the study area indicated on IKONOS 2000 satellite image.
Source: Modified from Belaynesh, 2002.

3.1.2 Climate

In Wondo Genet area *woina dega* agro-climatic type prevails. The rainfall pattern of the area is bi-modal where short rain falls during spring and the major rain comes in summer and stays for the first two months of autumn season. The mean annual rainfall ranges between 700mm to 1400mm (Cross, 2003). On the other hand, average annual temperature varies between 17⁰C and 19⁰C (Tilaye and Menfes, 1993). The two sample *Kebeles* out of Wondo Genet area have *dega* and *woina dega* climatic zones. Average annual temperature is reduced to less than 15⁰C while mean annual precipitation and rainy seasons are similar with that of Wondo Genet (AZFEDD, 2004 and ESZFEDD, 2003).

3.1.3 Soil, Water, Forest and Wildlife

Fertile soil, water, forest and wildlife are some of the natural resources Wondo Genet is bestowed with. The valley plain of Wondo Genet has fertile soil. The loamy sand textured soils, which contain most important nutrients, cover the area (Makin, et al, 1970, cited in Teshale, 2003). The depth of soil in the area varies. On steep slopes it is shallow while on gentle slope and flat areas the depth reaches about 4m (Eriksson and Stern, 1987). The area is also rich in water resources as four major streams: Wosha, Worqa, Hallo and Lango drain it. At bottom of the hills there are also small springs. The water from these springs and streams support not only people in the area but also nearby town, i.e. Shashemene, from 1974/5 onward (Zerihun, 1999). Farmers and Organizations in the area use the water for irrigation among others.

Wondo Genet also embraces forest resource, which is shared among the major Organizations. Beside natural forest, the Organizations possess plantation forests. The forests serve as habitats for many mammals, birds and insects. Bushbuck, forest pig, warthog, civet, leopard, hyena, and monkey are some of the mammals living in the forests. The area also supports 137 species of butterflies (Cross, 2003). As Sim (1979) indicates, 118 birds, of which seven are endemic to the country, live in the area.

Abaro and Bachil Gigissa *Kebeles* are covered by nitosols soil. They lack perennial streams. The aspect of Mt Abaro that faces particularly Abaro *Kebele* is covered by plantation forest of Munessa- Shashemene Wood Industry Enterprise. The plantation of the enterprise shelters wildlife like monkey, fox and hyena.

3.1.4 Major Organizations of Wondo Genet Area

There are many Organizations in Wondo Genet: Wondo Genet College of Forestry, State Forest/ former Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development, the Essential Oils Research Center, Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Resort Hotel, Manna Child Sponsorship, Family Aid and Community Development Organization and PATHMOS International. Based on the size of land they own the first four Organizations are the major ones that are covered in this study.

3.1.4.1 Wondo Genet College of Forestry

Wondo Genet College of Forestry is one of the major Organizations with vast land and forest resources. The college was set up in 1977 in a compound previously established as an Agricultural and Handicraft School by a Norwegian Lutheran Mission during the Imperial period. The mission ceased its function with the coming of the Derg regime and most of its farmland, which it had bought from Haile Sillasia I foundation, was given to landless people who came from Wosha Soyama, Gotu Onoma, Wotera Kechema and Sheshe Kekele *Kebeles*. But the compound together with all its materials and buildings had been taken care of by Ministry of Agriculture. Later on it was reemerged as Wondo Genet Agricultural and Livestock Enterprise by taking the farmland back from the farmers in the same compound under the National Livestock Development Enterprise. The farmers were given farmlands in their respective *Kebeles* upon returning back. Later the Enterprise was upgraded as Wondo Genet College of Forestry.

Today the college holds about 1000 hectares of land of which natural and plantation forests account for 650, and 117 hectares, respectively. The remaining part of the college is built up area, agricultural land where it produces coffee, maize and potato among others, trial sites and arboretum.

3.1.4.2 State Forest/ Former Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development

To reforest the degraded land and save the remaining forest around Shashemene including Wondo Genet, a project was initiated in 1969 under Forest and Wild Life Authority assisted by the Swedish International Development Agency. At the same period, the Chilalo Agricultural Development Unit (CADU) was running a project with similar objectives around Munessa area. In 1987 the two projects merged into one project and acquire a new name – Munessa- Shashemene State Forestry Development with three branches: Shashemene, Gambo and Munessa. The Shashemene branch was the one that shouldered the responsibility of conservation and reforestation of degraded land in Wondo Genet area (Zerihun, 1999).

Farmers in Gotu Onoma, Wosha Soyama, and Wotera Kechema *kebeles* among others were given land to the Shashemene branch of Munessa- Shashemene State Forestry Development.

Though the land it expropriated from the farmers was hillsides, hilltops and degraded, farmers had using most as pasture and farmland. Small and marginal lands like marshy area were given to the evicted farmers either through redistribution within the Kebeles or resettlement. That expropriation coupled with insufficient provision of alternatives had created serious conflict between the local people and the Organization from the very beginning.

The Shashemene branch of the project ceased operating since the second half of 1990 as its operation area in Wondo Genet with the plantation and natural forest was to Awassa District Agricultural and Rural Development Bureau. The bureau had prepared a project that intended to cover large area (5600 ha) including the land it obtained in Wondo Genet and Yanasse area, which is a barren land located to the southwest of Awassa Lake. Thus, a five-year project (1999-2003) known as Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development emerged for the development and management of the forest resource in the two areas. The project had about 2102 hectares of land in Wondo Genet area of its total operation area. Here it's natural and plantation forests cover about 950 and 402 hectares, respectively. Bushes and shrubs cover the remaining land. As the project phased out in 2003, the responsibility of forestry development and management fell on Awassa Zuria Bureau of Rural Development, particularly on the Natural Resources Development and Protection Desk of this Bureau.

3.1.4.3 Wondo Genet Essential Oils Research Center

The production of essential oils was initiated in Wondo Genet by Mr. Justin van Billon, a Belgian in 1961/2. The scheme was taken over by Mr. Hard, a French, soon after (Zerihun, 1999). In 1975 the scheme was terminated as it was nationalized by the then land reform and the land was distributed to farmers and ex-workers. In 1985/86, it was reopened under the National Chemical Corporation of the day as Wondo Genet Essential Oils Production Project. It was given to Ministry of Industry upon the closure of the National Chemical Corporation and converted into a research center.

Currently the center is under Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization (EARO). It owns over 80 hectares of land which was about 4 hectares when it was started fifty years ago. It

took the land from Wosha Soyama *Kebele* by evicting about 50 households. The displaced households were given small and marginal lands by taking land from neighboring *Kebeles*.

Of all the land of the Center, plantation forest covers 48.26 hectares of which *Eucalyptus globules* (*nechi behirzef*) and *Eucalyptus citriodora* (*shitobehirzef*) constitute 43.76 and 4.5 hectares, respectively. Again on about 14 hectares of land three grass species, namely *Cymbopogon wintronus*, *Cymbopogon citratus* (lemon grass) and *Cymbopogon martinii* (palmaroza) are grown. The Center has also given 2.6 hectares of land to Ethiopian Traditional Medicine Project under Institute of Biodiversity Conservation and Research of Ethiopia (IBCR) on which they plant and protect different plants with medicinal values collected from different parts of the country. This land, thus, serves them as a field gene bank. The remaining land remains idle except some of it, which is built up area. As some of this unused land (about 8hectares) is not suitable for cultivation of grass species that could serve as raw materials for the production of essential oils, the Center intends to cover it with indigenous tree species of *podocarpus africanas*, *hagenia abyssinica* and *olea africana* among others for which it is preparing seedlings currently.

The main objective of the Center is conducting research on essential oils so as to come up with improved technology packages that could be marketed both in domestic and international markets. But to date, it manufactures only few essential oils using obsolete distillation unit (oil isolating machineries), which it uses for advertisement purpose.

3.1.4.4. Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Resort Hotel

In Wosha Soyama *Kebele*, there was a country house commonly known as royal palace serving the royal family when they paid visits to Wondo Genet. With revolution, the palace was confiscated and placed under the National Resource Development Enterprise till it was changed into a resort hotel under Wabi Shebelle Hotels Administration Enterprise (Zerihun, 1999).

In 1984 the Hotel started an upgrading scheme for which it required 42 hectares of land. To get that land about thirty-three households were asked to leave their land. However, only fifteen households left the area receiving about 6,165Birr as compensation for their houses and perennial crops in addition to land in other part of Wosha

Soyama whereas others failed to do so. Surprisingly, during 1991 even the displaced people returned back as the Hotel could not protect its land and the concerned government bodies were also reluctant to the issue.

Currently, the Hotel holds 54.4 hectares of land. The land use pattern of the Hotel is that most of this land is covered by natural and plantation forests. It also cultivates vegetables like potato, carrot, tomato, cabbage, onion, etc on about two hectares of land for its Restaurant. After longtime of interruption the Hotel currently has resumed reforestation and planted trees in 2004 at Belle (found in Gotu Onoma) and near the Main Hotel (located in Wosha Soyama).

3.1.5 Social and Demographic Characteristics

Different ethnic groups live in Wondo Genet area. The major ones are Sidama, Oromo, Walayita, Kambata, Hadiya and Amhara. According to Zerihun (1999), the private land tenure system before the Derg that had prevailed in the area, the introduction of cash crop production in the pre-1975 period and the Derg agrarian policy contributed in one way or another to ethnic diversity and high population density. This is because such situations had facilitated in-migration to the area. Only four *Kebeles* in Wondo Genet: Wosha Soyama, Gotu Onoma, Sheshe Kekele and Wotera Kechemma that occupy areas near to the Organizations support about 21,156 people while 10,941 people inhabit Abaro and Bachil Gigissa *Kebeles*. Mainly Oromos, on the other hand, inhabit Abaro and Bachil Gigissa. Population density is much higher in down slope *Kebeles* where it reaches up to 588p/ km² than up slope *Kebeles* (CSA, 1996; AZFEDD, 2004 and ESZFEDD, 2003).

People in Wondo Genet in general and Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma in particular, profess diverse religions: Protestant Christianity, Islam and Orthodox Christianity where as the majority of people living in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa are Muslims (AZFEDD, 2004, ESZFEDD, 2003, Zerihun, 1999).

3.2 Methods

3.2.1 Nature and Sources of Data

From both primary and secondary sources data were gathered for the study. The primary data are the data, which were obtained from the major Organizations and local people through structured questionnaire interview, unstructured interview and focus group discussion. Personal observation has also served as the primary source of data. On the other hand, various documents of the Organizations under study and certain relevant documents

from the sample *Kebeles*, Awassa Zuria, Shashemene and Kofele Districts' Offices, were used as secondary sources of data. Some of the data obtained from these different sources were quantitative while others are qualitative.

3.2.2 Sampling Frame, Sampling Techniques and Sample Size

All *Kebeles* in Wondo Genet area are identified and listed down from which two sample *Kebeles* (Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma both from Awassa Zuria District of SNNPR) were purposively taken. The two *Kebeles* were selected based on their proximity to the forest resources of major Organizations in the study area. In addition, two other *Kebeles* (Abaro and Bachil Gigissa from Shashemene and Kofele district, respectively) were purposively taken from among other *Kebeles* out of the 'proper' Wondo Genet area. These were selected as they are suspected to exert immense impact on the forests of the Organizations. Then after, complete lists of household heads of these sample *Kebeles* were obtained from *Kebeles*' Administration Offices. The numbers of household heads of each *Kebeles* were added together of which five percent (184) was determined as sample size. This sample size was proportionally distributed to the four *Kebeles* as shown in Table 3.1. From each *Kebeles*' total household heads, samples were taken through simple random sampling technique.

Table 3.1 Total household heads of the four *Kebeles* and sample size taken from them.

<i>Kebele</i>	* Total number of household heads	Size of sample taken (five percent of the total household heads)	Proportion of the total
Wosha Soyama	1430	71	0.386
Gotu Onoma	665	33	0.179
Abaro	1011	51	0.277
Bachil Gigissa	572	29	0.158
Total	3678	184	1.000

*Source: Abaro, Bachil Gigissa, Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama *Kebeles* Administration Offices'.

Moreover, from each of the sample *Kebeles* groups of elder, female, youth and landless were selected purposively. Group discussions were held with these groups of people using checklists. Interviews were also held with all major Organizations' key personnel using checklist. The Organizations' various written documents were used to get data on issues like employment. In addition, data pertinent to the study area were gathered from Awassa Zuria District Rural Development Bureau, Shashemene District Finance and Economic Development Office, and Kofele District Administration Office.

The field survey was conducted for five weeks between the last week of February and March 2005. Three enumerators, who knew local languages, including the researcher, were participated in conducting the structured interview. Between 30 to 45 minutes were spent on average per sample household. All the interviewed household heads were above eighteen years of age. About 91.3% of household heads were male while the remaining were female. Regarding their educational status about 34.2% of them are illiterate and the rest can at least read and write. About 95% of them were married while the rest are unmarried and widowed or widower. Their average household size was 8.3 (ranging between 7.3 for Wosha Soyama and 9.7 for Bachil Gigissa).

Most of the households (87.5%) were born and residing in the area through out their lives whereas the remaining 10.8% and 1.7 % stayed in the area for more than ten years and less than ten years, respectively.

3.2.3 Methods of Data Analysis and Interpretation

Different information gathered from secondary and primary sources were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The data were tabulated using absolute figures and percentages followed by qualitative analyses or descriptions. Certain data were simply discussed and analyzed qualitatively. In the thesis, Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 11.0) program was employed to analyze information gathered through structured questionnaire.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 Livelihoods of local people

Agriculture is the base of livelihood for the people residing in and around Wondo Genet area. This major economic activity has been, however, changing. Most people particularly in *kebeles* like Wosha Soyama have been moving away from mixed agriculture to cash crop productions, like sugarcane and *chat* because of the availability of irrigation water, and good market conditions. Moreover, other occupations such as trade and job opportunities in the Organizations are emerging. Of all sample household heads of *Kebeles* in Wondo Genet area, nearly 65 percent practice mixed agriculture while for most of the rest either of crop production, trade, and other (own small private business, being hired in the Organizations of the area, and daily labor) are the major occupations (Table 4.1). The majority of peoples of the sample *Kebeles* around Wondo Genet (Abaro and Bachil Gigissa), nonetheless, are entirely dependent on agriculture. For about 90 percent of the sample households of these two *Kebeles* mixed farming is the mainstay of their livelihood while the remaining sustain their households through crop production.

Table 4.1 Major occupations of sample households.

Kebele	Major Occupation								Total	
	Crop production		Mixed farming		Trade		Other (job in the Organizations, etc.)		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Gotu Onoma	10	30.3	21	63.6	1	3	1	3	33	100
Wosha Soyama	14	19.7	46	64.8	3	4.2	8	11.3	71	100
Abaro	5	9.8	46	90.2	-	-	-	-	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	3	10.3	26	89.7	-	-	-	-	29	100
Total	32	17.4	139	75.5	4	2.2	9	4.9	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

As it was learned from focus group discussions as well, to carry on their livelihoods household members engage themselves in diverse activities. Some of the households, who held either mixed agriculture or crop production as their major occupations, practice activities like fuelwood selling, trading, running own small businesses like shops and working as daily laborers.

Table 4.2 Additional income sources of sample households.

Kebele	Additional income source								Total	
	Selling fuel wood		Trading		Other (Working in Organizations, own small private business, etc.)		No additional income (But diversifying agricultural activities)			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	3	9.1	5	15.2	4	12.1	21	63.6	33	100
Wosha Soyama	6	8.4	7	9.8	12	16.9	46	64.8	71	100
Abaro	-	-	3	5.9	2	3.9	46	90.2	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	2	6.9	-	-	27	93.1	29	100
Total	9	4.9	17	9.2	18	9.8	140	76.1	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

As Table 4.2 shows, 24 percent of households acquire their additional income from fuelwood sell or trade and other activities. These activities are mostly confined to Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama than the rest two *Kebeles*. The remaining 76percent, on the other hand, do not engage in activities aforementioned. Rather they diversify their agriculture so as to meet the different needs of their families.

The sample households cultivate a number of crops: *enset*, maize, *chat*, *teff*, coffee and barley. In addition to this, vegetables like potato, cabbage, carrot, onion, and sweet potato are grown. Fruits like avocado and banana are also produced in *Kebeles* of Wondo Genet particularly, Wosha Soyama. However, all crops do not cover equal areas and also differ in their importance as staple and cash crops in the sample *Kebeles*. As the survey result and focus group discussions indicate in Gotu Onoma maize, *enset*, *teff* and potato and in Wosha Soyama *enset*, sugarcane, *chat* and maize are the major crops covering large areas. On the other hand, the sample households of both Abaro and Bachil Gigissa cover most of their farmland by *enset*, barley, maize and potato. Except *enset*, sugarcane and *chat* that are perennial crops, the peasants cover most of their farmlands alternately by the rest crops. For instance in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa *Kebeles*, people sow potato or maize during the first cropping season (from February/March to August) and barley in the second cropping season (from August to December).

The major staple crop of Wondo Genet area and its vicinity is *enset*. This is true with the entire sample *Kebeles*. Next to *enset*, maize, barley and *teff* are also important staple crops in different *Kebeles*. As Table 4.3 reveals, 65.2 percent of the total crop producers of the four *kebeles* use *enset* and maize crops as their staple crops. When each *kebeles* are considered separately, this percentage ranges between 55.2 % for Bachil Gigissa and 70.8% for Wosha Soyama. The rest of the households of Abaro and Bachil Gigissa depend on *enset* and barley. In Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama either *teff* and maize or *enset* solely and other crops serve the remaining households as staple.

Table 4.3 Two major staple crops of sample households.

Kebeles	Two major staple crops				Total
	<i>Enset</i> and maize	<i>Enset</i> and barely	<i>Teff</i> and maize	Other- <i>enset</i> , <i>enset</i> and sweet potato, etc.	

	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	19	57.6	-	-	8	24.3	6	18.2	33	100
Wosha Soyama	46	70.8	-	-	5	7.7	14	21.5	65	100
Abaro	35	68.6	16	31.4	-	-	-	-	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	16	55.2	13	44.8	-	-	-	-	29	100
Total	116	65.2	29	16.3	13	7.3	20	11.2	178	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

The households in Wondo Genet take different agricultural products to market. In Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma, items like sugarcane, chat, maize, potato, sweet potato, avocado and banana serve as the sources of income. However, in the two sample *Kebeles* out of Wondo Genet peasants bring mostly barley and potato to market. Some households also take Maize to market in the two latter *Kebeles*. In addition, currently vegetables like carrot and onion are introduced in these *Kebeles* as cash crops and it is the youngsters who mostly practice it.

Of the surveyed households of Gotu Onoma, Wosha Soyama, Abaro and Bachil Gigissa 70%, 73%, 92% and 90% rear livestock, respectively. These households rear cattle, sheep, goat and equines (horse and donkey particularly in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa). But the numbers of livestock they rear vary across the *Kebeles* as indicated in Table 4.4. In Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma 90.4% and 65.2% of the sample households that possess livestock, the number of livestock they keep is less than five while in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa 55.3% and 53.8% of the households have between 5-10 livestock, respectively. In the two latter *kebeles* even 6.4% and 15.4% of the remaining livestock tenders own more than ten livestock, in that order. So, households in Bachil Gigissa and Abaro keep more cattle than the rest two *kebeles*. This is because of the scarcity of land is more serious in Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama than in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa (Table 4.5). Particularly in Wosha Soyama peasants prefer cash crop production using the existing water resource on their very small land holdings (0.33 ha). Moreover, the *dega* agro-climatic type that prevails in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa is more favorable for equines like horse. So horses and donkeys are brought from other areas for transportation purposes to the *Kebeles* in Wondo Genet. In general, when the four sample *Kebeles* are considered the majority of the sample households who own livestock, have less than ten livestock.

Table 4.4 Number of livestock owned by sample households.

<i>Kebeles</i>	Number of livestock sample households rear						Total	
	Less than five		5- 10		More than ten		No	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Gotu Onoma	15	65.2	8	34.8	-	-	23	100
Wosha Soyama	47	90.4	5	9.6	-	-	52	100
Abaro	18	38.3	26	55.3	3	6.4	47	100
Bachil Gigissa	8	30.8	14	53.8	4	15.4	26	100
Total	88	59.5	53	35.8	7	4.7	148	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

Table 4.5 Average landholding size sample households.

Kebele	Average land holding size in hectares
Gotu Onoma	0.67
Wosha Soyama	0.33
Abaro	0.96
Bachil Gigissa	1.14

Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama	0.44
Abaro and Bachil Gigissa	1.02
Total	0.69

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

The major sources of animal feed are crop residue for 47.8% and 48.1% of households who keep livestock in Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma in that order (Table 4.6). For those in Abaro (40.4%) and Bachil Gigissa (46.2%), however, livestock mainly depend on own grazing land. This grazing land is not a permanent grazing land. Rather, farmers leave some part of their crop land in the vicinity of their compounds for grazing purpose which can be tilled when need arises. A combination of crop residue and own grazing are the major source of fodder for 31.9%, 38.5%, and 30.4% of the households of Abaro, Bachil Gigissa and Gotu Onoma, respectively. About 19.2% of sample households that rear livestock in Wosha Soyama use the forests of Organizations as the major sources of feed for their livestock after crop residue. In general, of all 148 sample households that tend livestock, those who depend on crop residue, own grazing land, and crop residue and own grazing land as main sources of fodder for their livestock are 31.8%, 25% and 25%, correspondingly.

Table 4.6 Major sources of fodder for livestock of the sample households.

Kebele	Major source of fodder for livestock														Total	
	Communal grazing land		Own grazing land (mostly fallow land around backyard)		Cut and carry grass and leaves from forests of Organizations		Crop residue (like ensen leaves, maize)		Graze in Organizations forest		Own grazing land and crop residue		Other- buying grazing land, etc.			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	1	4.4	-	-	2	8.7	11	47.8	2	8.7	7	30.4	-	-	23	100
Wosha Soyama	-	-	6	11.5	6	11.5	25	48.1	10	19.2	5	9.6	-	-	52	100
Abaro	-	-	19	40.4	-	-	8	17	-	-	15	31.9	5	10.6	47	100
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	12	46.2	-	-	3	11.5	-	-	10	38.5	1	3.8	26	100
Total	1	0.7	37	25	8	5.4	47	31.8	12	8.1	37	25	6	4	148	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

The agriculture, which is the base of livelihoods of most people in the study area, however, faces many problems. Of these problems land scarcity, expensiveness of agricultural inputs

like fertilizers and improved seeds, and reduction in soil fertility are worth mentioning. Land scarcity forces households to reduce their stocking numbers and the productivity of their animals. As one elder in Abaro *Kebele* has said, because of reduction in productivity “the amount of milk one cow produces these days is not enough to color a cup of coffee.”

Moreover, the amount of water for irrigation purpose in Wosha Soyama (where about 91.5% of the sample households, who cultivate crop, irrigate their land) and Gotu Onoma (where 18.2% of the sample households do have irrigation land) is declining (Table 4.7). Because of this, 33.4% and 61.5% of the households that have irrigable land face water scarcity in Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama, in that order. The major factors behind the problem as these farmers speculate are increase in number of Organizations that use water from the same source and change in microclimate of the area. This has brought problem to the cash crops they produce on which their livelihoods greatly depend.

Table 4.7 Major uses of irrigation land and factors for irrigation water scarcity.

Source: Field and Survey,	Kebele	Major uses of Irrigation Water								Factors for irrigation water scarcity households face							
		To produce cash crops		To produce staple crops		Do not have irrigation		Total		Micro climate change		Increase in number of users		No water scarcity for irrigation		Total	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	Gotu Onoma	6	18.2			27	81.8	33	100	1	16.7	1	16.7	4	66.6	6	100
	Wosha Soyama	63	88.7	2	2.8	6	8.5	71	100	6	9.2	34	52.3	25	38.5	65	100
	Abaro	-	-	-	-	51	100	51	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
	Bachil Gigissa	-	-	-	-	29	100	29	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
	Total	69	37.5	2	1.1	113	61.4	184	100	7	9.9	35	49.3	29	40.8	71	100

March 2005.

4.2 Forest Management Approach of Major Organizations

The four major Organizations in Wondo Genet area pursue more or less same type of approach to manage their forests as presented in the following subsections.

4.2.1 Wondo Genet College of Forestry

Wondo Genet College of Forestry has been trying to protect both plantation and natural forest resources it owns through coercive approach. It has campus guards (currently, 46 permanent and 36 contract) that protect its property including the forest. But most of its forest resource especially the natural forest is located further away from the built up area. This, among others, makes it unsuitable for protection by guards and as a result, it is left as some how 'open access resource'. This open access resource covers the valley and the hills of Abaro, and Bachil facing western direction and it is degrading at an alarming rate mainly because of illegal settlement and timber producers. In the forest bordering Bachil Gigissa and Abaro alone around 80 households have settled, most of them came from these two *kebeles* and *kebeles* of Awassa Zuria district. In addition, there are temporary settlers who come from *kebeles* in the area and other areas like Aleta Wondo and Wajagira and even from as far as North Shewa to produce timber. On the other hand, its plantation forest is found next to its built up area and it is in good state and serving as laboratory for the trainees of the college and research works.

There have been attempts to save the remaining forest from the college's side. It is well aware of the importance and role of local people in bringing sustainable resource management in general and forest conservation in particular. With this understanding, it has opened a social facilitator's office since August 2002 to strengthen the relationship between local people and the college so as to save its forest resource and pool together the communities' knowledge and scientific know-how it has to support development activities in the area. The office has conducted a number of consecutive meetings with elders, religious leaders and administrators of *Kebeles* surrounding the college. Through the meetings, the office has created a forum for the college and at least the aforementioned segments of communities in its vicinity. Moreover, in collaboration with elders, religious leaders and administrators of *Kebeles* situated in and around Wondo Genet, college guards and members of defense force made attempts to seize illegal timber producers that reside temporarily in its

forest. But the poachers they caught and handed over to police were released immediately. In this regard local people and Organizations in Wondo Genet including the College accuse the police and courts of Shashemene and Awassa Zuria districts for releasing illegal timber producers without punishing as per the law.

What makes matters worse is that local people could not stop forest poachers, particularly timber producers, as they are equipped with latest arms and do have strong links with urban based timber and woodwork merchants who also supply them with other logistics like transportation. These merchants do have strong ties, as to the strong conviction of participants of the focus group discussions, with others like checkpoint people. The existence of other outlets to Addis Ababa rather than via Shashemene like Kofele-Asela-Addis Ababa has helped to easily transport the illegally produced timbers. As a result, currently there is growing frustration among local people as the natural forest is depleting before their very eyes. Because of this disappointment, as it was learned from the focus group discussions in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa, many local people have started poaching from the forest before it will be totally cleared away by poachers who come from other areas.

In March 2005, being irritated with all the attempts made so far, the college in alliance with Shashemene district/ East Shewa Zone deployed a military force to get rid off the timber producers who have settled temporarily in the forest. The mission caused casualties though it has brought short respite for the remaining few old aged trees like *Aningeria adolfi fredric*. Nonetheless, the households settled in natural forest bordering Abaro and Bachil Gigissa *kebeles* are left aside and now they are quasi legal. District administrators seem to be reluctant to find ways to push them out.

In general, the approach the college has so far been pursuing has not brought so much success. Failure to punish the poachers when brought to court is the forefront reason local people and the Organizations cite for the absence of many success stories on the protection of forests of major Organizations in the area including that of WGCF. However, the College did not quit trying to exhaust other solutions to save its forest. Currently, it is undertaking very ambitious and huge research, which is, coined the name 'Development Oriented

Interdisciplinary Thematic Action Research (DOIT-AR)' assisted by Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The research covers three areas of which Wondo Genet area is one. In the area alone there are thirty-three projects, which are believed to lead to action or development activities that benefit local people in the area. The beneficiaries of the projects will, in the final analysis, develop the sense of belongingness towards the forest resource of the College that leads to sustainable management.

4.2.2 Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Resort Hotel

Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Resort Hotel has no systematic approach in use to manage the forest resource at its stake. However, it has few guards (ten permanent and 5 contract), who are hired mainly to protect the Hotel, to look after the forest nearer to the built up area. Thus, local people and people from other areas have been clearing its defenseless resource located further away from its built up area. Surprisingly, the Hotel does not even know how much area of natural and plantation forests it has to date. This shows how much unenthusiastic the Hotel is to save the forest that belongs to it from destruction. But the same forest has great role in the scenic beauty that attracts tourists to the area from which the Hotel collects money.

Moreover, the Hotel has very little and weak interaction with local people as it was learned from the survey of sample household heads and focus group discussions, which might have lessened the pressure on its resource. Its forest, particularly the natural forest, has been greatly degraded and it is only the one in its vicinity that is in good shape. The natural forest that covers the hilly area near the swimming pool of the Hotel is degraded to a large extent. In addition to this, its guards could not move back the people (fifteen households) who have already received compensation and surrendered their land to the Hotel previously, when they came and settle around 1991. It could not do anything in this regard as the concerned district and *Kebele* leaders also warned it not to hurry in pushing back the settlers. As a result, today these people lead a settled life though, as the manger of the Hotel stated, they see the Hotel as their enemy which will bring trouble to them sooner or later.

4.2.3 Wondo Genet Essential Oils Research Center

The Center conserves its plantation forest that serves for the production of essential oils through the use of guards. Currently, the Center has three permanent and nineteen contract guards. It has been trying to establish strong protection system. But still people cut its forest resource to acquire wood for fuel and construction purposes and also for sale to subsist their family on. In many instances poachers were jailed although the police and the court released the culprits without penalty. This condition encourages people to break in to the plantation of the Center.

In any case the forest of the Center seems to be in good condition as compared with that of other Organizations. This is so, as its forest is confined to the vicinity of the built up area and as a result, guards could patrol it.

4.2.4 State Forest/ Former Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development Project

Up on receiving the operation area of Munessa Shashemene State Forestry Development established in Wondo Genet in 1996, the Awassa Zuria District Agricultural Bureau did not undertake significant forestry development for at least the first two years. During this time, however, a project proposal document was prepared and Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development, which was a five-year project from 1998 to 2003, came into being. The major objectives of the project include: rehabilitating and conserving the remaining natural forest, establishing and managing plantation forest on degraded areas, introducing participatory forest management system where local people play key role and derive benefits that help development of the area.

The approach being pursued by the project to protect its forest was to teach local people about the importance of the forest so as to manage the forest themselves. It has hired few forest guards (six) to facilitate the management of the resource. Nonetheless, the management is not successful mainly because of the acute shortage of farmland in Wondo Genet that creates strong desire to clear the forest to get farmland. In addition, illegal timber producers do have great role in depleting the natural and plantation forests of that project.

Institutional instability (the transfer of ownership) also disfavored the establishment of strong system that can bring long lasting management approach of this resource.

The project had made much effort to stop degradation of the forest. In collaboration with *Kebele* leaders it tried to catch and bring illegal timber producers to court. The culprits, however, have been released through bribe and other mechanisms and resume degrading the resources. Another attempt made to avert this gloomy scenario was to bring elders, locally well-known and respected individuals and *Kebele* leaders to come up with a way out though it was a futile exercise. The project phased out leaving the problems related to the management of that resource unsolved or its objectives unmet.

Currently many major problems have faced the Natural Resource Development and Protection Desk under the Rural Development Office of Awassa Zuria District that owns and tries to take care of both natural and plantation forests. Firstly, many people are establishing settlement in its natural forest and also clearing it for cultivation. The District administrators are not willing to cooperate with this Desk to drive out illegal settlers mainly because of fear of losing votes of these households in the upcoming (May 2005) election. Secondly, the Desk has no full-fledged authority on the forest resources. It can sell trees that cover up to only five hectares of land. Beyond this limit, it is the duty of regional Agricultural and Rural Development Bureau to sell depending on the management plan prepared by the District's Desk of Natural Resource Development and Protection. So far, 188 (68ha of Eucalyptus found around Belle and 120ha of *Cupressus lusitanica*) hectares of forest are ready to be sold and management plans were prepared for and sent to the regional bureau as of 2004. The total estimated value of this resource upon selling was 3.195 million Birr (2.445 million Birr for the *Cupressus lusitanica* and 0.75 million Birr for Eucalyptus). Of this income a quarter would be allocated for the development of local people as per the document governing the use of the forest. Nonetheless, the Bureau could not exhaustively search for market and sell it. With time passing, the density of those trees is decreasing because of high exploitation by forest poachers. This can be witnessed when one sees woods from its eucalyptus plantation around Belle area transported by carts and carried by people to Shashemene early in the mornings and evenings.

Thirdly, this State Forest, as that of WGCF's, is located on border between two regions as mentioned in the background section of this thesis. There is strong fear among the districts' administrators to take strong measures against illegal timber producers and settlers. This is because there has been old-age conflict between the Oromo (Arsi) and the Sidama people. These people are now under different districts that border each other. The latter inhabit the Awassa Zuria while the former live in Kofele and Shashemene districts. Thus, when some illegal timber producers, say from Bachil Gigissa would be caught in the forest and imprisoned in Awassa some people particularly the illegal settlers and timber producers agitate others in their respective *Kebele* to stand against the Sidama people and the opposite happens when illegal timber producers from Awassa Zuria district would be caught and imprisoned in either Shashemene or in Kofele. The fear is that the false accusation may lead the two people into conflict. The fear is right, as the wound of fierce conflict between the two people in 1992 has not faded away from the minds of many in the area.

Lastly, the Desk could not get committed concern from the sides of districts police and judiciary systems, which is true with WGCF and WGEORC, and this hampered the activities it undertakes in protecting the forest. The culprits or forest encroachers are released from prisons in few days without any punishment. When they get back they harass the *Kebele* administrators and other people who have handed them in for imprisonment and even about two people in Abaro left the *Kebele* in fear of the harassment. The people particularly in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa do have great fear of the illegal timber producers. They hush up information about these people. This is because they believe that the encroachers do have the capacity to do everything including killing any one against them. Again in one way or another, one or more of kin or members of a given tribe or household in the area start participating in deforestation and hushing up is a mechanism to cover up. Such situation has to be expected, as there is strong tribal bond in the area.

As a result of the above major problems, the Natural Resource Development and Protection Desk of Awassa Zuria District is disappointed and it is simply waiting for what to come. But degradation of its resource is continuing at a faster rate as that of the other major Organizations.

4.3 Benefits to Local People from Forest Management Approaches of Major Organizations, Participation and Future Prospect

Local people perceive that the approach Organizations follow in managing their forests is not bringing benefits to them. It is also an ineffective approach where the participation of local people has received little attention. They hold large forestlands they could not protect. Being under their control, the vulnerability to degradation of this resource has been high. On the other hand, they do not allow local people to satisfy their basic needs like fuelwood, to cut and carry grass for their livestock and wood for house construction among others.

As the result of survey of household heads reveals (Table 4.8), only 1.6 percent of the sample households reported that their members have got permission only to collect firewood from the forest of WGCF. Also the members of equal percent of interviewed households are allowed to collect firewood, cut and carry grass and graze livestock in that forest. These benefits are not officially granted to local people. Rather only certain households, who have close link with guards, do have such rights. Moreover, the communities feel that they are ignored from the management of the forest of this Organization. That is why only 8.2 percent of the total households who, in one way or another, participate in the consecutive meetings the Social Facilitator Office of the College prepared consider themselves as participating in the protection of the forest. The remaining sample household heads did neither participate in the management of the forest nor get benefits that emanate from the management approach of the college.

A similar picture is observed when the benefits that arise to local people from the forest management approach of the State Forest or the former WGYPPFD project is considered. Here about 2.7% and 3.3% of the sample households have reported that their members have got permission to collect firewood, and cut and carry grass, collect firewood from and graze livestock in that forest, respectively. Again the permission is because of acquaintance with forest guards. It is only 4.3 percent of the interviewed households that have participated in the protection of the forest and planting of seedlings. Those who are allowed to receive the above benefits and participate in the protection of the forest are all from Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma. Coming to Essential Oils Research Center and Wabi Shebelle Hotel, 2.2% and 1.1% of the sample households (all from Wosha Soyama) have been allowed to collect fuel wood, graze livestock and cut & carry grass from its forest, in that order. None of the sample household heads assumed themselves as participating in the protection of the forests of these two Organizations.

As a result of little benefits to local people that spring from the management approach of the major Organizations, communities in the area enter the forests illegally to obtain different benefits like collecting fuel wood, cutting trees for house construction and timber production. Others also encroach into the forest to graze livestock and cut and carry grass. As it is shown in Table 4.9, 17.4% of the sample households have reported that their members do enter illegally in at least one of the forests of the Organizations. Coming to each sample *kebeles*, 30.3%, 16.9%, 13.7%, and 10.3% of the total sample households of Gotu Onoma, Wosha Soyama, Abaro and Bachil Gigissa use illegally the forests of at least one of the Organizations, respectively. Of the total household heads whose household members' illegally use the forests (32 household heads), 46.9% collect fire wood for own consumption and sell, 25% cut wood to produce timber, 12.5% graze livestock in the forest 9.4% cut wood for construction purpose and 6.3% cut and carry grass from the forests. As it was learned from the focus group discussions charcoal making is also practiced in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa though it is not supported by the field survey.

In the area, though the majority of the interviewed households (58.7%) depend on their woodlots or remnant trees on their agricultural land as their major source for construction purpose, the remaining 34.3% and 7% buy from others and use from the Organizations' forests, respectively. When the major sources of fuelwood of sample households are considered, similar pattern is observed. The majority of them depends on own woodlots and crop residues while the rest buy from market and collect from the forests of Organizations. One has to be aware that the main source of wood brought to market is also from the Organizations forests.

Table 4.8 Sample households' participation in forest management and benefits to their members from the forest management approaches of major

Kebele	Benefits from and participation in WGCF's forest management approach										Benefits from and participation in WGYFDF's forest management approach									
	collect fuel wood		collect fuel wood, graze and cut & carry grass		participate only in the forest protection		Do not participate in forest management & drive no benefit		Total		collect fuel wood		collect fuel wood, graze and cut & carry grass		participate in the forest management (planting and protecting)		Do not participate in forest protection and drive no benefit		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	3	9.1	1	3	3	9.1	26	78.8	33	100	3	9.1	4	12.1	2	6.1	24	72.7	33	100
Wosha Soyama	-	-	2	2.8	7	9.9	62	87.3	71	100	2	2.8	2	2.8	6	8.5	61	85.9	71	100
Abaro	-	-	-	-	4	7.8	47	92.2	51	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	51	100	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	-	-	1	3.4	28	96.6	29	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	100	29	100
Total	3	1.6	3	1.6	15	8.2	163	88.6	184	100	5	2.7	6	3.3	8	4.3	165	89.7	184	100

Organizations.

Table 4.8 continued.

Kebele	Benefits from and participation in WGEORC's forest management approach						Benefits from and participation in WGWSH's forest management approach					
	to collect fuel wood, graze and cut & carry grass		Do not take part in the forest management and utilization		Total		to collect fuel wood & graze livestock		Household members do not participate in forest management and drive no benefits		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	-	-	33	100	33	100	-	-	33	100	33	100
Wosha Soyama	4	5.6	67	94.4	71	100	2	2.8	69	97.2	71	100
Abaro	-	-	51	100	51	100	-	-	51	100	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	29	100	29	100	-	-	29	100	29	100
Total	4	2.2	180	98	184	100	2	1.1	182	98.9	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

The use of forest illegally to obtain wood for fuel and construction, and graze are mostly practiced by those people in Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma whereas all of those in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa use it to get wood for timber production and construction purposes. Of all households using from the forests without permission, about 70% in Gotu Onoma collect firewood and cut trees for construction while 83.3% in Wosha Soyama collect firewood and graze livestock. One point worth mentioning here is that, in the case of Abaro and Bachil Gigissa, mere physical isolation, as they occupy the top of hills of Abaro and Bachil Gigissa, whose steep escarpments are covered by the forests of Organizations, renders low suitability to graze livestock in the forest.

Table 4.9 Sample households whose family members use from the forests of major Organizations illegally and types of uses.

Kebele	Households				Total		Type of uses										Total	
	Do enter and use from the forest without permissions of Organizations		Do not enter without permission		No.	%	Wood for fuel to consume at home and / or for sell		Wood for construction		Graze livestock in the forest		To cut and carry grass		Wood for timber production		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Gotu Onoma	10	30.3	23	69.7	33	100	4	40	3	30	1	10	-	-	2	20	10	100
Wosha Soyama	12	16.9	59	83.1	71	100	7	58.3	-	-	3	25	2	17	-	-	12	100
Abaro	7	13.7	44	86.3	51	100	3	42.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	57.1	7	100
Bachil Gigissa	3	10.3	26	89.7	29	100	1	33.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	66.7	3	100
Total	32	17.4	152	82.6	184	100	15	46.9	3	9.4	4	12.5	2	6.3	8	25	32	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

The survey result also reveals that most of the sample household heads knew people in their respective *kebeles* who poach from the forests of the Organizations. As Table 4.10 indicates, 81% of the sample households (75.8%, 81.7%, 88.2% and 72.4% for Gotu Onoma, Wosha Soyama, Abaro and Bachil Gigissa, respectively) knew people who use illegally from the forests. As to the respondents, most of these people are the landless (34.9%); people who have link with urban-based timber merchants (32.2%), and people that live on forests fringes

(16.1%). The rest are those who could not produce sufficient crops to subsist their household year round (10.1%) and women and children (6.7%).

Table 4.10 Sample household heads that knew person/s in their respective *kebeles* who use illegally from the forests of Organizations and the category of these people.

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

Kebele	Households				Total		Types of people who mainly poach from the forests' of Organizations										Total	
	know someone using illegally from the forests of Organizations		Do not know any one		No.	%	Landless		People who have link with urban based timber merchants		People who could not produce enough to subsist their family		Women and children		People live on the forest fringes		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Gotu Onoma	25	75.8	8	24.2	33	100	6	24	5	20	7	28	4	16	3	12	25	100
Wosha Soyama	58	81.7	13	18.3	71	100	25	43.1	11	19	3	5.2	10	17.2	9	15.5	58	100
Abaro	45	88.2	6	11.8	51	100	16	35.6	21	46.7	-	-	-	-	8	17.8	45	100
Bachil Gigissa	21	72.4	8	27.6	29	100	5	23.8	11	52.4	-	-	1	4.8	4	19	21	100
Total	149	81	35	19	184	100	52	34.9	48	32.2	10	6.7	15	10.1	24	16.1	149	100

While using from the forests of the Organizations without permission, some of the sample households and persons, they knew in their *kebeles*, were caught. As it is clearly shown in Tables 4.11 and 4.12, 28.1% and 69.8% of the households and persons known to them in the *kebeles* were caught when they use the forests illegally, in that order. The Organizations could not catch the remaining poachers. The big variation between the above two figures (percentages) emerges as one person caught while poaching from the forest could be known to many of the sample household heads. Some of the members of sample household heads who have ever been caught by the Organizations were released soon through begging the guards (55.6%) while the rest were jailed and paid penalty (44.4%).

Table 4.11 Measures taken against sample household members who were caught by the Organizations while using the forest without permission.

<i>Kebele</i>	Households using illegally from the forests				Total		Type of measures taken against poachers				Total	
	Caught		Were not caught				Jailed and paid penalty		Begged forest guards and released			
	No.	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	3	30	7	70	10	100	1	33.3	2	66.7	3	100
Wosha Soyama	4	33.3	8	66.7	12	100	1	25	3	75	4	100
Abaro	2	28.6	5	71.4	7	100	2	100	-	-	2	100
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	3	100	3	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	9	28.1	23	71.9	32	100	4	44.4	5	55.6	9	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

In four of the sample *kebeles* the percentages of household heads whose family members were caught when illegally using from the forests of the Organizations are lower, ranging from zero percent in Bachil Gigissa to 33.3% in Wosha Soyama. Of those caught households, most of them in Gotu Onoma (66.7%) and Wosha Soyama (75%) were released soon by begging forest guards while those in Abaro (100%) were jailed and paid penalty. On the other hand, the percentages of households who reported that the person/s they knew in their *kebeles* as poaching from the forests were caught, range between 42.9% for Bachil Gigissa and 82.2% for Abaro. As to what had happened to these people, 56.7%, 10.6%, and 3.8% of the sample household heads witnessed that the poachers bribed officers of prisons or begged forest guards & were released, jailed and paid penalty, and only paid penalty, respectively. For the four *kebeles* separately, the percentages of households that reported the poachers bribed prison officers or begged forest guards and released range between 47.1% for Gotu Onoma and 67.6% for Abaro.

Table 4.12 Measures taken against other people known to sample household heads in their respective *kebeles* who were caught by the Organizations while using the forest without permission.

Kebele	Illegal users of forests known to households				Total		Measures taken against poachers known to households who were caught								Total	
	Caught		Were not caught				Did not hear what happened to them after jail		Jailed and released		Jailed and paid penalty		Bribed officers and /or begged guard & released			
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	17	68	8	32	25	100	6	35.3	-	-	3	17.6	8	47.1	17	100
Wosha Soyama	41	70.7	17	29.3	58	100	16	39	4	9.8	-	-	21	51.2	41	100
Abaro	37	82.2	8	17.8	45	100	5	13.5	-	-	7	18.9	25	67.6	37	100
Bachil Gigissa	9	42.9	12	57.1	21	100	3	33.3	-	-	1	11.1	5	55.6	9	100
Total	104	69.8	45	30.2	149	100	30	28.8	4	3.8	11	10.6	59	56.7	104	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

The sample household heads do have different stands as to the appropriate measures so as to manage the forests of the Organizations. Some (22.8% in Table 4.13) consider jailing poachers and forcing them to pay penalty as the best way to address deforestation problem in the area. But others (34.8%) argue that putting in prison and penalizing in terms of money even aggravates the problem. This is because these people when released cut more trees to replace the property they sold to pay the penalty. As to the latter group, teaching, creating job opportunities, alternative sources of wood for fuel and construction are the best way that would lead to sustainability. The majority of the sample household heads (42.4%), however, favor the application of both methods to solve the problem, as shown in Table 4.6. In general, most people in all the four *kebeles* least favor the application of pure jailing and punishing poachers in terms of money. Rather teaching and the creation of alternatives are proposed as the best approach to be pursued to get rid of the pressing problem by 45.5% and 41.2% of the sample household heads of Gotu Onoma and Abaro, in that order. On the other hand, about 57.7% and 51.7% of those interviewed household heads in Wosha Soyama and Bachil Gigissa, respectively, suggested the application of coercive measures (jail and penalty) after the provision of education and alternative sources of wood for fuel and construction and job opportunities as best approach for the sustainable management of forests of the Organizations.

Table 4.13 Methods proposed by sample household as to the best way of managing forests of Organizations.

Kebele	Method Households propose (in number and percent)						Total	
	Penalty and jail		Teaching and creating alternatives		Teaching and creating alternatives and coercive			
	No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	10	30.3	15	45.5	8	24.2	33	100
Wosha Soyama	9	12.7	21	29.6	41	57.7	71	100
Abaro	16	31.4	21	41.2	14	27.5	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	7	24.1	7	24.1	15	51.7	29	100
Total	42	22.8	64	34.8	78	42.4	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

4.4 Organizations–Related Opportunities and Problems to Local people in Wondo Genet Area

The coming of Organizations into Wondo Genet area has many implications on the livelihood of local people. Some of the implications are positive while others are negative from the perspectives of the community. In subsequent subsections, the opportunities and problems local people have been facing are discussed.

4.4.1 Opportunities

The major Organizations considered in the study have been generating certain opportunities to local people that include job opportunities and other benefits like the provision of seedlings, potable water and schools.

4.4.1.1 Job Opportunities

4.4.1.1.1 Magnitude

Though the magnitude varies, the four major Organizations have been hiring local people. To begin with WGCF, since 1978, it had hired about 627 permanent and contract workers (Table 4.14) of which 14.2% and 2.4% were from Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma, respectively. The majority of the remaining workers were from other parts of the country (44.5%). There were also employees from other parts of Awassa Zuria, Shashemene and Kofele districts. Throughout its history the college did not hire a single individual from the rest two sample *kebeles*.

Table 4.14 Number of permanent and contract employees hired by WGCF from 1978-2004.

Place of Permanent residence on employment date	Employees in number and percent	
	No.	Percent
Wosha Soyama	89	14.2
Gotu Onoma	15	2.4
Abaro	0	0
Bachil Gigissa	0	0
Other part of Awassa Zuria District	91	14.5
Other part of Shashemene District	46	7.3
Other part of Kofele District	10	1.6
Other part of the Country	279	44.5
Unidentified ²	97	15.5
Total	627	100

Source: Archive of WGCF, March 2005.

As it is shown in Table 4.15, of the total permanent and contract employees of the College, from 1998/9 up to 2003/4, each year 11% to 18.6% came from Wosha Soyama while those who came from Gotu Onoma ranged between 5.3% and 6.2%. Over these years, the proportions of workers coming from these *kebeles* had shown increasing trends. Of the remaining workers, between 10.7% - 14.4%, 5.2% - 8.3% and 2.5% - 2.8% came from other parts of Awassa Zuria, Shashemene and Kofele districts during the period considered, respectively.

Table 4.15 Permanent and contract employees of WGCF by permanent residence on employment date.

Year E.C	Wosha Soyama		Gotu Onoma		Abaro		Bachil Gigissa		Other part of Awassa Zuria district		Other part of Shashemene district		Other part of Kofele district		Other part of the country		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
1998/9	18	12.3	8	5.5	-	-	-	-	21	14.4	8	5.5	4	2.7	87	59.6	146	100
1999/0	17	11	9	5.8	-	-	-	-	20	12.9	8	5.2	4	2.6	97	62.6	155	100
2000/1	16	10.5	8	5.3	-	-	-	-	20	13.2	10	6.6	4	2.6	94	61.8	152	100
2001/2	38	17.6	12	5.6	-	-	-	-	26	12	17	7.9	6	2.8	117	54.2	216	100
2002/3	38	16.7	12	5.3	-	-	-	-	27	11.8	17	7.5	6	2.6	128	56.1	228	100
2003/4	45	18.6	15	6.2	-	-	-	-	26	10.7	20	8.3	6	2.5	130	53.7	242	100

Source: Archive and Budget and Finance Department of WGCF, March 2005.

The total number of permanent and contract employees of WGEORC were 29 in 1994/5 that grew to 46 in 2003/4. Each year the majority of employees of WGEORC, unlike that of WGCF came from Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma as it is shown in Table 4.16. Nonetheless, the proportions of workers from these *kebeles* had decreased from 65.5% and 20.7% in 1994/5 to 47.8% and 13% in 2003/4, respectively. The proportions of employees from other areas including other parts of Awassa Zuria district showed increasing trends. There were no employees from Shashemene and Kofele districts as well as from the two sample *kebeles* of the districts working in that Organization.

²The files of these workers are incomplete that make the identification of their places of permanent residence on employment date difficult.

As Table 4.17 shows, during the period from 2000/1 to March 2005, of the total employees of Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Hotel, 19.5% to 35.5 % were from Wosha Soyama while 22% to 15.3% came from other parts of Awassa district. The rest 58.5% to 40.7% of its workers came from other parts of the country during the same period. The proportions of people from Wosha Soyama had shown an increasing trend while there were decreasing trends for those coming from other parts of Awassa Zuria and other parts of the country. There was no one from Abaro, Bachil Gigissa, Gotu Onoma, other parts of Shashemene and Kofele districts, who was hired by the Hotel during the years considered.

Table 4.16 Permanent and contract employees of WGEORC by permanent residence on employment date.

Year E.C	Wosha Soyama		Gotu Onoma		Abaro		Bachil Gigissa		Other part of Awassa Zuria district		Other part of Shashemene district		Other part of Kofele district		Other part of the country		Total	
	No.	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
1994/5	19	65.5	6	20.7	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	4	13.8	29	100
1995/6	19	65.5	6	20.7	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	4	13.8	29	100
1996/7	20	64.5	6	19.4	-	-	-	-	1	3.2	-	-	-	-	4	12.9	31	100
1997/8	20	60.6	6	18.2	-	-	-	-	2	6.1	-	-	-	-	5	15.2	33	100
1998/9	20	58.8	6	17.6	-	-	-	-	2	5.9	-	-	-	-	6	17.6	34	100
1999/0	20	55.6	6	16.7	-	-	-	-	3	8.3	-	-	-	-	7	19.4	36	100
2000/1	22	56.4	6	15.4	-	-	-	-	3	7.7	-	-	-	-	8	20.5	39	100
2001/2	22	55	6	15	-	-	-	-	3	7.5	-	-	-	-	9	22.5	40	100
2002/3	22	55	6	15	-	-	-	-	3	7.5	-	-	-	-	9	22.5	40	100
2003/4	22	47.8	6	13	-	-	-	-	3	6.5	-	-	-	-	15	32.6	46	100

Source: Archive of WGEORC, March 2005.

Table 4.17 Permanent and contract employees of WGWSH by permanent residence on employment date.

Year E.C	Wosha Soyama		Gotu Onoma		Abaro		Bachil Gigissa		Other part of Awassa Zuria district		Other part of Shashemene district		Other part of Kofele district		Other part of the country		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%	No	%	No.	%	No	%
2000/1	8	19.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	22	-	-	-	-	24	58.5	41	100
2001/2	8	19.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	22	-	-	-	-	24	58.5	41	100
2002/3	8	18.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	20.9	-	-	-	-	26	60.5	43	100
2003/4	24	40.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	15.3	2	3.4	-	-	24	40.7	59	100
March 2005	24	35.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	19.1	2	2.9	-	-	29	42.6	68	100

Source: Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Hotel, March 2005.

The State Forest/ former WGYFPD project had no permanent workers so far. It has been employing workers from Awassa Zuria District's Agricultural and Natural Resource Development Office. The workers of this Office dwell on the coordination and administration matters while the temporary workers hired perform most of the duties (nursery, planting seedlings, protecting the forest, etc.) in the field. As Table 4.18 reveals, most of the temporary workers hired by this Organization were from Wosha Soyama (50% – 42.4%) followed by those from other parts of Awassa Zuria district (27.3% - 36.4%) and Gotu Onoma (19.5% - 24.3%). Through that period the trend of number of employees coming from these areas was not clear cut as it did neither continuously increased nor decreased. Most of these workers had stayed at work for nine months in a year, from November to July and the figures indicated in the Table are average number of employees hired in one month during that period. Of the total workers of the State Forest no one came from Abaro and Bachil Gigissa.

Table 4.18 Temporary employees of State Forest/ former WGYFDF Project by permanent residence on employment date.

Year E.C	Wosha Soyama		Gotu Onoma		Abaro		Bachil Giggissa		Other part of Awassa Zuria district		Other part of Shashemene district		Other part of Kofele district		Other part of the country		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1998/9	19	46.3	8	19.5	-	-	-	-	14	34.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	41	100
1999/0	33	47.8	14	20.3	-	-	-	-	22	31.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	69	100
2000/1	9	50	4	22.2	-	-	-	-	5	27.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	100
2001/2	11	50	5	22.7	-	-	-	-	6	27.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	100
2002/3	17	46.0	9	24.3	-	-	-	-	11	29.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	100
2003/4	14	42.4	7	21.2	-	-	-	-	12	36.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	100

Source: Archive of Awassa Zuria District's Agricultural and Natural Resource Development Office, March 2005.

In addition to contract and permanent workers, WGCF and WGEORC hire temporary employees in large numbers. Particularly in the case of the latter Organization the number of temporary workers has been greater than its contract and permanent workers. As it is shown in Table 4.19, in a year between 88.1% - 94.7% and 2.6 %- 6.4% of the total temporary workers of WGEORC came from Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma during the period from 1995/6 to 2003/4. The remaining workers came from other parts of the country including Awassa Zuria district.

However, it was difficult to obtain correct data on the number of temporary workers hired in the past by WGCF, as their full document had not been filed. In any case, throughout its history the College has been hiring many temporary workers of which some were from the local communities. For instance, in 1999 the college had about 100 temporary employees and most of them were from the communities in its vicinity (Zerihun, 1999). Currently, the College has about 205 temporary workers of which 55.6% and 19.5% are from Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma, in that order. The rest of them have come from other parts of the country including Awassa Zuria and Shashemene districts as Table 4.20 reveals.

Table 4.19 Temporary employees of WGEORC by permanent residence on employment date.

Year E.C	Wosha Soyama		Gotu Onoma		Abaro		Bachil Gijissa		Other part of Awassa Zuria district		Other part of Shashemene district		Other part of Kofele district		Other part of the country		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1995/6	35	92.1	1	2.6	-	-	-	-	1	2.6	-	-	-	-	1	2.6	38	100
1996/7	60	90.9	3	4.5	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	1.5	66	100
1997/8	63	85.1	3	4.1	-	-	-	-	6	8.1	-	-	-	-	2	2.7	74	100
1998/9	69	92	4	5.3	-	-	-	-	2	2.7	-	-	-	-	0	0	75	100
1999/0	62	93.9	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	1.6	-	-	-	-	1	1.5	66	100
2000/1	59	88.1	2	3	-	-	-	-	5	7.5	-	-	-	-	1	1.5	67	100
2001/2	71	94.7	3	4	-	-	-	-	1	1.3	-	-	-	-	0	0	75	100
2002/3	70	89.7	5	6.4	-	-	-	-	2	2.6	-	-	-	-	1	1.3	78	100
2003/4	46	90.2	3	5.9	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	51	100

Source: Archive of WGEORC, March 2005.

Table 4.20 Temporary employees of WGCF by permanent residence on March 2005.

Year E.C	Wosha Soyama		Gotu Onoma		Abaro		Bachil Gijissa		Other part of Awassa Zuria district		Other part of Shashemene district		Other part of Kofele district		Other part of the country		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
April 2005	114	55.6	40	19.5	-	-	-	-	29	14.1	16	7.8	-	-	6	2.9	205	100

Source: Personnel Department of WGCF, March 2005.

The Organizations believe that they have been hiring many people from communities in their vicinity. Nonetheless, the household survey result reveals that beneficiaries of job opportunities of the Organizations are not significant. As indicated in Table 4.21, only 8.7%, 2.2% and 1.6% of the total sample household head's members got job opportunities in WGCF, WGEORC and the former WGYPFD project, respectively. Of the interviewed household heads, no one got their members being hired by Wabi Shebelle Hotel. On the other hand, about 47.8%, 31.5%, 12.5% and 29.3% of the interviewed sample households knew at least one person in their *kebeles* who had got job in the past or work currently in WGCF, WGYPFD, Wabi Shebelle Hotel and WGEORC, in that order. The remaining sample households knew no one in their *kebeles* who worked in the past or is working currently in these organizations.

When we compare the Organizations, WGCF is the first in generating job opportunities to local people followed by WGEORC, WGYPFD project and Wabi Shebelle Hotel. The percentages of contract and permanent workers from nearby *kebeles* hired at WGCF are lower mainly because most of the jobs require special skill or training which the local people lack. But in absolute figures, they are higher than the rest of the Organizations. Moreover, the high proportion of temporary workers from neighboring *kebeles* coupled with job opportunities with Contractors that have been coming for construction purposes at different periods made the sample households and participants of focus group discussion to put the College first. In the case of Wabi Shebelle Hotel, though currently the proportion of workers from the local communities is mounting, the number of workers from the community was lower as the head office of Wabi Shebelle Hotels Enterprise at the Center hires workers or transfers from other sister Hotels and sends to the one in Wondo Genet and that made it least among the Organizations in generating employment opportunities to the community.

The two *kebeles*, Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma benefited more from the job opportunities generated by the Organizations. In the case of Abaro and Bachil Gigissa *Kebeles*, a single person was not hired at the major Organizations. In addition to factors sample households mentioned, as discussed in the later part of this chapter, physical isolation has played some role in making the job opportunity they received from the Organizations nil. In general, however, the community does feel that the Organizations have not been creating enough job opportunities for them.

As it was learned from focus group discussions, the beneficiaries of most of the job opportunities created were not those people who have stayed long in the area. Rather they are people who come from other areas in search of job opportunities that stay in small towns like Wosha and some of the Organizations even prefer to hire these people. Though the heads of Organizations reject the allegation, some of the workers of the Organization do have firm stand that at least in the past the Organizations were doing what local people said.

Table 4.21 Job opportunities the Major Organizations' generated to members of sample households and other peoples.

Kebele	Job opportunities by WGSF								Job opportunities by State forest/ former WGYFD project								Job opportunities by WGSW						Job opportunities by WGEORC							
	To household members in past and/ or currently		To other people in the kebeles in past &/or currently		Did neither create for the household members nor for others		Total		To household members in past and/ or currently		To other people in the kebeles in past &/or currently		Did neither create for the household members nor for others		Total		To household members in past and/ or currently		Did neither create for the household members nor for others		Total		To household members in past and/ or currently		To other people in the kebeles in past &/or currently		Did neither create for the household members nor for others		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	4	12.1	29	87.9	-	-	33	100	1	3	11	33.3	21	63.6	33	100	9	27.3	24	72.7	33	100	1	3	16	48.5	16	48.5	33	100
Wosha Soyama	12	16.9	59	83.1	-	-	71	100	2	2.8	47	66.2	22	31	71	100	14	19.7	57	80.3	71	100	3	4.2	38	53.5	30	42.3	71	100
Abaro	-	-	-	-	51	100	51	100	-	-	-	-	51	100	51	100	-	-	51	100	51	100	-	-	-	-	51	100	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	-	-	29	100	29	100	-	-	-	-	29	100	29	100	-	-	29	100	29	100	-	-	-	-	29	100	29	100
Total	16	8.7	88	47.8	80	44	184	100	3	1.6	58	31.5	123	66.8	184	100	23	12.5	161	87.5	184	100	4	2.2	54	29.3	126	68.5	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

4.4.1.1.2 Types of jobs and amount of wages

The types of jobs that have been made available to local people include guard, janitor and agricultural works. As Table 4.22 shows, 64.7%, 17.6%, 11.8% and 5.9% of the household heads whose members are working currently in the Organizations work as daily laborers, in agriculture, as guards and janitors, respectively. The amount of money they earn vary between five Birr per day to about 300 Birr per month. The majority of them, (64.7%), earn five Birr per day while 23.5 % and 11.8% of the remaining earn seven Birr per day and between 201 and 300 Birr per month.

Coming to those households whose members were hired by the Organizations in the past, 50%, 33.3%, and 16.7% of them were working as daily laborers, in agriculture and as guards as Table 4.23 indicates. The amount of money they were earning ranged between 1.9 Birr per day to 150 Birr per month.

Table 4.22 Types of jobs and amount of wages households get currently from Organizations.

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

From Tables 4.22 and 4.23 one can easily understand that though the types of jobs local people engaged in have been kept similar, the amount of money they earn has shown an increasing trend. This is also observed during secondary data collection period from the Organizations.

Kebele	Types of jobs										Amount of wages									
	Daily laborer		Agriculture works		Janitor		Guard		Total		5Birr/day		7Birr/ day		100-150Birr/ month		201-300Birr/ month		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%	No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No	%
Gotu Onoma	2	50	1	25	-	-	1	25	4	100	3	75	1	25	-	-	-	-	4	100
Wosha Soyama	9	69.2	2	15.4	1	7.7	1	7.7	13	100	8	61.5	1	7.7	-	-	4	30.8	13	100
Abaro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11	64.7	3	17.6	1	5.9	2	11.8	17	100	11	64.7	2	12	-	-	4	23.5	17	100

Table 4.23 Types of jobs and amount of wages households did get in past from the Originations.

Kebele	Type of jobs								Amount of wages							
	Daily laborer		Agriculture		Guard		Total		1.90 Birr/ day		3Birr/ day		100-150Birr/ month		Total	
	No	%	No.	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	1	50	1	50	-	-	2	100	-	-	1	50	1	50	2	100
Wosha Soyama	2	50	1	25	1	25	4	100	1	25	2	50	1	25	4	100
Abaro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	50	2	33.3	1	16.7	6	100	1	16.7	3	50	2	33.3	6	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

4.4.1.1.3 Major Factors for low job opportunities with Organizations

Local people are dissatisfied with the current level of job opportunities the Organizations provide. They do think that the Organizations could hire more people than they have hired so far. Of the interviewed household heads, 90.8% of them do have the stand that local people do not get enough job opportunities while the rest (all of them from Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma) are satisfied with what the Organizations render today. Those people who are dissatisfied with the current level of employment opportunities the Organizations generate mention many reasons why the Organizations could not open up ample opportunities for local people. As it is shown in Table 4.24, the major reasons cited include the tendency to hire people from one district, i.e. Awassa Zuria (36.5%), lack of necessary skills and training (24.6%), unwillingness of the Organizations to hire local people (21.6%), and lack of information (17.4%).

Across the sample *kebeles* the major reasons for failure of the Organizations to satisfy local people in generating job opportunities seem to vary. For those in Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama combined together, the preferences to hire people from other parts of the country and urban areas (39.1%) and lack of necessary skills and training to fit to the vacant posts(35.6%) are the major reasons why the Organizations did not provide ample job opportunities to local people.

Table 4.24 Major reasons sample households cited why many local people do not get enough job opportunities in the Organizations.

Kebele	Major reason Cited								Total	
	Lack of information		Unwillingness of the Organizations to hire local people		Lack of skills		Hire local people only from their district		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Gotu Onoma	5	17.2	11	37.9	13	44.9	-	-	29	100
Wosha Soyama	17	29.3	23	39.7	18	31	-	-	58	100
Abaro	5	9.8	2	3.9	6	11.8	38	74.5	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	2	6.9	-	-	4	13.8	23	79.3	29	100
Total	29	17.4	36	21.6	41	24.6	61	36.5	167	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

However, for more than 70% of the sample household heads in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa, the major reason why people in their *kebeles* did not get any job opportunities is that the Organizations hire only those people from their district, i.e. Awassa district. Lack of necessary skills and training and information were mentioned as the second and third major reasons for the absence of people being hired in the Organizations. Also from the focus group discussions held in these two *kebeles*, it was learned that some people even do not know the availability of job opportunities in the Organizations. The participants of these discussions also revealed that they do have very loose interactions with the Organizations, as their districts are different.

4.4.1.2 Other Opportunities/Benefits and Potentials

There are other benefits some of the four major Organizations render to certain people in their vicinity. These include the provision of seedling, school and potable water services.

As it was learned from focus group discussions and results of the household survey (Table 4.25), of the Organizations, WGCF renders many types of benefits to some local people. Of the total sample households, 13% of them received seedlings while 45.1% of them knew at least a person in their *kebeles* who got the same service from the College. Moreover, 3.8 % and 2.7% of the interviewed households obtained school service and potable water and school services, respectively. The remaining 35.3% of the interviewed household heads, on the other hand, received neither of such benefits nor knew a person receiving the benefits.

There is variation in the magnitude and types of other benefits the *kebeles* receive when considered separately. Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama are the most favored in getting the aforementioned benefits mainly because of their strategic locations, i.e., very close and no geographical barrier. More than 80% of the sample household heads of these two *kebeles* either received one of the benefits or knew a person in their *kebeles* receiving the benefits. In Abaro and Bachil Gigissa, nonetheless, only few sample households received seedling or knew persons who received seedlings from the College. The provision of seedling is also a recent phenomenon in the area. They received it last year from the Social Facilitator Office of the College as part of creating link between

the College and nearby community. The seedlings were deposited at one site in each of the *kebeles* and *kebele* leaders were responsible to disseminate for free. But, as it was learned from focus group discussions, the administrators and people close to them took seedlings of 'good' species like coffee for themselves. Also some of the households were forced to buy the seedlings.

However, the rest three major Organizations in the area bring very meager or no other benefits to local people. It is only the former Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development that rendered seedlings to 7.1% of the sample households while the Wabi Shebelle Hotel allowed 0.5% of the interviewed household heads to bath in its hot spring. The remaining households neither received additional benefits nor heard of people in their *kebeles* receiving such benefits. Thus, the Essential Oils Research Center particularly, renders no other benefits to local people.

As it was learned from focus group discussion, currently WGCF has also started allowing some households in Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama to take crop (maize) residues that serve them as energy source. Previously, the College burned it on its farmland. It also facilitated the reopening of irrigation channel that passes through its compound by negotiating with people that used to cut it off. This water has rendered suitability to some land to be irrigable in Gotu Onoma. But Organizations like WGEORC, as local people complain, do sell dry woods and tree branches rather than giving to local people for free.

Table 4.25 Other benefits to local people generated by the major Organizations.

Kebele	Other benefits WGCF rendered												Other benefits State forest / former WGYFPD rendered						Other benefits Wabi Shebelle Hotel rendered						Other benefits Essential Oils Research Center rendered			
	Seedlings to members of the sample household		Seedlings for other people in the Kebele		Pipe water and school services to sample household members		School service to other people in the kebele		Create nothing neither to the household nor for other people		Total		Seedlings to members of the sample household		Create nothing neither to the household nor for other people		Total		Allow the members of household to take bath in its hot spring		Create nothing neither to the household nor for other people		Total		Create nothing neither to the household nor for other people		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	3	9.1	17	51.5	5	15.2	2	6.1	6	18.2	33	100	3	9	30	90.9	33	100	1	3	32	97	33	100	33	100	33	100
Wosha Soyama	12	16.9	44	62	-	-	5	7	10	14.1	71	100	10	14.1	61	85.9	71	100	-	-	71	100	71	100	71	100	71	100
Abaro	4	7.8	14	27.5	-	-	-	-	33	64.7	51	100	-	-	-	-	51	100	-	-	51	100	51	100	51	100	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	5	17.2	8	27.6	-	-	-	-	16	55.2	29	100	-	-	-	-	29	100	-	-	29	100	29	100	29	100	29	100
Total	24	13	83	45.1	5	2.7	7	3.8	65	35.3	184	100	13	7.1	171	92.9	184	100	1	0.5	183	99.5	184	100	184	100	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

There are also people, who are confident that the Organizations can do something for their household members if they are willing. As it is indicated in Table 4.26, about 20.7%, 11.4%, 8.7% and 2.2% of the interviewed household heads think that the Organizations can create job opportunities, provide seedlings, construct road and clinic, and pipe water for their households, respectively. But others (53.8%) do think that the Organizations are not capable to perform anything for their household members, as they did not see the Organizations doing something so far for the household.

Table 4.26 Expectation of sample households from the major Organizations to do for their household members.

Kebele	Major expectations of households														Total	
	Create jobs		Render seedlings		Set up potable water		Help in electricity installation		Render Education on soil erosion and flood control		Others (road, clinic)		Can do nothing			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	13	39.4	-	-	-	-	3	9.1	2	6.1	-	-	15	45.5	33	100
Wosha Soyama	16	22.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	77.5	71	100
Abaro	7	13.7	12	23.5	4	7.8	-	-	-	-	7	13.7	21	41.2	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	2	6.9	9	31	-	-	-	-	1	3.4	9	31	8	27.6	29	100
Total	38	20.7	21	11.4	4	2.2	3	1.6	3	1.6	16	8.7	99	53.8	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

There is variation in the type of benefits the household heads think the Organizations are capable of rendering or doing for their households, across the *kebeles*. In Gotu Onoma about 55.6% of the household heads think that the Organizations can create job opportunities or render electricity service or teach how to control soil erosion and flood problems to their household members while the remaining 45.5% of them consider the Organizations as incapable of doing anything for their households. In Wosha Soyama expectations of the sample households is very low, as only 22.5% of the interviewed households think the Organizations can create job opportunities for their members and the remaining 77.5% are pessimistic about the ability of the Organizations. In Abaro and Bachil Gigissa the majority of households think that the Organizations are capable of doing many things for their members and *kebeles* that range from seedling provision to the construction of road and clinic. Only 41.2% and 27.6% of the interviewed households in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa are hesitant on the ability of the Organizations in doing something of great benefit to their members, respectively.

The most striking picture one can see from Table 4.26, is that more people in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa *kebeles*, who have received least benefits from the Organizations perceive them as capable of doing bigger things like constructing road for their households and their *kebeles*. The expectations, in any case, indicate the pressing problems of the *kebeles* face. For instance, Abaro and Bachil Gigissa people like most to see the construction of all weather road that connect their *kebeles* to Shashemene to transport bulky products like potato. They are also

eager to have clinic in their *kebeles* that can mitigate the problems of taking patients using carts pulled by donkeys.

There are also potential areas that could be opened up to create benefits for local people. For instance, people could be taught to produce items salable to tourists that visit the area. Moreover, in *kebeles* like Wosha Soyama most people are cash crop (sugarcane, *chat*) producers, which bring much money to them at a time. Nonetheless, the farmers use up the money extravagantly. The provision of business education can help these people to switch to saving that paves the way for future investment, which may absorb the booming population size in the area. In addition, either good market could be searched for these products or the Organizations help the local people to establish a plant that process the sugarcane produced in the area.

4.3.2 Problems with the coming of Organizations

The coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet has brought not only benefits to local people but also problems. These include scarcity of resources like agricultural land, water, and forest among others. Nonetheless, the type and degree to which sample household heads face the problems vary.

As to the result of household survey shown in Table 4.27, 35.8% of the sample household heads think that their members face agricultural land scarcity because of the presence of these Organizations in the area. Some of them also held responsible the Organizations for the shortage of wood for fuel and construction (8.7%), for the harassment while passing through the forests to market and other places (7.1%) and for shortage of irrigation water (1.1%). The remaining households (47.3%), most of them from Abaro and Bachil Gigissa and located distant from the Organizations, mention no problems related to the coming of Organizations to the area.

Table 4.27 Perceived problems associated with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet area.

Kebele	Type of major problem households faced										Total	
	Land scarcity		Scarcity of wood for fuel and construction		Water scarcity		Harassment while going to market, and other places via the forests		No problem			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gotu Onoma	16	48.5	4	12.1	1	3	2	6.1	10	30.3	33	100
Wosha Soyama	32	45.1	9	12.7	1	1.4	4	5.6	25	35.2	71	100
Abaro	12	23.5	1	2	-	-	5	5.9	33	64.7	51	100
Bachil Gigissa	6	20.7	2	6.9	-	-	2	6.9	19	65.5	29	100
Total	66	35.8	16	8.7	2	1.1	13	7.1	87	47.3	184	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

People in Gotu Onoma and Wosha Soyama faced land scarcity as they lost some land to the Organizations directly or indirectly. While lands were taken from some farmers and given to the Organizations what happened was that nearby *kebeles* were forced to accommodate the displaced ones. That way the community was made to feel the expropriation of land from them by the Organizations. Here it is worth mentioning that the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet is not the sole factor for land scarcity. But in-migration to the area and high natural increase are also responsible. Regarding those in Bachil Gigissa and Abaro, they felt land scarcity not

because of displacement by the Organizations. Rather they assume that some of the Organizations occupied the land to where their offspring could move to have farmland when they get married.

As to what attempts have been made so far to mitigate the abovementioned problems, gloomy scenario is revealed. Only a few sample household heads have witnessed that the Organizations made very little attempts. As Table 4.28 clearly shows, 7.2% of the interviewed households considers the creation of job opportunities by the Organizations as an effort to get rid of the problems arise with their arrival. The remaining sample households do have the stand that the Organizations did nothing to at least lessen the impact of the problems the communities have been faced with their coming. The focus group discussions held in the area are also in line with the view revealed from the sample survey.

Table 4.28 Attempts made to solve problems faced by households with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet area.

Kebele	Type of attempts made				Total	
	Create job opportunities		Did nothing		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Gotu Onoma	2	8.7	21	91.3	23	100
Wosha Soyama	5	10.9	41	89.1	46	100
Abaro	-	-	18	100	18	100
Bachil Gigissa	-	-	10	100	10	100
Total	7	7.2	90	92.8	97	100

Source: Field Survey, March 2005.

Moreover, most of the Organizations do have the stand that they have made little attempts to create close link between them and the communities to look into the problems created with their coming to the area. Even the attempts were not fruitful. For instance, the former WGYPPFD project had the objective to use the money it would earn from the sale of its plantation forest for the development of local people. Also it had a plan to establish sawmill in the area that could have generated job opportunities. But before accomplishing any of its objectives the project phased out and its successor also could not do something up to now. Regarding WGEORC and WGWSH, they had no plans to deal with the mitigation of the problems local people faced. The former Organization even has the stand that it has created ample job opportunities to local people in addition to cooperating with local people during emergencies in lending their cars (which the other Organizations do too) and allowing certain people close to its workers to take bath in its hot spring sometimes. But for the local people the benefits it has generated is like a drop of water on to the ocean.

Wondo Genet College of Forestry seems to be the one, which is highly concerned with the issue of lessening the problems that have emerged in the area. To this end, it has established the Office of Social Facilitator with the main objective of bringing the local people and the College together to halt natural resource degradation and support development activities in the area. It has been arranging a number of meetings with the elderly, religious leaders and *kebeles* administrators so as to halt forest degradation. With the coming of the Office, local

people have started getting some benefits like the provisions of seedling, and crop residues. However, the degradation of its forest did not stop and again major benefits did not render to local people.

5. Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Summary and Conclusions

People of Wondo Genet base their livelihoods mainly on agriculture (92.9%). They produce diverse crops and the types of crops grown in different parts of the area differ. Households in Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma cultivate crops like sugarcane, *chat*, and potato and fruits like avocado for market whereas those in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa are producing barely and potato largely for the same purpose. In the area, for most of the households *enset* is the staple crop though many other crops are used in addition. Livestock rearing is also practiced in the study area. The number and types of livestock tended are higher in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa than the other two *kebeles* because of severe grazing land scarcity among others. The other major problems that face the agricultural activities in the area include scarcity of farmland, irrigation water, and high prices of fertilizers and high yielding variety seeds. Most households sustain themselves through crop diversification and livestock production. But others cultivate some crops and engage themselves in certain other activities like daily labor, working in the Organizations, running private small business and fuel wood selling. On the other hand, 7.1% of the sample households entirely depend on non-agricultural activities like trading, running small private businesses and working in the Organizations.

The major Organizations in Wondo Genet area: WGCF, WGEORC, WGWSH and the former WGYPPD/ the State Forest claim a good amount of land, which is mainly covered by natural and plantation forests. They have been trying to conserve their forest resources. The management approach they have been pursuing in protecting their forest resources is characterized by coercive and partly absence of well thought management system. They hire few guards that can only manage to safeguard the forest located nearer to built up area of the Organizations except the State Forest that lack built up area. Most of their remaining resources are left as 'open access resource' where one can settle and produce timber with 'semi legal status' among others. Such situation has led the forest to serious degradation. Also there exist little effective cooperation from the sides of neighboring district administration, judiciary, police and checkpoints to catch and prosecute the culprits of forest destructors.

Of the major Organizations, WGCF and the State Forest have been attempting to consult with elders, religious leaders and administrators of some *kebeles* in the area to seek means to halt forest degradation. But their efforts so far have hardly brought success stories. As the result, particularly the latter Organization currently seems to be so frustrated and reached the point of quitting exerting effort to negotiate with the aforementioned segments of the community to protect its forest. The former one, however, is trying to exhaust the way out that range from the use of force (as a short run solution) to doing researches that will lead to actions which impact on the livelihoods of local people. The forest of WGEORC like the plantation forest of WGCF is at good state currently compared to other forests in the area. But the natural forest of WGCF, both natural and plantation forests of former WGYPPD and the forest of WGWH are in the worst conditions.

Sense of belongingness is also lacking from most of the local people regarding the forests of the Organizations. This is because little benefits have emanated to them from their management approach. Only about 3.2%, 6%, 2.2% and 1.1% of the interviewed households were allowed informally either to collect firewood, or graze livestock or cut and carry grass or to get two or all of these benefits from the forests of the WGCF, State Forest, WGEORC and WGWSH, respectively. Again a small number of sample households feel as participating in the management of these forests (8.2% for WGCF and 4.3% for the State Forest). To satisfy their needs for wood for fuel, construction and timber, grazing livestock and to cut and carry grass, 17.4% of the interviewed households do illegal use from the forests of the Organizations. The use of forest illegally to obtain wood for fuel and construction, and graze are mostly practiced by those people in Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma whereas all of those in Abaro and Bachil Gigissa use it to get wood for timber production and construction purposes. Moreover, 81% of the interviewed households knew at least one person in their respective *kebeles* who use illegally from the forests. The type of people known to them as using from the forests without the consent of the Organizations include the landless in the *kebeles* (34.9%), people who have link with urban based timber merchants (32.2%), people who live on forest fringes (16.1%). About 28.1% of households reported that their member/s who were poaching from the forests were caught by the Organizations whereas 69.8% of the interviewed households knew other people in their *kebeles* poaching from the forests who were caught. Of the households and people known to them in their respective *Kebeles* caught by the Organizations while poaching, 55.6% and 56.7%, respectively were released either through begging or bribing forest guards and prison officers. Some of the remaining were jailed for some time and penalized in monetary too.

Nonetheless, the Organizations have created job opportunities for local people. The types of jobs they made available to the local people are mainly temporary daily works where payments are low. The amount of jobs made available to local people vary across the four Organizations where WGCF stands first in hiring many people from its vicinity followed by WGEORC, the State Forest and WGWSH, in that order. The proportion of workers from local people has shown an increasing trend in the case of WGCF and WGWSH (low in absolute figure) while it showed a declining trend in WGEORC and the State Forest during the period considered. But these opportunities were not given equally to the four sample *Kebeles*. Of these *kebeles*, Wosha Soyama has been benefiting most followed by Gotu Onoma. These *kebeles* were also the direct victim of the coming of Organizations to the area as they lost land to the Organizations. From the rest two *kebeles* a single individual was not hired in the Organizations. The job opportunities the major Organizations generated to local people is considered as insufficient. The main reason why the Organizations did not hire many people, as to respondents are preference of the Organizations to hire only from their district (36.5%), lack of necessary skill and training (24.6%), preference of the Organizations to hire urban people and people from other areas (21.6%) and lack of information (17.4%).

The College is also rendering school and water services to some households among others, unlike other Organizations. Certain households also received seedlings from WGCF (13%) and the State Forest (7.1%). Moreover, some households think that the Organizations are capable of creating more job opportunities (20.7%),

rendering seedlings (11.4%) and assisting in infrastructural development activities like road, clinic, electricity and water services (12.5%) if the Organizations are willing. The remaining 53.8% of sample households, however, are considering the Organizations as incapable of doing nothing for their members/ *kebeles*.

With the coming of the Organizations certain households faced scarcity of land (35.8%), wood for fuel and construction (8.7%) and water (1.1%) and harassment while making journey via the forests (7.1%). Little attempt has been made so far in solving these problems. They have created some job opportunities that may lessen the impact of scarcity of land. Wondo Genet College of Forestry alone has started giving crop residues for fuel wood for some people in Wosha Soyama and Gotu Onoma and also reopened irrigation water to some people in the latter *kebele*. The problems remained intact and have created unease relationship between the Organizations and local people.

The communities in the area are dissatisfied with the opportunities generated to them by the Organizations. Also their participation in the management of forests is very minimal which is limited mainly to assisting in forest protection and the Organizations alone could not protect their forests effectively. And regarding the best method to be pursued in the management of the forests of the Organizations, households least favored (22.8%) jailing and penalizing in monetary terms. Rather, 34.8% of the households suggested teaching and creating awareness, creating alternative sources of wood for construction and fuel, and job opportunities to local people. The remaining 42.4% of households noted that after such measures are taken, jailing and penalizing can be considered to manage the forests sustainable.

In nut shell, the management approach Organizations pursued so far to protect their forests could not yield much success as it was coercive and ignored the participation of local people. Also communities in the area mostly do have negative attitudes toward the Organizations because of very little benefits they received from the Organizations and problems arise with their arrival.

5.2 Recommendations

Based on the findings of this thesis, the following recommendations are given as solutions to promote sustainable forest management through the improvement of livelihoods of local people in the area:

1. In the short run, coercive approach seems sound to be maintained because many people in the area start involving themselves in using illegally from the forests and till participatory forest management approach will be introduced and well-established, the remaining forest depletes away.
2. The Organizations should target local people particularly the landless and people in one way or another affected by their arrival to the area in providing job opportunities.
3. Effective collaboration among nearby districts and the Organizations and among the Organizations themselves should be developed so as to conserve the forest resources in the area.
4. The College has to be the forefront in bringing the Organizations together to save the forests in the area as it has the know how than the rest and also started exhausting the way out to stop the degradation of forest resource.
5. The Organizations have to think over rendering some benefits that can address the needs of local people like fuel wood, allowing free bathing in the hot springs on certain dates for those who want it for medicinal purpose as this can help them to get support and trust from local people sides.
6. The Organizations have to at least play a facilitating role and/ or contribute in certain infrastructural development activities like (road, clinic, water and electricity) in the area that will help them win the acceptance and support of communities in their vicinity to protect their forest.
7. To improve the livelihood of local people and lessen their impact on the forests, the Organizations should assist local people in identification and utilizations of potentials of the area like eco-tourism.
8. As fast as possible, the Organizations have to resort to management approaches that involve people not only in the protection of their forests but also in sharing benefits. This will bring sustainable forest management and also help the development of livelihoods of local people.

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Annexes

Annex I Survey Questionnaire for Household Heads

Introduction: The researcher is one of the students of Addis Ababa University participating in a graduate program in regional and local development studies. As a partial requirement for the completion of the program he is undertaking a research on the *Prospects of Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Livelihood Development in Wondo Genet Area*. The purpose of this questionnaire is to capture first hand information on local livelihood, opportunities communities obtaining from Organizations in the area and on other related issues. All questions to be asked are purely for academic purpose. Your individual answers will be kept strictly confidential. The answers from all respondents will be anonymously combined in the research analysis and no reference will be made to you in particular. Therefore, please feel free to respond to the questions to the best of your knowledge so as to realize the objective of this study which will be a futile exercise without your whole hearted cooperation.

Thank you in advance for your collaboration.

Name of enumerator _____	Date/Month/	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Time begin (local time)		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Time end (local time)		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Identification Number of the respondent _____		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

General Instruction:

1. Circle as appropriate and write the circled number in the box in front of each question.
2. Write on the blank space or in the box given for those questions require doing so.

1. Household location

1.1 Region				<input type="checkbox"/>	
1. Oromia	2. SNNPR				
1.2 Zone					
1. Sidama	2. East Shoa	3. Arsi		<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.3 District					
1. Awasa Zuria	2. Shashemene	3. Kofele		<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.4 Kebele					
1. Wosha Soyama	2. Gotu Onoma	3. Abaro	4. Bachil Gigissa	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.5 How many years have you lived in the area? (E.g. 01, 02, 03, etc; 99 for less than one year and 88 for lifetime)				<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

2. Basic Information About the Respondent

2.1 Age		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2.2 Sex				
1. Male	2. Female			<input type="checkbox"/>

- 2.3 Marital status
 1. Married 2. Unmarried 3. Separated 4. Divorced 5. Widowed
- 2.4 Family size
- 2.5 Educational status (literate= 99, Illiterate= 88, and write 01, 02, 03, etc for grades completed)
- 2.6 Religion of the household head
 1. Muslim 2. Protestant 3. Orthodox 4. Others (specify _____)
- 2.7 Ethnicity of the household head
 1. Sidama 2. Oromo (Arsi + Guji) 3. Kambata 4. Walayita 5. Hadiya
 6. Guraghe 7. Amahara 8. Others (specify _____)
- 3. Household Resources and Means of livelihood**
- 3.1 Does the household own land?
 1. Yes 2. No
- 3.2 If the answer for **Q No 3.1 is yes**, what is the total size of your family plot?
 (in ha. use decimal number such as 0.25, 0.5, etc)
- 3.3 What is the major occupation of the household?
 1. Crop production 2. Animal husbandry 3. Mixed Farming 4. Trading
 5. Fuel wood selling 6. Pit sawing 7. Other (specify _____)
- 3.4 Does your household produce crops?
 1. Yes 2. No
- 3.5 If the answer for **Q No 3.4 is yes**, rank the major crops the household produces based on:
- 3.6 Does your household own livestock?
 1. Yes 2. No

Type of crop	Land covered	The amount of production	Their importance as staple food	The amount of money the household gets by selling	Remark
Maize					
Chat					
<i>Teff</i>					
Sugarcane					
Potato					
Wheat					
<i>Enset</i>					
Barley					
Others-specify-					
1.					
2.					
3.					

3.7 If the answer for **Q No 3.6 is yes**, what type of and how many livestock does the household rear?

Type of livestock	Yes=1 No =2	If yes how many?	Remark
Ox			
Cow			
Donkey			
Horse			
Goat/ Sheep			
Other (Specify)			
1.			
2.			

3.7.1
What is the major source of animal

feed for the livestock of this household?

1. Communal grazing
2. Around backyard
3. Household own grazing land
4. Cut and carry grass or fodder plants from forests owned by Organizations
5. Crop residue
6. Grazing in the forest owned by Organizations
7. Other (Specify) _____

3.8 What is the major problem that faces the agriculture of this household?

1. Shortage of farmland
2. Soil fertility reduction
3. Scarcity of grazing land
4. Lack of grazing land
5. Expensiveness of agricultural inputs (fertilizer/ improved seeds)
6. Market problem
7. Other (specify) _____

3.9 Does your household have supplementary income? 1. Yes 2. No

3.10 If the answer for **Q No 3.9 is yes**, what is the major supplementary income source?

1. Crop production
2. Animal husbandry
3. Mixed Farming
4. Trading
5. Fuel wood selling
6. Pit-sawing
7. Other (specify) _____

3.11 If the answer for **Q No 3.10 is 5 or 6**, what is the major source of wood for these activities?

1. Own plantation/ homestead
2. Kebele/Community forest
3. Organizations' forest
4. Other (specify) _____

3.12 Does any member of the household make charcoal? 1. Yes 2. No

3.13 If the answer for **Q No. 3.12 is yes** what is the major source of wood for charcoal making?

1. Own plantation/ homestead
2. Kebele/Community forest
3. Organizations' forest
4. Other (specify) _____

3.14 What is the major source of wood for fuel-wood for the household?

1. Own plantation/ homestead
2. Kebele/Community forest
3. Organizations' forest
4. Other (specify) _____

3.15 What is the major source of wood for construction purpose for the household?

1. Own plantation/ homestead
2. Kebele/Community forest
3. Organizations' forest
4. Other (specify) _____

3.16 Does the household have irrigated land? 1. Yes 2. No

3.17 If the answer for **Q No 3.16 is yes**, which crops the household does grow mostly using this land?

1. Cash crops (Chat or sugarcane)
2. Vegetables
3. Staple-crops
4. Others (specify) _____

3.18 If the answer for **Q No 3.16 is yes**, has the household faced water scarcity for irrigation? 1. Yes 2. No

3.19 If the answer for **Q No 3.18 is yes**, what is the major reason for irrigation water scarcity?

1. Decrease in rivers volume because of microclimate change
2. Increase in number of farmers using the water
3. Increase in the number or Organizations using the same water
4. Others (specify) _____

4 Opportunities Organizations create for local people

A. Job Opportunity

4.4 If the answer for **Q 4.1 is yes**, what type of job was it?

Name of the Organization	4.1 Did any member of this household get Job opportunity in past in.....? Yes = 1, No = 2	4.2 Is there at least one member of this household working currently in.....? Yes = 1, No = 2	4.3 Have you heard of someone working in past or currently in..... from your Kebele? Yes = 1 No= 2	
			In past	Currently
WGCF				
WGYPFD				
WGWSH				
WGEORC				

1. Daily laborer 2. Guard 3. Cleaner 4. Gardener 5. Driver

6. Other (Specify) _____

4.4.1 How much did he/she earning?

1. 3 Birr/ day 2. 5 Birr/day 3. 100- 150 Birr/ month 4. 151- 200 Birr/month

5. 201- 300 Birr/ month 6. 301- 400 7. Other (specify) _____

4.5 If the answer for **Q 4.2 is yes**, what type of job is it?

1. Daily labor 2. Guard 3. Cleaner 4. Gardener 5. Driver

6. Other (Specify) _____

4.5.1 How much is he/she earning?

1. 3 Birr/ day 2. 5 Birr/day 3. 100- 150 Birr/ month 4. 151- 200 Birr/month

5. 201- 300 Birr/ month 6. 301- 400 7. Other (specify) _____

4.6 Do you think many local people are getting job opportunities in these Organizations?

1. Yes 2. No

4.7 If the answer for **Q No 4.6 is No**, what is major reason?

1. Lack of information 2. The Organizations do not want to hire local people

3. Local People don't want to engage themselves in the low status works the _____ Organizations provide

4. Lack of skills and trainings 5. Other (specify) _____

B. Other Opportunities/Benefits

Name of the Organization	Type of Opportunities Yes=1, No =2							
	4.8 The household has got seedlings from.....	4.9 The household has got training on how to use the money he/she gets from cash crop sell from.....	4.10 The household has got training on resource management from	4.11 The household is introduced to the research output of	4.12 The household is advised to produce items salable to tourists coming to the area by.....	4.13 The household has got training on modern irrigation from.....	4.14 The house hold get potable water service from.....	4.15 The member of the household gets schooling service from...
WGCF								
WGYPFD								
WGWSH								
WGEORC								

4.16 Have you heard of any person around in your *kebele* receiving such benefits?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

4.17 If the answer to **Q No 4.16 is yes**, which ones?

Name of the Organization	Type of Opportunities Yes=1, No =2							
	Seedlings	Training on how to use money from cash crop sale	Training on resource conservation and management	Made to apply research output of the Organization/s	Advice on items to be produce to sale to tourists	Training on modern irrigation	Potable water service	School service
WGCF								
WGYPFD								
WGWSH								
WGEORC								

4.18 In your opinion what can these Organizations do for your household? Please list for each of the four Organizations separately. -

5. Organizations' resource management approach

5.1 Elements of Resource Management

Name of the Organization	Elements of Resource Management			
	Yes=1, No =2			
	5.1.1 The household can collect dead trees from the forest/landholds with permission.	5.1.2 The household can graze his/her cattle in forest/ landowns with permission	5.1.3 The household can cut and carry grasses for its livestock from the forest/ land of..... with permission	5.1.4 The household participates in the management of the forest/land holds with permission
WGCF				
WGYPFD				
WGWSH				
WGGEORC				

- 5.2 Does the members of the household use from the forests of the Organizations without permission?
 1. Yes 2. No
- 5.2.1 If the answer for **Q No. 5.2 is yes** the household encroach into these forests to serve mainly which purpose?
 1. Firewood from the forest 2. Construction wood from the forest
 3. Cut trees for charcoal making from the forest 4. Cut trees for pit sawing
 5. Encroach into forest to graze your livestock
 6. Cut and carry grass for your livestock from the forest 7. Other-specify _____
- 5.2.2 If the answer for **Q No. 5.2 is yes**, were the Organization/s caught that member of the household?
 1. Yes 2. No
- 5.2.3 If the answer for **Q No 5.2.2 is yes**, what happened to him/her?
 1. Jailed 2. Paid penalty 3. Given education
 4. Other -Specify _____
- 5.3 Have you heard of any illegal encroachment to the forest of the Organizations by people from your Kebele?
 1. Yes 2. No
- 5.3.1 If the answer for **Q No. 5.3 is yes**, who do illegal encroach into the forest?
 1. Landless people
 2. People who have connections with timber merchants in nearby towns
 3. People who could not produce what the household requires for a year
 4. The rich in the kebele 5. Women and children 6. The whole community
 7. Other (specify) _____
- 5.3.2 If the answer for **Q.No 5.3 is yes**, were the illegal encroachers caught by one of the Organizations?
 1. Yes 2. No 3. Did not hear
- 5.3.3 If the answer for **Q. No. 5.3.2 is yes**, what has happened to them?
 1. Jailed 2. Paid penalty 3. Given education
 4. Did not hear 5. Other (Specify) _____
- 5.4 Do you think that jailing and penalizing in monetary terms, those people using illegally from the forests

of the major Organizations are the best way of managing these resources?

1. Yes 2. No 3. I do not know.

5.5 If the answer for **Q No. 5.4 is yes**, what do you think should be done to manage sustainably the forest resource held by the major Organizations / is the best way of managing this forest?

6. Problems

6.1 What major problems faced this household with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet?

6.1.1 What major attempts were made so far to resolve these problems?

6.1.1.1 Which of these attempts were successful?

6.1.1.2 Which of these attempts were not successful?

6.1.1.3 Why these attempts were not successful?

6.1.2 What possible solutions do you suggest to overcome the remaining problems?

Annex II Semi- Structured Questions for Major Organizations

1. How much land this Organization owns? What are the land use types of the Organization?
2. What approach this Organization has been pursuing to manage/ conserve the forest at its stake?
 - a. Was it an effective approach?
 - b. If not why?
 - c. Any problem with local communities in relation to this resource and means employed for their mitigation.
 - d. Any plan/intention for the future on how to manage the resource at its stake
3. What opportunities/ benefits the Organization has been creating to local people?
 - a. If the Organization has been creating any job opportunities please fill the following Table.
 - b. What impact has the creation of these opportunities/benefits on its relation with local people?
 - c. Does the Organization believe that it creates enough opportunities to local people? If not, why?
 - d. Does the Organization intend to create other Opportunities/benefits to local people?

Annex III Check Lists for Focus Group Discussion

1. Elders Group

1. What constitute the livelihood of the local people?
2. Any change you observed in the livelihood with time?
3. Potential of the local people
4. Problem local people face - prioritize
5. Does the community have roles in resource management owned by Organizations?
6. What opportunities/ benefits the communities face with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet Area?
 - a. Did they provide what they should provide as you think for the local communities?
 - b. Did the provisions of these opportunities/ benefits impact the interaction between local people and Organizations?
 - c. What else do you expect these Organizations can provide to the communities to improve its livelihood?
 - d. If the organizations did not provide any benefits to local people, why that happened in your opinion?
7. What problems the communities face with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet Area?
 - a. Did either the Organizations or local communities have made any attempt to mitigate these problems?
 - b. If not, do these situations have impact on the relations of the Organizations and local people?
 - c. And what should be done now as you think?
8. Do you think the Organizations conserve the resources at their stake properly?
 - a. If not why?
 - b. In what manner do you think the Organizations can best manage the resources at their stake?
 - c. What would be the communities' role here?

2. Women Group

1. What constitute the livelihood of the local people?
2. Any change you observed in the livelihood with time?
3. Major problems women face - prioritize
4. What opportunities/ benefits the women face with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet Area?
If no Why?
 - a. What else do you expect these Organizations can provide to the communities to improve its livelihood?
 - b. If the organizations did not provide any benefits to women, why that happened in your opinion?
5. What problems women face with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet Area?
6. Management of forest of Organizations

3. Youth Group

1. What constitute the livelihood of the local people?
2. Potentials of the youth
3. Major problems the youth face – prioritize
4. What opportunities/ benefits the youth face with the coming of Organizations to Wondo Genet Area? If no Why?
 - a. What else do you expect these Organizations can provide to the youth?
 - b. If the organizations did not provide any benefits to youth, why that happened in your opinion?
5. What major problems the youth face because of the presence of Organizations to Wondo Genet Area?
6. Management of forest of Organizations

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Acronym

1. AZFEDD – Arsi Zone Finance and Economic Development Department.
2. ESZFEDD – East Shewa Zone Finance and Economic Development Department.
3. EPI – Environmental Protection Authority
4. IBCR - Institute of Biodiversity Conservation and Research
5. MNR - Ministry of Natural Resources
6. MoA – Ministry of Agriculture.
7. MSWIE - Munessa Shashemene Wood Industries Enterprise
8. SNNPR –Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ Region.
9. UNDP- United Nations Development Program.
10. WGCF - Wondo Genet College Forestry.
11. WGEORC - Wondo Genet Essential Oils Research Center.
12. WGYFPD - Wondo Genet Yanasse Participatory Forest Development.
13. WGWSH - Wondo Genet Wabi Shebelle Hotel

Abstract

Four major Organizations own forest resources in Wondo Genet area. The forests of these Organizations are depleting at an alarming rate though they have been trying to conserve it. This thesis has assessed the approaches the Organizations have been pursuing so far, and benefits generated from the approaches in particular and from the Organizations in general to local people. The study has also described the livelihoods of communities in the area. In addition, it has dealt with the approach that can be pursued and the opportunities that can be created to promote sustainable resource management and livelihood development.

The study has employed structured interview, personal observation, focus group discussion, and semi-structured interview methods in addition to consulting different documents or files of the Organizations to obtain the necessary information. The information obtained is analyzed using descriptive statistics. The information captured through structured interview is analyzed using SPSS 11.0. Some data are described qualitatively.

The result of the study has revealed that most people in Wondo Genet area base their livelihoods on mixed agriculture. Also certain households sustain themselves on nonagricultural activities. The major Organizations in the area have been following a coercive approach for management of resources. But the protection they render did not cover the whole forest resources of the Organizations and most part of their resources is left as 'open access resource'. None of the Organizations have been able to protect their forests effectively. Lack of strong management system, less concern from administrators of nearby districts and inability to win the acceptance of local people are some of the reasons behind. And some local communities and people from distant area continued using the forests illegally that hasten the degradation. The current management approach brings no benefits to local people. Nonetheless, the Organizations hire people from their vicinities though the communities consider the job opportunities generated to them as insignificant both in the number of people hired in the Organizations and the amount of money they earn. Unwillingness of the Organizations to hire local people or preference of the Organizations to hire people who come from other areas and urban areas, having no information about vacancies, lack of necessary skill and training required to fit to advertised posts available and the like are some of the factors raised as reasons for inadequate job opportunities by local people. Some parts of communities have felt shortages of land and forests among others with the coming of Organizations. To relieve these problems the Organizations have made very little attempts. The result has also indicated that in the future the Organizations have to pursue forest management approach that involves local people in the protection as well as sharing benefits from the forest. The area has also potentials that can be developed by the Organizations to local people to lessen the impact of local people on the forests, as these will be opportunities to develop alternative livelihoods.

Keywords: *Natural resource, participation, coercive management, livelihood, sustainability, local people, Organization, Wondo Genet*

