



**DILLA UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS STUDIES**

**THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF AGRIBUSINESS
FARMING SCHEMES: -
IN ABE-DONGORO DISTRICT OF HORRO
GUDURU WALLAGA ZONE, OROMIA, ETHIOPIA**

**BY
AYALEW ABDISSA AMENU**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS
STUDY OF DILLA UNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
FOR REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF
ARTS IN INDIGENOUS STUDIES**

ADVISOR: ASEBE REGASSA (Associate Professor)

**August, 2020
Dilla, Ethiopia**

**DILLA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS STUDIES**

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Declaration

I hereby declare that this thesis is my own work and, to the best of my knowledge, contains no materials previously published or written by another person, or substantial proportions of materials accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma at DU or any other educational institution, except where due acknowledgment is made in the thesis. I declare that the intellectual content of this thesis is the product of my own work, except to the extent that assistance from others in the project's design and conception or in style, presentation and linguistic expression is acknowledged.

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Signature.....

Date.....

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Advisor Approval Sheet

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “The political economy of agribusiness farming schemes” submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for Ayalew Abdissa Amenu has carried out the degree of master of art in indigenous studies under my supervision. Therefore, I recommend that the student has fulfilled the requirements and hereby can submit the thesis to the department.

Name: Asebe Regassa (Associate Professor)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

We hereby certify that the thesis entitled “The political economy of agribusiness farming schemes”, submitted by Ayalew Abdissa, confirm to the acceptance for standards of the Institutes of Indigenous studies of Dilla University and complies with the regulation of the University. The thesis approved as the requirement for degree of master of Indigenous Studies.

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Dedication

This thesis is dedicated for memorial of my sister Ayantu Abdissa passed away while doing my theses and peoples who were killed, injured, handicapped and tortured in jail in protest while finding justice and good governance in Ethiopia. I hope their life were being kept my almighty gods hand.

Ayalew Abdissa

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Abstract

Agribusiness farming is a fast-growing type of investment in Ethiopia. This study examined the economic and political impacts of Agribusiness farming on local livelihoods in 'Abe-Dongoro' district of Oromia National Regional State of Ethiopia. However, such investments have negative impacts particularly on the local communities.

The data collection was done on basis of qualitative research method. Data collected through Observation, interviews, and key informant interview and focus group discussions. Besides, secondary data was also used from various sources to complement the primary data. The state agricultural farming project of the study area shows none consultation investment, unfair compensation and none participation procedures. The state unfair use of political power use in implementing land acquisition process influenced both the investors and peasant's use of land. The effects of land grabbing by the investors restricted the accessibilities of land and natural resource use of peasants.

The study found that the agribusiness project has no significant benefits to the local communities in terms of the socioeconomic and political benefits by the measures of food security, technological transfer, employment opportunity, crop production and local infrastructure development; even though, agricultural farming have a significant contribution in economic development. Moreover, the study identified the coping strategies pursued by local communities in response to the impacts of investments.

Therefore, the state has to balance the interest local communities for recognition of the land and investors needs of land for agricultural investment. Finally the study examined coping strategies of local communities responds towards the agricultural investment by changing land use, sharecropping, tenant farming, changing occupation and migration.

Keywords: Agribusiness farming, 'Abe-Dongoro' district, Oromia, Ethiopia

Abbreviation

FGD- Focus Group Discussion

CSA- Central Statics Authorities

FDI- Foreign Direct Investment

IFAD-International Fund for Agricultural Development

ADLI-Agricultural Development Led Industrialization

LSLA-large-scale land Acquisitions

LIS-Land Information System

FDRE- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

USDA - United State Department of Agriculture.

ADR- Alternative Dispute Resolution

MoARD - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Ha- Hectare

CHAPTER ONE

1. INTRODUCTION

This thesis investigates the political and economic interests of competing actors behind agri-business schemes in ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district of Western Oromia. Agribusiness farming is the act of setting up or maintaining a farm for commercial purposes. The developing world promotes investments in peripheral regions that are predominantly inhabited by pastoralists and other communities (Borras & Franco, 2013:1724). Investment in agribusiness schemes in Ethiopia is carried out both the central and peripheral parts of the country.

On other way, investment in agriculture play important development roles by addressing the food crisis (Hules, 2017), creating employment (Mano, Suzuki, et al, 2011) and earning foreign exchange (Robertson, 2010:272). However, there were mismatches between the way investors practice agricultural production, the demands of land use practices of local communities. I examined the activities of restrictions to access land and natural resources uses of community during land transferred to investor’s.

On the other hand, the needs of exploitation of the resource evicted peasants become the current affairs of local communities. Rahmato (2011) explains the terms of land grabbing as the ways of grabbing land and water by denying the accessibilities from local communities. In fact, the term ‘land-grabbing’ highlighted first in a report by Grain (2008) and in several publications. Thereafter, heated debates among scholars whom have evolved around the impacts of large-scale land investments (Hule 2017:343).

Ethiopia is primarily an agricultural country. The economy is dominated by small-scale farmers who contribute the bulk of food supply, foreign exchange as well as labor and raw materials for other sectors (Getnet 2012:7). Hence, agriculture is a fundamental component of development in economic growth for developing countries.

Therefore, this thesis investigates political and economic aspects of agribusiness farming in which the questions of land rights and political implications have analyzed. In fact, 'Abe-Dongoro' district grabbing of the land have been prevailing before and after the regulations of investors land acquisition process. Similarly, I analyzed that, denial of agricultural investors uses of resources comes from restriction of resources by building fences and made eviction of resources usability's from the peasants. On other hand, I analyzed from the findings which created the negative consequences of land acquisitions such as displacement, enclosure of the commons and food insecurity (Borras & Franco, 2013). Borras further noted that, as demand of investors rush for acquisition of land for capital accumulation and resource control; claim of local communities for recognition right use of resource was followed. Finally, the study analyses of finding and recommendations for stakeholders of agribusiness farming are at the end of chapter six.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

There were various developmental projects, which were previously researched in Ethiopia. For example, the effects of developmental project researched up on the ways of land transfer systems and effects of large-scale land acquisition in rural Ethiopia (Jiru, 2010). Also, on the socio-economic and environmental impacts of large-scale land transfer on local livelihoods of two different districts respectively (Taddese 2015 & Dheressa, 2013). For example, according to (Dheressa, 2013:107) argument, the transfers of land to domestic and foreign investors have brought no significant social benefits for the Bako-Tibe district of five 'Kebeles' of 'Bechera Oda Gibe, Oda Gibe, Tarkafata Gibe, Oda Korma, and Amarti Gibe'. The author noted above by depending on analyzes of criteria measured by the level and type of technological transfer, creation of employment opportunities and level of food crop production. On other hand, Adisu (2016), researched on the socio-economic and environmental impacts of large-scale land transfer on local livelihoods of 'Dugda-farda' district.

In another way, Assefa (2008), researched socio-economic assessment of two small-scale irrigation performance of community based small-scale irrigation activities of 'Adami Tullu Jido Kombolcha' district. The above researcher focused on improved irrigation performance and resource management and analyzed the debate on whether large-scale land transfer benefits for creation of job opportunities for small holder

farmers and risk of losing land in being marginalized. On the other hand, Gobena (2010), researched on Large-Scale Land Acquisition (LSLA) effects in rural Ethiopia. The author analyzed low implementation of proclamations and policies, participation during land acquisition. The findings of LSLA created deforestation, lack of job creation, minimum contribution in improving livelihood of the local farmers.

However, there was nothing researched on Abe Dongoro area, in any ways of political, economic, social, cultural and environmental effect of agribusiness farming. Therefore, firstly, I analyzed the impacts of agribusiness projects on accessibilities of natural resource for peasants. The interview source shows the activities of investor's enclosure of the land and natural resources affected by marginalization, dispossession, displacement, changes in local community's livelihoods. Secondly, I analyzed the state activities on the issues of local people's consultation, participation and compensation addressed before and during the land transfer.

Thus, analyzes of interview sources shows state agricultural farming were not consulted and participates local communities of the study area. Similarly, the compensation gave of the displaced peasants were unfair compensation that could not ensure the sustainability of local communities livelihoods ways. Thirdly, I analyzed the processes of land grabbing effects local community's ways of livelihoods. The process of land acquisition was affected by the misuse of political power implementation during state use of political power to control land resources. Finally, I analyzed the peasants coping mechanism after the farming projects. The results shows peasants changed the ways of previous livelihoods to the land use change, tenant farming, migration and change of livelihoods.

Therefore, my research entitled 'The political economy of agribusiness farming schemes', which focused on political and economic effects of the farming projects. The 'Developmental Investors' problem at the ground of the so-called 'Farming Investors', criticized as the coercive agrarian development because investors are grabbing the land and they have been affecting on the way of local societies livelihoods (Asebe & et al. 2018). Thus, in this thesis, I examined that the ineffective use of the political power use for economic and political objectives of agribusiness

farming contribution were affected by land grabbing, inaccessible land use on local communities, consultation.

1.3. Research Questions

The research questions of the study were stated as follows.

1. What are the impacts of agribusiness projects on accessibilities of natural resource use for peasants in ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district’?
2. How were issues of local people’s consultation, participation and compensation addressed before and during the land transfer?
3. How were the processes of land grabbing effects local communities?
4. How do the local communities respond to the land transfer?

1.4. Objectives the Study

1.4.1. General Objective

1. To solve the economic and political effects of agribusiness farming projects up on accessibilities of natural resource use of local communities.

1.4.2. Specific Objectives

1. To contribute for the effective consultation, participation and compensation local Communities during state plan of development activities in areas of agricultural Farming.
2. To solve the problem of land grabbing effects up on local communities.
3. To contribute the resilience of local communities in adopting coping strategies.

1.5. Significance of the Study

The findings of the study were to provide an effective political commitment for agricultural farming project which contributes for the sustainable livelihood way of local communities. Likewise, to use the finding and recommendation as a knowledge base for the immediate users of agribusiness farming stake holders projects of state, local communities for effective consultation, participation and compensation local communities. Moreover, the study will also use to balancing political power uses in implementing agricultural farming for managing the lands from activities of land

grabbing impacts on local communities by making state commitment in and helps for coping mechanism to mitigate the effects of agribusiness farming.

1.6. Scope of the Study

The scope of the study was focused on the political and economic impacts of agricultural farming on local lives and livelihoods. Likewise, the study focused on ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district amongst twelve districts of ‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ zone.

1.7. Limitation of the Study

This thesis was limited in many ways. For example, the pandemic disease of corona viruses, the complete shut of network for a while due to declaration of state of emergency in the study area. Likewise, miscellaneous expenses and internet service were also a problem I examined while doing my thesis obstacle me seriously. Moreover, financial problem, geographical distance from the study areas also limited during a course of this research writing. However, I tried to use the possible ways of research to mitigate above constraints.

1.8. Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of six major chapters. The first chapter deals with general background of the study. The second chapter reviews related literatures concerning the topic issues. The third chapter presents research of methodological framework and methods of data collection instruments. The fourth chapter deals with data discussions, analysis and findings. The fifth chapter deals with implications and effects of agribusiness farming on agricultural stakeholders. The six chapters have conclusion and recommendations. Reference and appendices were written at the end of the final chapter. All date and year written in this thesis was by using the Gregorian calendar.

CHAPTER 2

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1. Determinants of Agribusiness Farming

In Agricultural farming activities there were determinants of agribusiness farming which influence the level of agricultural farming production. Thus, based on nature and characteristics of firms, various factors can determine the agribusiness farming. However, due to the scope of the research, I focused on some of the following determinants of agribusiness farming.

2.1.1. Supply Chain of Market Price

The supply chain of market price has influence on agricultural production. These can prevail during the supply constraints chains of market for agricultural production. During the limited supply of the products the market price of the product will increase. According to Mulat & et al (1998), revealed that the supply chains of agricultural farming determine the level of agricultural production. As these authors analysed, the fertilizer loan management and constraints of credit market influence the agricultural production.

For example, the selection of special seeds, fertilizer and agricultural machinery tools were determined by the market prices. As the data of the study area shows, only two investors were engaging on the special seed multiplying. This means that there were limited seed varieties in quantity and qualities for the next year of agricultural production. This shows the availability of market supply and the credit services can determine agricultural productions.

2.1.2. Scarcity of Land and the Need to Improve Productivities

The increases of population, as health care improves, coupled with the scarcity of cultivable land and its fertility, are major drivers for the development of large sections of agribusiness (Vasant, 2014). The constraint to area expansion and its limitation as a source of production increase has led to substantial dependence on yield increase for achieving food production growth. This has resulted in an intense focus on science

and technology for increasing crop yields which has led to the need for numerous modern inputs for increasing production.

On the other hand, the source study area shows that, there was serious land degradation due to infertilities of land which affected land productivities. On other way, as the above author reveals, better genetics/ high yielding variety seeds, use of plant nutrition through fertilizers, better water provision through water sourcing technology and management, better pest control through pesticides, Farm power and machinery for better physical and time efficiency can contribute the improve land productivities. Thus, scarcity of Land and the need to improve productivities determines agricultural farming.

2.1.3. Development Infrastructure and Globalization

The commercialization of agriculture and economic liberalization and growth has also resulting in a substantial increase in the rural incomes (Vasant, 2014). This is leading to a huge expansion in rural demand and participation of rural consumers as buyers in the market. Thus, the rural areas are turning not only into large producer bases but also, large consumer bases due to different infrastructural development. These changes are also giving significant opportunities to agribusinesses and other businesses in food, agriculture, consumer and industrial goods.

According to Vasant (2014), the movement and marketing of huge quantities of agricultural production from the rural to urban areas creates numerous opportunities for agribusinesses to develop substantial development of marketing linkages needs to take place through agribusinesses. However, the study area shows, there were a road problems to supply the crops to Addis Ababa. Therefore the investors were enforced to supply the limited amount of crops to the market. On other hand, there is acceleration in the development of organized retail in which food and agribusiness have a major share. This may be further transformed and accelerated through foreign direct investment (FDI). In this connection of linkages, the rapid development of infrastructure such as roads and transport connecting rural areas to all other areas are extremely important and plays a significant role in boosting agribusiness development.

On other hand, with economic growth, there is huge strain on transport, ports, power, and other services. Numerous agribusinesses developed to better manage the supply chain linkage from the farmers to the consumers overcoming such constraints, but their work facilitated and costs are reduced with better infrastructure. At the international level, increasing globalization results in growing interdependencies across countries and this leads to rising opportunities for linkages and international trade (Ibid, 2014). These substantially limit agribusinesses need to connect to distant rural areas. Thus, the removal of these infrastructure bottle-necks and constraints has substantially helped agribusiness development.

2.1.4. Information and Communication Technology

According to Vasant (2014), one of the major problems in doing business with agriculture is the distance, remoteness of the rural areas and the farmers which they need to reach. This makes it difficult for businesses to connect and communicate with producers (and customers) and transact business. The author noticed that, information and communication technology often makes the transaction costs prohibitively high. This situation has changed substantially in the recent years with the advent of the new information and communication technology (ICT). This includes radio, television, computers, telephones, internet and mobile phones. It has now become far easier to connect with and reach communications to even remote rural areas and millions of farmers.

Similarly, computers and internet have made information transmission and search easy, and fast decision-making and financial transactions possible. This is giving a tremendous boost to agribusiness. It has also challenged agribusinesses to make use of ICT and the various available technologies and communication channels. However, as the level of use of information and communication technology increases the level of profitability from agribusiness will increase.

On other hand, due to the state emergency cases, there was the unavailability of information technologies sources in the study area. In fact, information and communication technology have a significant contribution to increase the level of agricultural production. Thus, it needs substantially is a significant increase in literacy and awareness of rural people to use and benefit more from ICT.

2.2. The literatures on Effects and Factors of Agricultural Investment up on Political and Economic Development

This sub-section tried to shows the literatures from both effects and factors of states agricultural investment role in economic and political power use exercise. The following are factors of agricultural investment that affects economic development of Ethiopia ruling government. They are analyzed as follows.

2.2.1. State Political Sovereignty

To develop an economy, analyzing the state sovereignty factor is important element of economic development. However, the concentrations of power in one area have impacts on economic growth. Literally, Sovereignty means centralization of power and it runs the civilization and progress (Das, 1996). For instance, the above author argued that, the concentrations of power at the center have negative impact on the economic development. However, the activities of dismantling the political organization could surround the state sovereignty. Therefore, it shows monopolies of state by the coercive power were vested in the hands of sovereignty exercise at the center. However, I opposed the state sovereignty in economic because of globalization and resource can limitation.

On other hand, analyzes shows that the existence of a supreme political power possession because of 'Political Sovereignty' monopolized by coercive power, exercise whether people are obeying the law. This means, the political sovereignty was vested in hands of one person or groups who are closely related to the politics and less with legal affairs (Das, 1996). However, no nation lives alone and cannot claim that; to do not depend on any other nation (Das 1996:241). This means, every state dependent on one another. However, it opposes to the sovereign status of the state.

Even though, such sovereignty is recognized by international law and United Nations in article 2(2), Says, 'No state in international society shall be deprived of its sovereign status'. However, there was critic of external sovereignty, by presenting abundant evidence of political, economic and other factors limiting the sovereign power. Hence, common life is impossible without common agreement and common agreement cannot be affected in atmosphere of where every nation demands absolute sovereign status (Ibid, 1996). I share ideas of states common agreement issues, but I did not share absolute sovereignty because every nation state has its own limitation in

many ways. For instance, development could not obtain only from state sovereignty but also, interrelationship among the states.

For example, the evidence of transnational relations has eroded the powers of modern sovereignty. Investigation of sources¹ shows, in the 1970's and 80's many scholars found internalization of economic issues, the progress of globalization were the cause of erosion of sovereignty (Ibid, 245). Therefore, state has to conform to certain international standards, principles and norms which makes interdependency on each other.

2.2.2. Domination of Economic Forces

The world is rapidly changing as the thought to make space for system, basic concepts, and people's attitudes to these concepts has been forced by the circumstance to make space for the new economic forces (Das, 1996:242). The situation is not only rapidly changing, but the forces which are behind these changes are also beyond the control of political and political scientists. Das (1996:242) states, 'International Forces' which limit the choices facing a state or mark it impossible for a nation policy.

This mean that, nation states are under strong influence of world situation and in such situation the authority of nation state is quite unable to control the world political system. The economic conditions of the world are also rapidly changing and domestic policy makers were unable to withstand the forces of the economy. The, '*Economic Forces*' and '*Economic Institutions*' are progressively becoming internalized and the tremendous impact of that tendency has fallen on the sovereignty of nation-states (Ibid, 1996). For example, naturally, nation states were forced to make way for the entry of foreign goods. Here, market of all countries was opened to all the states and restrictions were considerably liberalized in favor of the expansion of international trade (Ibid, 1996).

However, lack of funds and insufficiency in technological progress forced the developing nation to allow to entry of foreign goods in domestic market. Similarly, people pressurized the state to ensure the smooth supply of goods. This activities shows rapid modernization and industrialized nation of the world for the sake of their

¹ Secondary data source

own survival helped process of globalization and forced the economic domination of nation-states. Generally, above author presented evidences of state relationship (interdependency) with regarding production, distribution, management, funding the technologies improvement; development of communications was being internationalized. In fact, the economy is decided by the international financial product markets and other agents of development. However, there was critic's sovereignty of nation states whether in economy or political independency.

2.2.3. Inevitability of Globalization

Globalization strongly advocates the liberalization of economic policies and principles and non- interference of state in the economic field. In fact, non-participation of nation states in the world -wide process of globalization and a very strong attachment to national sovereignty will lead the backward economy (Das, 1996). Author's justified, if there is no globalization influence, technological progress will suffer most and then economy will be victim of inefficiency. In other hand, absence of globalization results high cost of production. Obviously, it was globalization that made a ground of interaction among the state, through international trade, exchange of ideas and technologies (Ibid, 1996).

Therefore, even though, globalization created a lot of heat centering on democracy; nation state sovereignty made erosion of power and authority. This means that, the significances of decentralization upon state power exercise to the below of state administration level. Thus, I understand that, to make sensible strategies in order to keep state power sovereignty; one can balance development with the influence of globalization by stating clear scope for the nation interest and implementation of clear economic objectives.

2.3. Concepts of Land Grabbing

The literature on the 'land grab' has tended to focus on the international drivers of recent land transactions in developing countries for crises of finance, food, fuel and climate (Cotula, & et al 2009). On other hand, 'Receiving Country' governments tended to follow proponents of large-scale investment in agriculture by claiming that investment can play important developmental roles including addressing the food

crisis (Collier 2008), creating employment opportunities (Deininger, Byerlee, 2010), and earning foreign exchange. According to Hule (2017:347), “Land grabbing is the purchase or long-term lease of vast tracts of lands by foreign and/or national state-owned or private investors primarily to produce crops for regional and international markets.”

In contrast, critics have warned ‘neo-colonial land grab’ that threatens food security in developing countries (e.g. Grain 2008, Mackenzie, 2008, et al). However, I criticized the so called ‘Investor’ whether domestic and international investor lacked assessment of impacts of agricultural project implementation. Thus, all these claims were open for challenges on ‘Receiving Countries’. Therefore, I stand on the sides of ‘*Receiving Countries*’ arguments of agribusiness farming which have been created land grabbing and made dispossession upon peasants of study areas.

In recent literature, the terms ‘*Land Grabbing*’ and ‘*Large-Scale Land Acquisition*’ have used interchangeably in discussing this terminology. In this thesis I concerned with the issues of land grabbing of domestic investors that affected up on local communities socio-economic and cultural way of life. Even though, investors have a contribution for employment creation could be seen as strong sides of agricultural investors. However, examination of group interview shows the aimed objectives failed due to minimum wage payment for labor. On other hand, the investors rush and needs of land grabbing in Ethiopia on area of agricultural farming have been depriving the right use of land and natural resources which created marginalization of local community was the reasons of questions addressed. Here the question explores the effects of land deals critically. According to Borras and Franco (2013:1723) noted as, “The land grab makes expulsion of peoples and resistance in the community”. The examination of above author shows the weakness on the ways of eviction. Whereas, critics reports shows resistance and resilience of local communities could be seen as strong side of opponent of land grabbing.

However, the arguments in which I opposed with the concept of ‘idle land’ or ‘waste land’(Cotula, 2009), had still need critical analyses. According to above author justification, Ethiopian has total population 110 million peoples depend on agriculture. In this case, the author criticizes government for there were no grounds to

say in this context. Rather, the land is used for shifting cultivation and dry season grazing (Ibid, 2009:62). From the above arguments, I argued with it because of a greater part of the population depending on agriculture. Therefore, there was no ground to say idle land for investors land acquisition process.

On other hand, in areas of sparsely populated lowland, there is a direct investment attempt for food security and food sufficiency (Iavers, 2012). According to author, increasing foreign direct has beneficiaries in selecting lowland areas for capital-intensive agricultural investment to promote foreign agricultural investment in sparsely populated areas. On other way, low land areas were supposed by 'unused land' which is usually termed as '*Common Land*' was used to grab by agricultural investors. The government invokes a narration of land use and so-called '*Marginal Lands*' which has been commonly used to justify '*land grabs*' by host governments, agri-business and observers who saw potential benefits from these land deals (Deininger & Byerlee 2010, Deininger, 2011). This shows that, areas of marginal or periphery land have beneficiaries for agribusiness farming investors by their grabbing land activities.

I opposed the argument of marginal land which was seen as unused land because of the peasants pastoral way of life shifts from one areas to another areas did not be assumed as the land were idle. Therefore, the ideas of marginal land assumption as idle land are weakness side on my point of argument. The examination of FGD² shows, marginal land has been used for local communities as a source livelihoods ways of life. For example, forest resource, river and grass land uses as a sell of forest products and livestock raring.

On other way, there was the argument of land grabbing concept depending on type of technology used in context of relationship of productivity and land (Laver, 2012:19). On other hand, The Ethiopia economic development plan of Agricultural Development Led Industrialization (ADLI) look like some of the alternatives to the land grab proposed by its critics (Iavers, 2012). On one hand, ADLI highlights arguments for an inverse relationship between farm size and productivity per hectare.

² Group 2 interviewees, interviewed on date 06.7.2020 of 'Dalecho Kebele'

The potential of equitable land distribution with productivity growth and the dangers of displacing large numbers of peasants were increased. Hence, intensive technology use increase production. However, it was criticized by minimum employment creation.

On other hand, a smallholder agricultural development strategy was suggested to raise productivity like ADLI that require the major role of the state for the role of preventing concentration of land holdings and displacement of peasants, during providing support agriculture (Lavers, 2012). Here, from the author point of views, the concepts of land grabbing called 'land used by investment in masses'. Although, land grabbing narratives by leaving aside of its effects, have both production and displacement. Therefore, concepts of land grabbing could be sounded differently. For example, the activities large-scale land deals threaten farmers.

Borras (2011), argued, 'Farm Land Investment' could manage risks while exploit opportunities. However, arguments land grabbing lacks in a political analysis of how they implement on the ground. Therefore, I could say that the rise of intensification of investment and inefficient way of land tenures policies have a big ground for land grabbing. Thus, I analyzed that, land grabbing exploited local communities land and affected by evicted their prior land use system by displacement of peasants.

2.4. Key Drivers of Land Grabbing

There were literatures on the key drives of land grabbing discussed in areas of agricultural investment. I analyzed it in connection with some agricultural concern of food price and biofuels. Land grabbing has emerged as a form of production, export of food and bio-fuels in the third world by enterprises owned by foreign governments and business entities (Nyong'o, 2013). The author categorized land ownership leased or sold to enterprises cheaply by the state, usually with the argument of land is empty and needs to be put to good use. The reasons of land grabbing analysis in literatures were as follows. For example, firstly, one of drivers the land grabbing phenomena was global food crises in the world (Nyong'o, 2013). The Author stated solving production for market is the primary ideas of state. On other hand, food imports and

food aid has been growing in Africa, especially with climatic changes, which have adversely affected rain fed agriculture in the tropics (Ibid, 2013:24).

Second, following the world food price crisis of 2007-2008, multinational corporations, foreign governments and international financial institutions started to acquire large tracts of land in Africa for purposes of growing food crops and biofuels in current time known as land grabbing (Borras, 2011). Also, other key drivers of land grabbing were the immediate needs for restoring the long-term food-security (Davies, 1994), through various forms of land deals and to produce goods (Borras, & et al 2016:22). Moreover, another key driver of land grabbing was the aim of a key developmental issue of agricultural base intervention to eradicate hunger and achieve food security (Dzanku, 2019).

2.5. Perspectives on Land Grabbing

Different literatures show opposing views upon land grabbing. Positive and negative effects of land grabbing arguments prevailed in the perspective of land grabbing. Critics argued that land grabbing has not so far produced positive results. For example, the needs of food production by grabbing land negatively affect the environment (Nyong'o, 2013:27). On other hand, land grabbing ranges from a negative connotation to a more positive interpretation (Borras and Franco, 2012). For example, from positive sides, World Bank promoted a more positive view of global land deals on the rising global interest in farmland and in principles of responsible agricultural investment (Van, 2013:9). There are also other positive effects of land grabbing. Firstly, large-scale land investments in developing countries supposed to lead rural development and poverty alleviation through employment and compensation for land (Li, 2011:281). Thus, it's argued that incorporating farmers into these new business ventures or through contract farming so that farmers are able to sell their products. Second, poverty would be reduced by helping national economies through payments of taxes and fees (World Bank, 2011).

Here, the positive argument of World Bank is according to the principles for 'Responsible Agricultural Investment' that offer a wide range of governance tools for ensuring to become 'win-win' situations, including securing tenure rights,

transparency, and participation, and good governance, social and environmental sustainability (Van, 2013:10). I argue the positive effects of large scale agricultural investment if it's according to FAO 'win-win situation and principles of responsible agricultures'. Whereas as, from the negative sides of land grabbing, different actors and institutions use the definition, which is in accordance with how they assess the potential risks and benefits of land grabbing. However, FAO justified the positive arguments depending on the principles of '*Responsible Agricultural Investment*'; I in favor FAO arguments partly was incompatible to developing country. For instance, as a key interview argument reveals; FAO argument implementation of were very low. One of the biggest negative impacts of land grabbing was the worsening conditions of the population of the underdeveloped countries.

Even though, the poor countries produce food for rich countries in their own lands at the expense of the hungry people of those countries (Borger, 2008); the examination of data analyzes of contracts of buying or leasing of land in underdeveloped countries included provisions show the opposite of responsible agriculture. The observation of field work in the study area reveals that a few jobs were happened because of such deals and many people were takeoff from the peasant's lands. In this manner, several people loosed their homes and their sources of income. Sources of data in underdeveloped countries reveal that, human rights were not given much importance (FAO, 2019). Therefore, I examined, it was hard to ensure alternative living facilities or work for people who are thrown off their lands.

Generally, the solution promoted by 'some powerful actors' lies in grabbing what are empty, under-utilized, marginal and available lands, putting these into efficient and productive use if there are responsible regulatory institutions in place (World Bank, 2010, Deininger, 2011). This was seen as a 'win-win' proposition that both generates profits for corporations and addresses the 'interest of national government' to generate both gainful livelihoods and employment for their citizens, as well as taxes (Borras & Seufert, 2016:8).

2.6. Issues of Land Grabbing from Political and Economic Perspectives

Land grabbing of large-Scale Land Acquisitions (LSLA), which occur mainly in the global South, become the center of a heated political and academic debate (Krieger, Leroch, 2016). The issue of the ‘Land Grabbing’, therefore, has an aim to provide perspectives on different angles. I briefly explained how the contributors’ papers relate to this framework. For instance, according to Krieger & Tim (2016) argument was significant. The author analyzed the social changes by distances from the center (powerful) assessments. Putting all these aspects together properly is a challenge and probably overburdens a single economic model.

On other hand, people used to live in the areas of a center were relatively powerful, economic elites living in the (urban) core of a land (and, possibly, labor) abundant nation. Whereas, the periphery areas (weak) were the smallholders, who might in addition be members of an ethnic minority, live in the (rural) periphery (Krieger & Tim, 2016). This shows that, the dichotomy of ‘South and North’ political domination influences in both political and economic power dominance of state. However, one of the most weakness sides of state exercise of political interventions was by assuming the periphery areas were supposed as to serve infrastructures of social services in one area by resettlement program. Above author analyzed that, the peasants have an experience of resilience environmental changes. In fact, the resettlement program which was depend on whether natural and manmade phenomena; it has adverse effect on local community’s ways of life.

Likewise, authors explains as societal power relations along the ‘Core-Periphery’ dimension as well as distributional, ethnic and resource-exhausting conflict (Ibid, 2016:198). The author argued, in times of global ‘Land Rush’, the (corrupt) elite in the core increasingly considers land in the periphery as a valuable resource, thereby challenging existing formal or informal land rights of the local population. This shows, state interference especially political power domination in the periphery could be the source of significant (ethnic) grievances resulting in disagreement and conflict. The activities of the land rush also examined in my study area. For instance, the

analyses of interview³ result shows, all domestic investors land acquisition process shows open to accused before court due to illegal land holding activities.

Moreover, above author elaborates national legislation regarding property rights of land, However, the population in the periphery is either unaware of this legislation due to illiteracy or ignorance of the legislation due to ‘dominant customary law’ and ‘informal institutions’ (Ibid, 2016:4). According to the author arguments lease, rent and legislation system of land was the main source of grievance. Here, in above argument, I examined the mismanagement of urban rural customary land legislation management practices. Furthermore, peasants were affected failure payment during compensation and the fewer need of workers in agricultural farming project affected by unemployment.

Therefore, the framework of state political power exercise narration in economic development must be analyzed. However, there was two opposite rational of the investment project which arise conflict potential. In Modern types of agricultural production, there were severe negative externalities. For instance, according to the author’s argument, nomadic grazing or specific crop rotations have developed over the course of centuries by treating the landscape carefully and conserving bio diversity. Whereas, modern agricultural technologies use extensive of fertilizer typically ignore these traditional ways of farming, leading to environmental harm in the medium to long run. Therefore, I examined the high use of technologies and additional way of land uses practices has its own side effects on land use, political and economic effects.

2.7. Literatures on Land Transfer Management

The basic requirement for the issues of development is the management of investment on land and its natural resources. Different country tried to apply land transfer management as development requirements by the criteria of analyzing free, fair and full consent ways. According to Keith, McAuslan, & et,al, (2008), the power of compulsory acquisition granted to agencies. According to the author’s argument, each agency authorized to compulsorily acquire land may have its own regulatory

³ Key informant interviewee of number #1: interviewed on date 18.10 .2019

guidelines on what acquisitions are permitted and how to carry out the processes defined in national legislation. Likewise, Keith, McAuslan, & et al, (2008) argued, the procedural arrangement of land acquisition starts from planning, notifying to the owners of the land by publicity, valuation and submission, payment of compensation possession of the land, appeal right and restitutions. From the above regulations of land acquisition has the strong sides for the criteria of land for investment acquisition process.

On other hand, FAO (2009) noted '*Compulsory Criterion*' on the acquisition mechanism of Land. For instance, The FAO process of compulsory acquisition, attention were given to the procedures of compulsory acquisition is critical if a government's exercise the power in efficient, fair and legitimate ways. On other way, processes for the compulsory acquisition of land for project based on planned development are usually different from processes for acquiring land during emergencies or for land reforms.

For example, over the last decade, more than 13 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have adopted new land policies. They noted a consultative mechanism on the promotion of sustainable development of human settlements in Africa by making legal frame work, institutional arrangements, technical arrangement, administration process, land market information were analyzed for secession of land transfer and an effective dispute resolution mechanism upon land. The above main weaknesses were these policies lacks considering general environment effect. However, it lacks by constrained resources and limited funding (Burns, eta al, 2006).

On other hand, there were other ideas in implementation of land reform by consideration of sensitive social impact issues such as women and vulnerable groups. They described projection of success and sustainability by gender aware policies, family, inheritance, land law reforms and active support groups and networking are important strategies (Burns, Grant, 2006).

However, it lacks the analyses of requirement of a monitoring and evaluation of the impact assessment of women and vulnerable group land use. On other way, the impact of incentives uncertainty, and the operation of credit markets for land resource

mobilization analyzed as the land transfer assessment problems (Feder & Feeny, 1991). Therefore, this argument shows, effective land administration requires a comprehensive and systematic process to overcome uncertainties and credit services. Therefore, I examined that the following land transfer constraint was important to give due consideration and implement effective and efficient use land and natural resource.

2.8. Trends of land Use Rights Management

The current farm management and agricultural production was the product of traditional agricultural farming. The history of farming activities goes back to the periods of hunting to gathering to live in permanent sedentary way of life. Through time the ways of farming has been changing due to the improvement of agricultural technology growth. According to FAO (1994), described as the farming system development with the successful implementation of the new approach to achieving soil conservation. According to FAO (1994), the main objective of farming system development is to improve the households' activities.

FAO outlined immediate objectives of land far management in improving the efficiency in farm production, raising family income, increasing welfare of farm families and satisfying basic needs. The development of farming system involves in planning, monitoring and evaluation process. The strong sides of FAO land use management is characteristics of testing, monitoring and evaluating improvement on farm. For example, it contributes for technological improvements, proposed revision in farm plans, improvements in support services and farm level of proposed policy changes (Ibid, 1994).

On other hand, source of study shows, approximately 4000 million tons of soil is washed from the land into the sea annually in South Africa (Barry, 2006:9). Barry justified the reason of degradation of resource base as follows:

An increase in the population of humans and livestock, economic pressures leading to over exploitation of the resources for profit making, inadequate knowledge and expertise results in poor management, lack of adequate land assessment to implement an appropriate farming system and even where

adequate run off control has been implemented on arable land, there is often a lack of good management between the contours.

These examinations shows factors affects land and natural resources which causes infertilities of land for agricultural production and other benefits. The classification of agricultural potential area depends on four land assessment criteria. Namely: - on systems of land use, land capabilities classification, land potential assessment, bio-resource program. The elaborations of land assessment criteria for analyzing agricultural potentialities were described below.

2.8.1. System of land Use

The effective use of land depends on the different assessment of legal policy frame works. The brief analysis of economic policy and developmental strategy assesses food security strategies and programs required to overcome the food security in Ethiopia (Astatke, 2015). To do so, it requires a legal frame work of law on land uses. On other hand, stabilities in agriculture could be achieved only by analyses of natural factors governing production and by the application of land system that ensure sustained productivities (Barry, 2006). The author identified natural factors like climate, topography, soil and vegetation influence the production.

On other hand, the author identified to determine type of farming system by the level of land uses; such as intensive, semi intensive, semi extensive and extensive (Barry, 2006). On other way, in order to properly manage natural resources, Ethiopia government has regulated varies policies and strategies. For example, state proclaimed environmental policy to improve the living standards of the population by properly managing the environment in relation to the need of safeguard the interests of future generation (Astatke, 2015). This regulation was aimed to protect the environmental pollution factors. Likewise, state has a proclamation of the soil, water conversation and development policy (Astatke 2015). This policy aimed at to reduce the degraded land, ensuring efficient utilization of water resources and properly managing fertile areas to increase productivity and agricultural growth. In fact, to increase the crop production state has to ensure the effective safeguards of soil and water resources.

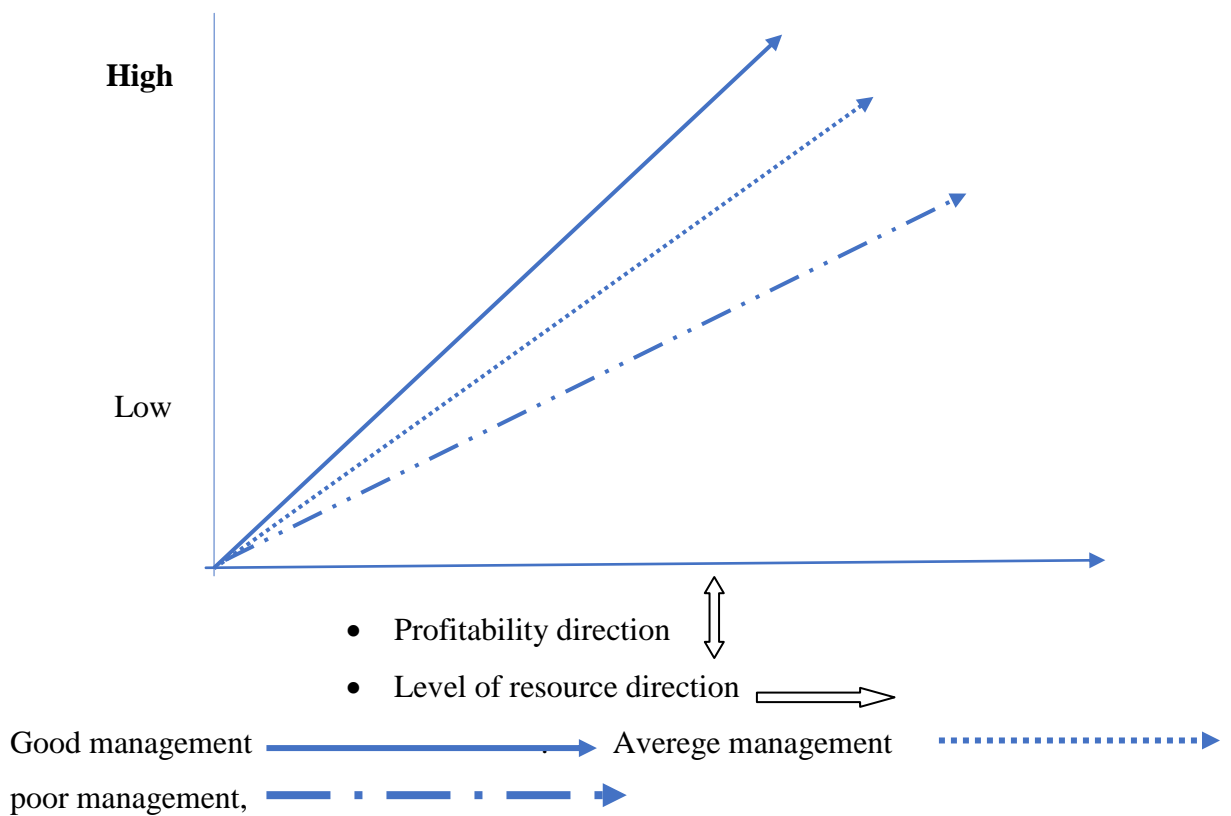
On other hand, state has also legalized the rural land use and administration policy and strategies (Ibid, 2015). This policy was aimed to delineate land resource by relevant aspect of utilization and lay a foundation for proper use of fertile land. On other way, state proclaimed the wild life protection and development policy. In fact, wildlife livelihoods have direct connection with natural resources of land resource (Ibid, 2015). This policy was aimed to maintain diversity of wild life and developing the tourism industry. Furthermore, state proclaimed the biodiversity conservation policy and strategies (Astatike, 2015). This policy aims at meaningful conserving and properly utilizing the genetic resources of the county.

However, sources of interviews shows, despite the fact of above policies and strategies, issues of land and natural resource were incompatible with the agricultural development goals and strategies due to unfair implementation because of mismanagement of natural resource uses. Therefore, I argue that, to promote agricultural development, it is better to understand from how the environment functions by indentifying what to be done to protect, conserve, enhance and preserve it. So, it requires making the linkages agricultural development objectives with the natural resources and environmental managing activities. Therefore, calling effective use of agricultural production requires effective use of land and natural resources. From this, I understand that, natural factors can determine and influence the system of land use and level of productivities. Thus, state has to make sure the frame work of rules and regulation of policies implementation with land and natural resource uses.

2.9. Land Capabilities Classification

The effective use of land resource concerns depends on the uses and treatments economically on the sustained bases. Berry (2006), justified by stating the level of profitability of land resources management increase and the farm profitability level also increases. As Barry (2006), the objective of land classification is the systematic arrangement and grouping of different kind of land to show their most intensive safe use and to indicate management requirements attached to lands.

Graph 1. Relationships between land management and farm profitability



Source. Barry (2006). The Farming Hand Book.

Above figure shows relationships between land management and farm profitability. Here, as the level of management of land increase, the level of farm profitability also increase and vice versa. On other hand, (FAO, 1994) stated farming system development using soil conservation initiatives. Accordingly, FAO sources show the three strategies of soil conservation. They are firstly, prevention thrust program. This involves prevention of soil erosion from occurring through developing and disseminating land use enterprises, technologies and farm management practices. These thrusts were important not only in prevention of soil erosion arising in the first place but also, in helping to stop it. Secondly, use of physical rehabilitation in place of severely degraded land. For instance, varies type of physical rehabilitation strategies to compact erosion that includes a range of vegetative techniques and mechanical means.

Thirdly, a strategy of soil conservation is to facilitate the spread of potentially successful technology agricultural extension program. For example, it uses for

facilitation of technology, dissemination, adoption in areas of extension strategies and policy program. Fourthly, monitoring and evaluating the adoption rate of proposed improvements by the farming communities (FAO, 1994).

Finally, testing (implementing) on farm testing or evaluation with farmer determines how well potential improvements fit into the system. The tested technologies can be disseminated through the extension service to other farming households. This means, positive result of such evaluation provide justification for the farming system development. Favorable test resulted changes in support service and policy provide valuable farm level information on necessary program or policy adjustments. For example, activity of land productivities in areas extension of marketing of inputs, products, pricing policy and credit services (Ibid, 1994).

From above analyses, I examined that, The FAO strengths were facilitation of technologies and adoption of extension strategies which contributes for farming system for development and by creating need in policy adjustment depending on whether countries land reform policies adjustment status. Therefore, monitoring and evaluating the rate of adoption of changes earlier proposed, tested, and implemented provide insights into further desirable activities of those who have been engaged in both other researchers and planners.

2.10. The Dynamisms of Displacement in State Development Program

The effect of displacement needs the assessment of natural resources for development. The developmental programs of state large-scale developmental planning programs like dam building, rail way, factory plants and different state infrastructure facilities have a nature of exploitation of natural resources. Different country use different compensation mechanism for effective implementation of state development program. On other hand, effective state developmental program requires on how resettlement is planned, negotiated and carried out. However, the activities of state for developmental planning program have effect upon rural households by dispossession and displacement by damaging their local livelihoods, food security and access to key resources. Sources shows, between 2004 and 2008, 1.19 million hectares of

agricultural land leased to foreign and domestic investors in Ethiopia (World Bank, 2010).

On other way, ILO (1957), proclaimed the protection from forced displacement and gave to the recognition of traditional land rights (collective and individual aspects). Likewise, resettlement program argued as easier for government to plan and deliver agricultural extension programs, and to protect communities from periodic natural hazards such as floods, forest fires and storms (Rahmato, 2011). However, the villagers I interviewed were not convinced. The main reasons for the resettlement program were aimed to support a social service to one area. However, the state was criticized upon resettlement program by arguing the public agents could provide the services in their present locations without the need for relocation.

Above arguments reveals the environmental impact of the state relocation programs. On other hand, there is a growing awareness that all types of displacement, whether by development projects or as a result of violence, persecution, or natural disaster, can lead to impoverishment. However, leaving asides of the arguments of whether resettlement programs, it requires analyzing the assessments of the balanced interest of state and local peoples livelihoods sustainability's and then by implementation or rejection of the development to be followed is my argumentation.

2.10.1. Effects of Changes by Displacement

The displacement of local communities analyzes the support of basic services for food, water, adequate shelter, or livelihoods. However, the analyses of displacement affects by suffering, discrimination and a daily fight for survival.

Similarly, L sources of literatures also shows that forced displacement have similar effects like above. In fact, the relocation has impact depending on the adaptation of peasants to the new livelihoods ways of life. However, the trends of these activities were affected by social disintegration, Loss of Access to Common Property, Marginalization mortality and morbidity. Similarly, in publication called "Forced evictions and human rights" (1996: 15-17) the Centre for Rights, has identified a number of human rights abuses associated with forced eviction. One of the most

common was the right to adequate housing, expressed in ICESCR (Article 11, (1)). The rights to freedom of movement and to choose one's residence, recognized in many international laws and national constitutions, are infringed when forced eviction occurs.

On the other hand, the displacements have implications of cultural change due to the facilities of schools, health services. However, it is impacted by diminished cultural identity and disappearance of some socio-cultural way of life. Similarly, forced displacement executed in the absence of consultation and a proper resettlement plan can pose a serious threat to the right of life which was guaranteed under ICCPR of 1976 (Article 6). However, the voluntary relocation program has a positive contribution for people's resettlement by the state social services facilities. In fact, voluntary resettlement programs have an essence for providing at least more livelihoods styles. That means the ways of resettlement were voluntary.

2.11. The Conceptualization of Development

The idea of development conceptualization depends on analyses of economic development nature and types of development categories (Michael, et al, 2012). The above author elaborated the nature of the social and institutional process through which certain groups of economic and political elites influence the allocation of scarce productive resources now and in the future either for their own benefit exclusively or for that of a larger population. The elites try to use power in the economy for economic decision making. Therefore, the nature of development was influenced by the level of power exercise.

On the other way, the concept of development has a nature of traditional economy. It concerned productive resources primarily with efficient, least cost allocation of scarce productive resources over time so as to produce an ever expanding range of goods and services (Michael & et al, 2012). As this author argues, development includes less developed and more developed depending on the level of living standards. Therefore, because of heterogeneities of the developing world and complexity, developments were concerned with economic, cultural and political commitment (Ibid, 2012:8).

However, power use priority in social and economic development influences economic development. The influence of market and government priorities selection in development process can have influences on social, economic and political activities. For instance, state can influence communities by giving priorities in unifying state, resolving tribal and ethnic conflict, or preserving religious and cultural tradition.

On other hand, concept of development goes beyond simple economics. For instance, Michael, & et al, (2012) described it by connecting with the social systems. Michael & et al, (2012) justifies none-economic variable influences for failure of development and modernization. On other way, the author argues the new economic view of development emerged because of an increasing number of economist and policymakers claimed for more direct attacks on wide spread absolute poverty, increasing inequitable income distribution and rising unemployment (Ibid, 2012). Therefore, according to Michael, et al, (2012), in 1970 economic development come to be redefined in terms of the reduction or elimination of poverty, inequality and unemployment within the context of growing economy.

On other way, in broader conceptualization, development has three core values of practical guidance of sustenance, self-esteem, and freedom from servitude. Likewise, development has objectives of both a physical reality and state of mind in which societies has secured means of obtaining a better life. Michael, & et al, (2012), described the development component for better life and development in all societies' objectives states:

To increase the availability and widen distribution of basic self-sustaining goods such as food, shelter, health and protection, To raise the level of living, provision of more jobs, better education, greater attention to cultural and human values, all of which will serve not only to enhance material well being but also to generate greater individual and national self-esteem and to expand the range of economic and social choices available to individual and nations by freeing them from servitude and dependency not only in relation to other people and nation states but also other forces of ignorance and human misery.

In general, development could have broader definition of conceptualization. Similarly, conceptualization of development can be elaborates according to nature and type of development. Hence, the characteristics of development were depending on the core values and guidance of sustenance, self-esteem and freedom from servitude for better life.

2.12. Conceptual Framework

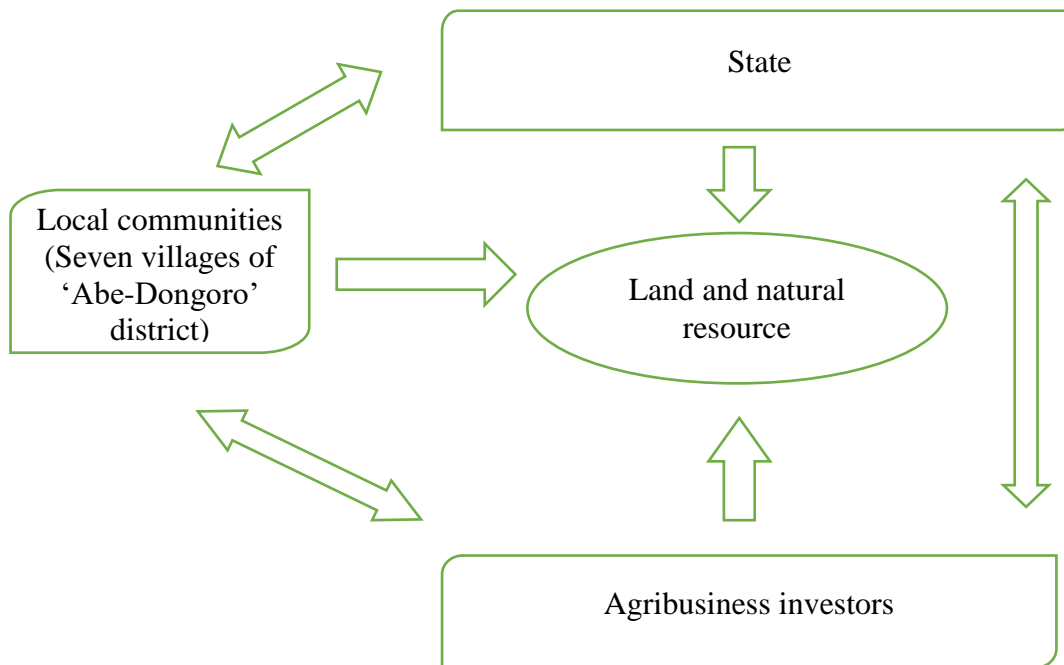
. It was important to examine effects of so called ‘Developmental Investment’ from analyzed of land grabs literature. To begin with it, a theory is a set of relationships that offer a plausible explanation of study (Corbin & Strauss, 2015). However, for analyses of the political and economy of agricultural farming effect in context of developmental discourses, I liked to start from concepts of land grabbing. For instance, like enclosures and displacement. Logically, I understand the concept of enclosures starts from beginning of investment to the end of the projects.

Whereas, displacement was the effect of agricultural investment prevailed during implementation of investment project. These conceptual approaches helped me to understand way of land acquisition which were necessities me to analyze the relationships of stakeholder of agricultural investment. This conceptual frame works of research emphasized on agricultural political and economy effects of the perspectives of three competing actors/stakeholders of (investors, states, and peasants/local community). This frame work was examined in these relationships between state, peasants and agricultural investors. Bernstein & Byres (2001), described the actors of investment by focusing dynamics of political and economic effect in agriculture.

The effects of land grabbing have been challenging communities of ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district. The analysis shows demand of actors of investment and their effect and impacts relationships amongst stakeholders of agricultural farming investment. To elaborate their relationships, state have plan and motives for food security & food sovereignty to realize economic and development reform; Whereas, Investors needs large-scale production, export of food and bio fuel plantation. In another hand, local communities needs for recognition of right to land, sustainable livelihood and practicing cultural & ecological contact to environment concerns.

On other hand, while investors need to increase crop production, land grabbing continues. Then after, it affects by enclosures of resources, restriction in use of ancestral land affected by displacements. Finally, it creates marginalization of societies. The diagram below shows conceptual framework among states, investors and local communities.

Diagram1. Conceptual framework



Source: From Author Source

CHAPTER THREE

3. METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH DESIGN

3.1. Background of the Study Area

‘Abe-Dongoro’ is one the districts found in ‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ zone and located east part of zonal direction. Today this district is sub-divided in to 21 farmer associations for administrative purpose. ‘Tulu-Wayu’ is the capital town of this district which located about 47 km away from the zonal capital ‘Shambu’ and 360 km from the Addis Ababa. Concerning physical setting of the area, location of the district is about 47 km from the west of ‘Shambu’. The geographical location of the district bounded almost in all direction of South, South–West, East, and West of East ‘Wallaga’ zone, in the North-West of ‘Horro’ district.

On other hand, there are different types of farming systems across the various agro-ecological zones of the district. These include mixed farming which is predominantly practiced in highland and mid-high land areas by peasant farmers and pastoral rearing of livestock, which widely practiced in lowland areas. After two decades ago, this district were selected for agricultural investment potential amongst districts of ‘Horro Guduru’ zone, However, the areas of agricultural potentialities created displacements and affected the way of life the societies.

3.2. Research Design

I used qualitative research approach of research design to understand the political and economic effect of agricultural farming project. Ethnographic approach also enabled me to understand what land transfer of agricultural investment all about before and after implementation of investment.

3.3. Source of Data

Selecting sources of data is important for reference detail information in the process of collecting data. According to (Chrstensen &Johson, 2012:418), data sources uses for authenticity and accuracy, regardless of whether of sources. The data sources required for analyses of literatures. I looked the direct witness of activities for

verification of my participant information analyzes. Likewise, secondary source of data was collected. Therefore, primary and secondary data sources were used in case of this research.

3.3.1. Primary Data Sources

The case of land grabbing touches the observation of places, activities and events and which will have access of involvement. So, I used this source for developing my analyses of arguments from primary sources of data reviews.

3.3.2. Secondary Data Sources

This method is one step removed from direct contact collection (Johnson and Christensen, 2012:418). I used books, articles, proclamations and journals references to analyze written texts. Mostly, archives of development of agricultural investment materials were used.

3.4. Sampling Methods

The sample survey was designed in consideration of seven ‘kebeles’ out of twenty two ‘kebeles’ investment areas. ‘Kebele’ is the smallest administrative unit in this district. Amongst a districts ‘kebele’ investors; sampling seven out of 21 ‘kebele’ were selected. In ratio the percentage shows 32%. I purposely used sample from all areas of investment to have reliable information.

The selection of the farmer representatives was done by consultation with the local Development Agents (DA). I used DA for selecting of my sample because it is believed that development agents living with community are knowledgeable about the farming community. On other hand, from the twenty-two domestic investors, nine investors were selected for the sample.

. On other hand, I used government officials’ samples from different hierarchical level of at ‘kebele’, district and zonal level. I used both gender from 18 years old. Moreover, different selection criteria used to include women, landless, poor farmers, rich farmers, and elderly (aged farmers). Selection of key informants and officials were done at both level of ‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ zone and at a district agriculture expert.

Accordingly, the prepared questionnaires of interviews were unstructured and semi-structured questionnaires prepared for different level of government officials. On other hand, there was a limitation of number of participant. This happened due to cost and time constraints are among the factors that forced me to limit the number participant engaged in this research.

3.5. Methodological Frameworks

This section describes the methodological frame-works of research methodology. The epistemology of the study and methods of data collection instruments were discussed as follows.

3. 5.1.The Epistemology of the Study

The conceptualization of epistemology is the study of knowledge production. It is the nature of knowledge and way of knowing it. In fact, ways of knowing phenomena depends on our understanding knowledge, reality and truth of idea. Epistemologically, the study area argued as having the social connections of peasants with the environment. The study area of the district has large coverage of different tree. This shows, a full of natural forests resource potential of the study area. Thus, the relation (connection) of socio-environmental nature of peasants posits me to analyze the social relation of peasant with nature. Therefore, I try to understand the socio-cultural and environmental connection of the peasants during my entry to the field.

Ethnographically, the societies have different ethnic groups. The peoples of this district are followers of Muslims, Christians, and ‘Waaqeffataa’ (Oromo indigenous religion). Thus, I used the ethnographic method to have a good relationship with my respondents and to understand the relationships of society with nature. Similarly, due to the post-structural epistemological methodology deal of the social changes; I analyzed the realities changes of knowledge production of the societies of the study area. For example, the connection of societies with the forest made communities to adopt social change because of the dependency on value of forest resources.

Thus, to analyze the effects of social changes, I chose post-structuralism methodology of knowledge production. Hence, this ontological theory focused on the social change; this method helped me to deal with social changes with environment,

culture relationship with agriculture. For example, during entry of my fieldwork, I observed that the natures of livelihoods of society have strong connection with nature. Forest covers almost the entire district. They use a forest resources product and spiritual worship areas as ways of livelihoods. Thus, it shows that the forest resource have become a worship areas as belief system and use as a value of resource uses.

Moreover, after entry to the field, I analyzed that, peasants have a strong connection with forest resources, a climate adaptation capabilities during the seasonal variability of climatic condition. However, due to the local communities of the study areas were resettled to the town migrate to other places because of the land coverage by different agricultural investment; the societies have been lived with the changes in economic and social activities. For example, I analyzed that, the changes from ‘Traditional Farming’ to ‘Mechanized Agriculture’ by the investment land holding which have been affected peasants by cultural changes, copying strategies of peasants due to social changes with the environment.

3.6. Methods of Data Collection Instruments

To achieve the objectives of my research, I used different methods of research procedures. The methods of data collection depend on the type of questions provided for answer. Accordingly, I collected a data through observation, Interview, key informant interviews, focus group discussions. I used seven ‘kebele’ from twenty-two ‘kebele’ of ‘Abe Dongoro’ as a sample. Those kebele’s names are: - ‘Garero, Gorte, Lomica, village 21, village 22, Dalecho, Odo-boti.’ The discussion of methods of data collection mentioned as follows.

3.6.1. Observation

This method of data gathering helps me to find out what and where, how observe my entire data gathering methods opportunities. Hence, this method is one of the widely interviewed ethnographic techniques employed in order to gain the deepest insight about local realities. In more comprehensive terms, observation involves “Direct and sustained social contact with agents, and of richly writing up the encounter, respecting, recording, representing at least partly in its own terms, the irreducibility of human experience” (Willis and Trondman, 2000). In aspects of the observation the

focus of my intentions was to dig out the relevant information on the following basic points of my research questions.

- To examine how were the way of livelihoods of peasants to the new relocation area.
- To observe their current livelihoods status.
- To analyses the aspects of enclosures made my investors.
- To know the level and effects of land grabbing.
- To observe the natural resources of selected 'kebeles' of its environmental situation including farm lands, forested area, water bodies and grazing land.

My observation sessions were interviewed in three times of my field work schedule. All this observation interviewed has enabled to analyze above fact realities in the ground.

3.6.2. Interviews

The main objectives of a research were to generate information through interaction with the issues of local views, perception, attitudes, beliefs, knowledge and practices (Gillham, 2005). Hence, to know some aspects of phenomena; there is interaction of sharing views with subjects and for recognizing the interviews procedures. Similarly, during the field work, I tried to gather the understanding people's, opinion, meaning they have towards the agribusiness investment.

The process of selection of methods was facilitated by me and Developmental Agent (DA) of 7 'kebeles' areas. The interviewee has three groups. The members of the group have twelve, seven and also seven members respectively. On other hand, there were individual interviews also held for eight respondents. For this research, adult peoples argument also gave due consideration because of adults were supposed to help the family members and for themselves as well. Participants were interviewed in groups and individuals by combining both sexes. The interviewees were above 18 years old and both sexes are included in the interview method. The cause of land grabbing and its effects were discussed with those interview participants.

3.6.3. Key Informant Interview

I used key informant interview method purposely for selected questions which requests interviewee of government offices like investment office, land management, agriculture offices of different hierarchical level. The selections of the respondents were by purposive sampling method. Interviews were particularly well suited and collected in individual about the problem of agricultural investment on peasants.

Thus, interviews were made by considering the selection of the stakeholders of agricultural investment offices. In fact, 'Elite interview' is important for the purposive questionnaires to talking people who are especially knowledgeable about agricultural developmental projects of research (Gillham, 2005:54). For this purposes, I used the key informant interview. Among my interviewer's types, I used techniques individual interviewees, from those who are experience and understanding of intended questions. The selected respondents were 19 in which eleven of them are male. The selected interviewees have background knowledge about the agricultural investment and have positions in their different government offices.

On other hand, there are different ways of delivering question for participants. Among them, I used unstructured and semi-structured interview. Unstructured interview uses open-ended narratives inquiry. Semi-structured interview were used for developing the details of the question (Gillham, 2005:46-48, &70-76).

3.6.4. Focus Group Discussion

This method is useful to know the different groups dynamics in discussion process. Dawid, et al, (2015:17), identified the nature and degree of bias in analysis and interpretation of Focus Group Discussion (FGD). Four FGD was conducted in this study area. The groups have eight, six, seven and nine members respectively. In FGD, I purposively used both sexes indifferent group in order to get trustworthy ideas without fear. The selected FGD were used purposely for check and balances of arguments raised in discussion. The main reasons of FGD I used were to analyze the ways of land transfer to investor's activities.

I used this method to get information of the consultation and their treatment of free, fair and informed consent cases of displaced local communities. The selections of participant were among displaced peasants, who used to live in ‘Tullu-Gana’ town, ‘Dalecho’, Village 21, ‘Gorte kebele’ of agricultural investors projects. FGD’s were interviewed separately in different day.

3.7. Methods of Data Analysis

The methods of data analyses were from primary and secondary sources. I used the combination of data sources for this thesis’s analyses. Then after, the finding and discussions were interpreted by using qualitative research approach.

3.8. Ethical Consideration

Ethical consideration was given from beginning of field work to final dissertation. The way of relationship with participant and other involved body names were kept for research use only. The action which taken in means of audio, video and text information was depends on agreement with the respondents. Chellisa (2012:196), described as ‘*Us* and *Others*’ for researcher responsibility, connectedness, togetherness social justice and harmony embodied in ‘I/We relationship principle’.

Therefore, the participants name kept ethically for the reader of this thesis. Similarly, in this study area, different speakers of language have been living in ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district. So, due to existence of various cultural values and norms during my research I gave ethical consideration during process by giving codes of investors name in this thesis. For example, I respected my respondent date of appointment selection by giving priorities. I keep a time of my appointment during field work and respect my respondent’s ideas and thought by listening up to end of finishing participants ideas.

Also, keeping secret is another ethical consideration in this thesis. For instance, the names of my respondent were kept secret in my thesis. Therefore, my respondents have no doubt in forwarding their arguments. Likewise, respecting of culture is another ethical aspect of my research area. For instance, the clothing style I used to wear was similar to areas of my clothing style and the clothing style of ordinary place was different. Hence, during my interviewed times wearing similar and odd clothes

have different meaning before my respondent face. Accordingly, idea, argument and perception of people analyzed in ethical ways. On other hand, participants were interviewed by keeping the right to abstain and participate in interview. In fact, during interview I respected the one who abstain his/her ideas. Hence, it was argued that respecting and using the ethical protocol principle have contribution for accomplishment of this research.

CHAPTER FOUR

4. THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ANALYSES OF AGRIBUSINESS FARMING IN ‘ABE-DONGORO’ DISTRICT

4.1. The General Overviews of Economic Activities in ‘Abe-Dongoro’ District

‘Abe-Dongoro’ district has economic potential mainly in agricultural production and forest resources. According to the sources of ‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ investment office shows, major agricultural investments found in this district (Tamiru, 2019). Accordingly, 22 investors have been engaging in agricultural farming investment. The large part of the land areas was the main source of economic potential of the district. However; lowland area was supposed as idle land sparsely populated people live in this area.

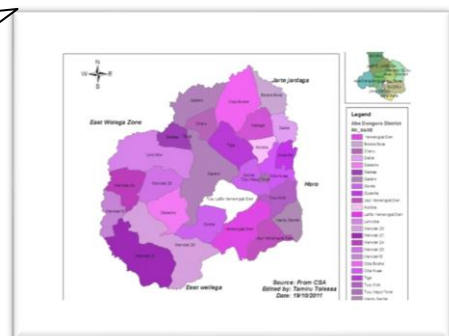
The districts depend mainly on land and land products of agricultural activities, like animal husbandry, crop production, bee keeping and forest resources. People have been engaging up on these all agricultural farming and non-farming. For instance, societies exchange its resources for buying and selling through market. People have been trading by using the market for exchange of goods and services or exchange from areas of low price to high price of the product for a long time. Therefore, the market of this district has a contribution for economic activities.

Physical Location ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district in map

Map1. Map of ‘Oromia’



Map 2. Map of Abe Dongoro



Source: - From ‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ Socio-economic Profile

4.2. Economic Analyze of the Agribusiness Schemes

The analyses of objectives in economic development of agricultural farming have both positive and negative effect. According to CSA (2014), around 80 % of peoples in Ethiopia depend on agriculture. This means, almost economic sector of Ethiopia peoples were dominated by agricultural activities. Depending on the role of agriculture, the following are analyses of agricultural investment objectives. The analyses was depending on the major objectives of agriculture on employment opportunities, use of mechanized tools in agriculture, increase marketing profit, use of special seed multiplying techniques and contribution raw material the input to process other materials. The analyses of agricultural farming project discussion are as follows.

Firstly, the objectives of agriculture were to develop mechanized machines by using technology for the agricultural development by using mechanized technology starting from land selection, planting, harvesting to storing and delivering. However, the investigation of key informant interviewee⁴ shows the investment could not enabled for increasing the technology by use of mechanized machines for agricultural production. However, it did not help in the technology transfer due to local investor's activities of renting machineries instead of buying the new machineries. These technologies were supposed to enable to process the agricultural farming and helps agricultural development led to industrialization strategies. Moreover, among my interviewee on my second session of field work, investors revealed the ways of the agricultural machines used states as follows:

Most of the agricultural investors have been used the farming machineries by renting from others investors. Very few investors have one or two types of machineries. Most of them have no machinery. This was because of cost of machineries and minimum capital of investors during the process of agricultural production.

Secondly, another analyzes of objective on agricultural farming was to increase profit by assessing market to areas of profitable market place. This was analyzed during the time of high price of the market product. However, the objectives of the agricultural

⁴ interviewee number #10: interviewed on date 13.12.2019

investment were to use food security by supplying the agricultural production varieties to local communities; the local investors have no willingness to sell their product to the local market. Investors prefer to sell at Addis Ababa. Thus, this affects by unavailability's of technology transfer.

Thirdly, other analyses of economic objectives were to use special seed multiplying by using techniques of agricultural extension. However, observations of field work shows from 22 investors, only two investors have been producing multiplying different special seed varieties. This shows shortages in multiplying seed varieties. Thus, I analyzed that, during shortage of rain season, there were no enough seed varieties for planting crop for seedling. Therefore, it shows that, in next year of plantation, a special seed supply shortage can affect both investors and local communities.

Fourthly, contribution of raw materials for agro processing industry as an input was another economic objective of agricultural farming. But, the analyses of interviewee⁵ shows, there were the problem to sell the product to the consumer or to supply to other industry which uses the resources as a raw material. These were because of presence of agent (dealer) between producers, consumers, shortage of finance, information gap with exporter and national and international financial dealers of marketing⁶.

Finally, Analyses of contribution for employment opportunities of manpower was economic objectives of the agricultural farming. However, according to interviewee⁷; in spite of job creation, the wage rates for labor were low. For example, the above respondent sounds its effect by stating:

.... As a head of investment board at district, level job creation was a first requirement for investment during the process of investment. However, amongst investors one told to me to register 200 peoples during the harvesting period for agricultural project. Accordingly, I announced a job vacancy by stating for temporary on notice board on street. Then after, laborers were

⁵ Individual interviewee Interviewed on the second group discussion

⁶ Interviewee number #7: interviewed on date 23.10.2019

⁷ Interviewee number #: interviewed on date 18.10 .2019

registered for the planned date of assigned work. However, on time of harvesting period, investors come to my office to get registered labor force for work. However, he did not get all of them. Some looks for other work. Others refused for wage rate of their salary. Thus, the investors went back with nothing at hand.

This shows the effect of wage rate payment effect in areas of agricultural farming. Hence, to solve wage effects, wage rate payment needs to make frame work policies.

In general, the above analyzes of economic objectives have positive implication on job creation, food crises, and stabilizing the market prices. However, its impacts were more than its benefits upon farmers of the study area.

4.2.1. Abe-Dongoro District Livelihood Analysis and Economic Contributions

The agricultural farming has contribution for the socio-economic and cultural way of livelihoods of local communities. The below analyses livelihood ways of economic activities have contribution for the economic development and status of local peoples. The following were the economic activities discussions.

4.2.1.1. Crop Production

‘Abe-Dongoro’ district has abundant resource of land for crop production. For instance, cereals, oil seeds and pulses were the major types of agricultural production (Tamiru, 2019). According to above author, the district produced cereal 1,681,436 quintals, pulse 27,792 quintals, oilseeds 20.505 quintals in 2017. This shows that, the district has the agricultural production potential for marketing and home uses. Among the major economic activities, crop production took the lion share for contribution to household consumption. Also, the crop production has a significant role for marketing and for livelihoods uses.

According to individual interviewee⁸, who has been living in ‘Tullu-Gana’ town described that; the local community’s sow the crops by looking the rain season. This means, if there were minimum rain, they sow the sorghum. On other hand, if there is excess rain they saw maize. This activities reveals the peasant have knowledge of

⁸ Individual interviewee of number# 8: interviewed on date 15.11.2019

environmental changes especially during the shortage of rain. Among types of crops ‘teff’, wheat, maize, sorghum, barley, rice and oats can be cultivated. Maize and sorghum are the main cereal crops produced in this district.

However, examination of sources shows, fluctuation of rainfall, increase of costs of agricultural input, large number of unproductive labor, land degradation & loss of fertility, deforestation due to expansion of agricultural land and increased population size, unimproved agricultural technology, absence of local research for encouragement on farmers plot/farm, absence of traditional, modern irrigation scheme and absence of crop diversification were the major constraints of agricultural production (Tamiru, 2019).

Similarly, the natures of crop production varieties were influenced by the weather condition and land fertilities. These all factors influence the amount of crops production. However, the local people took different action to handle the constraints of agriculture. For instance, according to respondent⁹ from ‘Galessa Kebele’ shows people looks to plant the seeds depending on the weather condition like during the rain passed end of harvesting time; they look to seedling crop varieties, which grow in short period of time. On other hand, there was 35 Farmer’s service co-operatives renders for members in field of agricultural farming activities. Among services provided agricultural input distribution are grain marketing and credit services (Tamiru, 2019). This shows local peoples engagement on farmer’s cooperation union to get benefits in agricultural activities.

4.2.1. 2. Livestock Raring

Livestock raring also plays a great role in day-to-day life of society, especially in peasant life. Investigation of second round observation session shows, livestock raring provides meat and milk, transport, manure, skin and hides & furnishes regular & easily realizable cash income. Cattle, sheep, goats, horses, mules, donkey and poultry were among livestock raring in ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district. But, in contrast to the size of the livestock population in physical and value productivity were low (Ibid, 2019).

⁹ Group interviewees number #9: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

Like-wise, the sources of interviewee¹⁰ reveal that, the farm oxen have a great contribution for village 20 'kebele'. Peasant households entirely depend on cultivation of crops and rearing of animals for their livelihood. Hence, Livestock is the most important asset and uses to access other important factors of production, particularly draft labor. Also, Livestock is a crucial labor force of production that supplements the ability of household to cultivate their land properly and on time. Therefore, livestock production was among dominant local livelihood activities by the local communities in the study area.

On other hand, there were different ways of livestock contribution for local communities. People use livestock provide cash in income or income in kind. For instance, according to FGD¹¹ shows, they have been lived by the livestock rearing or by selling livestock products like milk, meat, eggs and other animal products. Moreover, livestock uses for transportation services. In fact, the topography of this district has ups and down topography. Therefore, the livestock means of transport was influenced by hills and gorges of variable land scale. According to FGD¹², who have been living on village 20 respondent reveals that, the usability of transportation service of mule has a great contribution for day to day transportation service. Furthermore, people use the livestock to accumulate the capital, fattening the cattle for the market for high prices of cattle market.

On other way, saving capacity depends on what the local people produce & they obtain. Thus, to produce large amount of crop, farmers should possess fertile land, farm oxen, improved seed, fertilizer, credit facility & know-how or technologies. On other hand, observation from the field work of my second round session revealed that, area available for livestock grazing were areas of communal land. Besides; the farms oxen need medical care and interrupted follow up in order that not to be attacked by a serious animal disease.

¹⁰ Group three interviewees: interviewed on date 25.12.2019

¹¹ FGD of group three interviewees: interviewed on date 9.07.2020

¹² FGD of group three interviewees: interviewed on date 9.07.2020

4.2.1.3. Forest Resource Use

According to elders of ‘Tullu-Wayyu’ dweller of interviewee¹³ revealed, areas of ‘Abe-Dongoro’ were full of forest. The elder discussed uses of forest for human being and for animals by stating:

‘Abe-Dongoro’ forest have different types of trees planted naturally in this district, It was the place of animals living place of lion, ape, monkey etc. has been living in this area. ...forest is a food, money and shelter. We use this forest for bee farming, lumbering, charcoal burning and firewood. Though, things were changed, the so-called ‘investment’ has been clearing the forest. Now the barren lands were seen here and there. I’m analyzing the desert has been coming to us. Even though, a small forest left, there were still in the hands of the state which is in danger condition.

According to the above analyses, people of this area were heavily relied on forests and natural resources. This means that, forest resources played a major role for local household’s income and livelihood security. Therefore, forest resources have economic, social, cultural contributions for local communities. However, it was severely threatening by the investment land holdings. For example, according to the interviewee¹⁴ told that, forests and tree resource played a significant contribution by providing the source for food, firewood, construction materials, and medicinal plants. Forests and associated products such as, honey production, firewood and charcoal, cash crops and fruits are among the major local products based on forest areas surrounding ‘kebele’ of uses ‘Tullu-lafto’ forest. Thus, I analyzed that, peasants have been supporting households by involving in the above-mentioned forest uses for home consumption and market uses.

Moreover, according to my respondent interviewee¹⁵ from ‘Galessa kebele’ shows that forest play vital for provision of basic benefits and opportunities for rural communities. However, the respondents told that, the uses of forest by the people have been seriously on diminishing because of land grabbing. Therefore, based on

¹³ Individual interviewee of number#2: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

¹⁴ Key informant interviewee number#14: interviewed on date, 12.11.2019

¹⁵ Group three interviewees: interviewed on date 9.12.2019

cultural and environmental benefits of forest uses discussed above, I argued that, keeping forests are important assets to rural communities because of accessibilities of for resource uses to the peasants. Thus, forests could be recognized as an important resource base for social, economic and cultural and spiritual wellbeing of the local communities.

4.3. Analyses on Aspects of Political power usages for Agricultural Farming Control and its Failure in Implementations

The global rise of food security and inflation becomes one of major state challenges. To alleviate these problems, government took different political measures. Even though, the following are political power usage to control agribusiness farming for implementation of land acquisition; there was series ineffective political power usages prevailed in the study area. Amongst political power usages, first, to making a foreign relation with Ethiopia borders countries corridors, to use ports, rail way, trucks for exporting agricultural products and importing the product for domestic products. However, analyzes of secondary sources of data reveals, Ethiopia opens the north part of corridor and has created economic and political relation with Eritrea. The relation has significant contribution with Eritrea. For instance, the construction of dry land asphalt road to facilitate the import and export product was one of opportunities between two countries. However, in spite of political stabilities; there were no significant changes occurred. For example, the road from Ethiopia to Eritrea via ‘Zalanbessa’ town was closed for a while (EBC news¹⁶).

Moreover, to increase investors in Ethiopia improving investment policy in areas of agricultural production was another political objective of agricultural investment. However, sources of interview shows, levels of agricultural production in consecutive year were decreasing due to the land degradation and soil erosion. Furthermore, another political power usage for land acquisition was to decrease unemployment by taking political measures. But, unemployment minimization strategies were failed due to abuse of power exercise by agricultural farming investors and state officials.

¹⁶ Social media sources of Ethiopia Broadcasting Corporate Forecasted on date of 21, 09,2019

On other hand, according to (USDA, 2019) analyses, employment opportunities can be gained if graduate student has expertise in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources or the environment. However, report data source¹⁷ shows between 2015 and 2020 the inadequacy of resources for reducing uncertainty by the power exercise effect in areas of land surveying has impacted on infrastructural development.

On other way, another political control was to decrease uncomfortable work condition and environmental exposures for infrastructural development implementation. However, source of interviewee¹⁸ reveals, investors did not gave due consideration and fulfilled the criteria of investment rules and regulation. For instance, the environmental effect assessments were did not accomplish during process of investment in almost all in the study areas. Therefore, it needs implementation of strategic political measures of investment regulation to reduce the level of uncertainty, land surveying resources as well as land use management.

On other hand, to create foreign relation was another political measure to control land. Schrecker, et al (2018), analyses of implication of foreign relation, to reduce the factor of drivers and enable extraction of investment on the environment. Authors examines, how global order shapes and interacts with politics, institutions and policies at the state (national) level contextualizing extractive activity.

On other way, Schrecker, & et al, (2018), also figure out with the link the global political, economic effect and national politics and institutional practices surrounding extraction with health outcomes and their distribution. This means, the dynamics of cause and effects of the global politics and economy, national politics and institutional practices has impact up on health. Likewise, a Key informant interviewee¹⁹ shows the extraction of forest in 'Abe-Dongoro' created unfavorable weather condition. For example, the respondent sounds the effect on health and environment as follows:

.... 'Tullu-Lafto' forest, which covers large part of districts land used as food, honey bee, charcoal, lumbering. The forest have supposed of a place where

¹⁷ Secondary Data Source

¹⁸ Interviewed in group

¹⁹ Individual interviewee of number #22: interviewed on date 22,11,2019.

ninety nine rivers exists. Also, it was the place of different animals home. However, after investment of agricultural farming; the forest is at in danger. I hear the forest were planned to be a park even from a time of 'Dergue' ruling regime. However, still now it is not implemented legally.

On other way, the idea of Ethiopia's economic and social development was assumed by attracting investors for Foreign Direct Investments (FDI). However, the flaws Ethiopia's regulatory framework regulation policy has critiques on land use management (Ibid, 2018). In fact; effective land use management has contribution for land governance. Moreover, another political control of land for agricultural farming was to implement the use principles of good governance in process of land for investors (FAO, 2009).

In fact, FAO focused on agencies for compulsorily acquisition; land should be accountable for the good faith for implementation of the legislation process. Basically, laws observed by local officials undermined the legitimacy of compulsory acquisition. For example, in my first interviewee²⁰ from 'Tullu-Gana' town shows, lack of good governance examined in process of land acquisition for agricultural investment. On other hand, good governance reduces the abuse of power and opportunities for corruption. However, investigations of interview shows, reluctances in implementing land holding certificate, state avoidance of confirming the holding of peasant lands and uninformed consent of land of peasant.

On other hand, FAO (2009), focused on land acquisition which depends on principles for the sake relevant international recognized authorities. According to FAO, there were '*Principles for legislation on compulsory acquisition of land.*' FAO described the protection of due process and fair procedure. Hence, rules of reasonable constraints on the power of the government for compulsorily land acquisition strengthen the confidence of people in the justice system, empower people to protect their land rights and increase the perception of tenure security.

However, one of my key interviewee²¹, who has a high level job position, revealed his opinion by saying, “Almost all the investors have no legalized in process of land transfer”. From this opinion, one could interpret that, there were no efficient land transfer mechanism in the study areas. Therefore, rules should provide effective consultation, participatory planning and accessible mechanisms for appeals to promote legitimacy of land acquisition.

According to FAO argument, ‘*Equivalent Compensation*’ and claimants should be paid compensation which is ‘no more’ or ‘no less than’ the loss resulting from the compulsory acquisition of their land. Laws should ensure that affected owners and occupants receive equivalent compensation, whether in money or alternative land. Regulations should set out clear and consistent valuation bases for achieving the compensation. However, problems may arise when compulsory acquisition is not done well. For example, according to FGD²² shows, agricultural investment created opportunities for corruption and abuse of power, the lack of protection and transparency. This resulted injustices, which anger citizens and undermine the legitimacy of government.

On other hand, sources from data collection²³, in case of ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district, major land were withdrawal by investors during 1984/95 EC of EPDRF ruling party without prior land holder in areas of investment. However, recent land acquisition given for unemployment people for agricultural production become case which have been seen their problem in court. On other hand, issues of carbon emission effects global ozone needs to proper considered. Hence, from above discussions I understand that, the use compulsory acquisition of land for private development should undergo a public analysis to ensure the balance between the public need for land and the protection of private property.

²¹ Interviewee number #11: interviewed on date 16.12.2019.

²² Group three of village 20 Interviewees: interviewed on date 09.7.2020

²³ Interviewees number#1: Interviewed on date 18.10 .2019.

Likewise, the compensation due to refusal by investors reflects the profit potential of the land acquisition. Therefore, it needs providing the frame-work of legal regulations by commitment of agency with instructions on how to carry out compulsory acquisition.

4.3.1. The Analyses on the Effects Political Control of land Overviews of the ‘Abe-Dongoro’ District

Land used for agriculture is a multidimensional tool that is relevant in the economic growth of a nation. The African economy is heavily reliant on agriculture, especially for African states that do not benefit from oil reserves (African Business, 2010). Above report reveals that about 60% of African workers were employed in the agricultural sector which accounts for more than 30% of the GDP. Similarly, Ethiopian mostly relies on agriculture. Similarly, the study area also depends on agricultural contribution. Similarly, the Abe-Dongoro district mostly relies on agriculture.

However, the study area source shows that, small-scale farmers often live in remote and environmentally fragile location of marginalized population. According to examination of key informant interviewee²⁴ shows, due to use of political power exercise in economic areas affected the peasants and their livelihoods ways. The following are some of the characteristics of miss management in political influence of state power exercise on peasants.

4.3.1. 1. Corruption

The analyses of study area shows, most of land acquisitions have corruptive characteristics. The activities of disrespecting legal and responsive ways of land transfer, the untrustworthy of state officials were engaged in corruption with the investor for the need of self-help. These activities were observed from the most of investors land acquisition process. In fact, corruption has adverse effect on economic growth of the study area. Therefore, it needs making sure of free from corruption and commitment in attracting investors in areas of land acquisition for investment.

²⁴ Interviewee number 25: interviewed on date 27.11.2019

4.3.1.2. The Power Exercise Abuse on Land Transfer

State has authority for subsidize, protect farmers against sudden price fluctuations. However, examination of FGD²⁵ shows there were misuses of political power during exercise of political power for market intervention. Agricultural production affected the local community's ways of livelihoods. For instance, above FGD also shows that absence of crop supplies for local communities were affected by inflation of the market by shortage of market supply. In other hand, state affects the societies by either removal or reduction of subsidies. These affect small-scale production especially in terms of inputs. This was evident in the availability of fertilizer an essential input in the study area reveals decline in subsistence agriculture.

On other way, the level of power usage have influences agricultural farming. This means, the power exercise of state has effect on both investors and local communities. According sources²⁶ of Ethiopia structure and division of power of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia comprises the federal government and state members that have legislative, executive and judicial powers in (FDRE proclamation number 1/1995). However, structure of state power has the reluctance of implementing effective and efficient land transfer mechanism. According to investment board of Oromia proclamation number 03/2004, concerning investment the power of land transfer, was given to different state level depending on the hectares of land requisition. According to the proclamation, land transfer mechanism has standards depending on number of hectares, number of employment opportunities. Likewise, the minimum and maximum standard sizes of pilot size (hectares) of investment type and capital requisition were among the standard of investment project land acquisition.

The land acquisition for investments needs a time to decide land acquisition processes. For instance, land acquisition processes by state have low investment attraction country. For example, according to sources²⁷ of broadcasting media of Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporate (EBC) news, Ethiopia is among the least seven

²⁵ FGD of group 4 interviewees: interviewed on date 11.7.2020

²⁶ Secondary data source

²⁷ Secondary data source

investment attractions among the world (2019). According to Regasa, & et al, (2018), extractive agrarian politics thickens the state. This shows how much Ethiopia is far for investment attraction and unfavorable for land acquisition process. Therefore, cases of investment process take a time and needs commitment in power exercise to increase attraction of investors.

On other way, there were complains of investors prevailed in this district due to state abuses of power. For example, according to one of investment source shows there shall have fulfilled the prerequisites of investment requirement procedure. The land transferred were 49 hectares for seven members of group. However, according to individual interviewee²⁸, whom was member of in investment, land transferred to them has a problem during process of land acquisition. Primarily, lands given to them were supposed to idle lands which were assumed as common areas.

On other hand, from local communities, there was one compliant, who used to live in that area. Then, the case of land acquisition by the investors and claimant accused to the court. According to individual interviewee²⁹, the court cases, made them for unusual payment and unfair treatment by investment officers process. Their cases were seen first at zonal level. Here, the above interviewer argument shows why the land transfer process first hasn't free from the claimer and why it made payment. However, based on the court decision, the offender took 34,000 Birr and charged to withdraw the land for investors. The reasons of payment given by investors were due to consideration given for the estimation of compensation of planted crops on the land and charge of withdrawal of land given after assessment of legal occupation the person has no legalized. The investors were defended their cases.

4.3.1.3. Analyses of Effects concerning land Uses Legal Framework Activities

State has declaration to provide the legal policy proclamation frame-work for employment opportunity, foreign exchange contribution and food security. Effective implementation of land acquisition for investment requires implementation of the legal framework of rules and regulation of land acquisition process. On other hand,

²⁸ Interviewee number#5: interviewed on date 15.10.2019

²⁹ Individual interviewee: interviewed on date 15.10.2019

before land transfer to investors, investors have to fulfill the criteria of the impact assessment of local communities and other requirement criteria like, initial capital and other regulation for land to investors, have a significant contribution for state land use implementation.

However, lack of comprehensive land acquisition process, which was incompatible with the '*FAO compulsory land acquisition protocols*' affected both state and local communities land use interests. Thus, as the interviewee revealed that, there was a limitation of implementing the investor's requirement criteria before land transfer to investors. These analyzes shows the mismanagement and ineffective land management abuses of power uses in the study area.

4.3.1.4. The Pseudo Priority of Agricultural Sector

Agriculture support industry by supplying raw material as input. Ethiopian government gave agricultural sector priority for supporting the agriculture. For example, the state has been importing wheat from abroad during the two successive decades of Ethiopian ruling government to support in period of food shortage.

Similarly, sources show that Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed discussion to EBC (Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporate) by saying, "We have been saying agriculture is back bone of Ethiopian agriculture by leaving state asides agricultural facilities for farmers." Instead, he briefed that, 'We are giving industrial priority for the employment contribution.' This shows that, state gave priorities of industry rather than agricultural sector. Here, the idea of Abiy's was only for propagating state developmental planning of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) by saying the motto of '*Agricultural Development led Industrialization*'.

Similarly, I have not seen the state service for helping peasants to increase agricultural production. For example, the limitation of state credit services for agricultural input supplies, agricultural extension program and use of mechanized agricultural tools prevalence affected the economic growth.

4.4. The Condition of Agricultural Investments in ‘Abe-Dongoro’ and Investors Profile

The agricultural investment profile of ‘Abe-Dongoro’ started since 1984. During that time, the numbers of hectares given for investor were small. All of lands transferred were licensed on the agricultural farming. Most of them engaged small and medium-scale agricultural farming like cash crops and oilseed and pulses. Especially maize and sorghum have been cultivating for market.

According to traditional land acquisition process the investigation from key informant interviewee³⁰ and focus group discussion interviewee³¹ reveals that, lands were transferred for all of agricultural investors (see table below for details). Thus, illegal land acquisitions opened conflict over resource use. Therefore, the areal demarcations from the local people’s land holding were not actual point demarcations that have been becoming conflict over resource.

Table.2. ‘Abe-Dongoro Investor’s Profile

No	Investors Name/organization (by code)	Village (‘Kebele’)	Area in (Hectare)	Capitals	Job opportunities			
					Solid		Temporary	
					Male	Female	Male	Female
1	Code number 1	Garero	150	17,176,328	1	-	18	3
2	Code number 2	Village 21	50	150,000	1	1	14	-
3	Code number 3	Garero	50	150,000	1	1	9	-
4	Code number 4	Gorte	50	284,000	1	1	22	4
5	Code number 5	Gorte	60	150,000	-	1	14	5
6	Code number 6	Dalecho	50	817,682	1	1	11	3
7	Code number 7	Gorte	60	500,000	2	1	27	6
8	Code number 8	Gorte	50	6,650,220	1	-	6	4
9	Code number 9	Village 21	150	893,000	1	1	17	2
10	Code number 10	Odo Boti	200	1,000,000	-	-	-	-
11	Code number 11	Village 21	100	1,500,000	1	1	9	1
12	Code number 12	Village 21	40	2,0000,000	2	1	12	-
13	Code number 13	Dalecho	251.46	15,000,000	7	4	44	12
14	Code number 14	Gorte	40	1,000,000	4	1	21	9

³⁰ Number # 17 interviewee: interviewed on date 21.11.2019

³¹ number #4 interviewee: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

15	Code number 15	Village 20	50	200,000	-	-	-	-
16	Code number 16	Dalecho	40	1,500,000	1	1	16	4
17	Code number 17	Garero	150	436,000	1	1	13	2
18	Code number 18	Gorte	40	295,000	3	1	19	6
19	Code number 19	Lomica	112.8	1,500,000	1	1	15	1
20	Code number 20	Dalecho	50	22,422,860	-	-	-	-
21	Code number 21	Village 20	59.78	10,164,412	-	-	-	-
22	Code number 22	Garero	NA	NA	-	-	19	2

Key.NA: Not Available

Source: Author

4.4.1. Victims of Agribusiness Farming on Accessibility of Natural Resources

FDRE constitution proclaimed about local people right to use land and its natural resources for livelihoods. The FDRE 1995 article 40 sub articles 3-5 gives recognition by stating:

The right to ownership of rural and urban land, as well as all-natural resource, is exclusively vested in the states and in the people of Ethiopia. Land is common property of the nation nationality and the people of Ethiopia and shall not be subject to sale or to other means of exchange. Ethiopia pastoralist have the right to free land for grazing and cultivation as well as the right not to be displaced from their own land.

Here, land is described as both property of state and people. In fact, the concept of land is the combination of natural resources. These means, people has a right to use land and natural resources as well. People have the right to land and cultivation of its resources. On other hand, this article describes, the right to not be displaced from the prior land holding.

On other hand, the world global ozone warming has been increasing as forest clearing continuous and affects natural resources. The natural resources include forest, mineral, water resources. In relation to the impact of agricultural farming cases, global warning increase when culture of planting the forest decrease. These have impacted on accessibilities of natural resource use on local communities. For

example, the examination of interviewee³² shows, the local communities, who live near by the projects affected by displacement and minimum compensation given for communities.

According to a key interviewee³³ description, almost all investment of agricultural production did not plant 2% forest. Analyses of field work shows, forest uses for fire woods, charcoal and selling firewood for peasants near investment. However, the investor's refusal of planting forest doubled the effects on peasants by exploiting the environment. Moreover, peasants were evicted from right use natural resource. As I analyzed from the above land right, mineral resources are also among land and natural resource use right. This means, people has also right to use mineral resources. For example, among 'Abe-Dongoro' district have mineral potentials of minerals categories of metallic, non-metallic and construction (Tamiru, 2019). However, lack of investment promotion and distance from the center, neither state nor local people use the mineral resources.

Furthermore, other natural resources of this district were water resources. However, according to focus group discussion³⁴ examination shows, local people have denied the water uses because of this resource were enclosure for agricultural usages. Therefore, these trends of agriculture forces people to relocate to nearby village areas.

In general, from the above interviewee I analyzed that, land and its natural resource considered as an important economic and social asset where the status and prestige of people were determined. However, above respondent argument shows ineffective resource used by investors. Therefore, effective uses of natural resource and giving due consideration to right of land and natural resource use has significant contribution for accessibility this resource for community.

³² Group 2 interviewees: interviewed on date 13.12.2019

³³ Interviewee number#1: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

³⁴ Interviewees of group 1: interviewed on date 6.7.2020

4.4.2. Role of State during Process of Land Transfer

Article 40 of the FDRE constitution sanctions public ownership of land ownership as vested by the state and the people of Ethiopia. On the other hand, the land acquisition requires consideration of systems to administration land rights. According to Anne-Marie, & et al (2006), the range of factors of land acquisition process depends on the livelihoods ways of society, the nature and extent of the land resources availability. The author described the scope of the state authority as the benchmark function of land acquisition process. Anne, & et al (2006) described, state authority for recognition of property rights, which is an essential and core function of the state.

Similarly, state have obligation and responsibilities for effective arrangements, institutional structures reform to support and coordinate core land functions, considerations of accountability and transparency to reduce corrupt activities. On other way, according to data sources, the institutional arrangement of land administration touches many other issues, including community participation, governance, and sustainability and making decisions in the field. For instance, in reviewing institutional arrangements for land administration, several issues aroused: firstly, the organizational structure, roles and responsibilities of the institutions providing the core land administration functions (registration, surveying, and mapping). Secondly, states decentralization of land administration for land acquisition process. Thirdly, linkages of the core land administration function to other land sector agencies and functions. Finally, private sectors have the role for contributing land acquisition process (ibid, 2006).

Likewise, to develop efficient and appropriate land management system, improvement of land administration maintenance of updated land record right is very important (Monzur, 2015). For example, information technology is a solution to integrate the system and allow easy and quick fix of problems. Monzure (2015), described the improvement of land administration and management system by development of land information system.

According to the author, a well-developed Land Information System (LIS) is important to facilitate quick capturing, retrieval and querying of different cartographic

information. Land management, land use control, provision of utility services and other services can be pursued by computerized by LIS. This system would serve unified services related to land management by marginal labor, time and money. Hence, the use of LIS for recording and maintaining the original volume of land records can minimize the chances of tampering of records. If any change in the ownership is updated in real time through the computer-based system, agencies can manage the ownership ledgers in a unified fashion and allow anyone to check the current ownership information any time they want.

Moreover, Monzure (2015) described, ‘The Improvement of Land Administration and Management System’ through Information Technology capacity development for information management. The author noted the use of land registration information, digitization planning, IT system installation and operation, acquisition of resources and infrastructure as well as management of land ownership information for land management. On other way, state can play a role to develop Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism the local level for improvement of land administration and management (Monzure, 2015). According to author argument, the need of ADR could be viewed from three different perspectives. They are: interest of the state, interest of the stakeholders (judges, lawyers, mediators and litigants) and public perception. Similarly, Ethiopia plays similar roles for land management process. According to sources of FDRE constitution of Article 40 sub-article 4; proclaimed states responsibilities by stating, “Ethiopia peasants have right to obtain land without payment and protection against eviction from their possession.” This means, state has responsibilities to give land and responsibilities to protect the land.

Likewise, FDRE constitution in article 41, sub-article 4 states that, the state has obligation to allocate ever increasing resources to provide the public health, education and other social services. Here, the ideas of other social services include land and other natural resources for which state shall provide for peoples of Ethiopia. However, according to key informant interviewee³⁵ argued that, lands transferred for investors in ‘Abe- Dongoro’ district were ineffective ways of land transfer to investors. Areas

³⁵ Interviewee number #11: interviewed on 16.12.2019

of land demarcation were not held in according to land proclamation of land transfer mechanism.

On other hand, investors were accused in law because of their incomplete prerequisite of investment criteria of state land acquisition processes. The above analyses of data sources of state land acquisition criteria; observation field work shows, almost all of investors were engaged in misused land holding. For example, investors took the land illegally by more than doubling. However, neither the requisition of the land recognized as extension of land added to their land holdings; nor withdrawal made to land bank of the state (Ibid, 2019).

However, state has a responsibility in land resource management. Therefore, it requires keeping the efficient land management especially during land transfer process by doing efficient and effective management of land for sustainable means of livelihoods.

4.4.3. Analyses of Agricultural Investors Claims

The investor's engagement in agribusiness farming have a contribution as a catalyst of economic development, source of technology transfer, boosting food security especially national and global food security, sources of employment and source of export earnings. However, there were several problems encountered during land transferred to investors. The legal number of hectares land transferred for investment of agricultural production and the number of hectares given for investors engagement were not similar. The illegal land holding prevails in the study area. Thus, investors claim to legalize the illegal land holding. On other hand, during the expansion of agricultural production, investors faced problems to register extra land holding. This shows claims of land ownership certificate.

On other way, investors were claiming the grabbed land to legalize ownerships; soil fertilities of the land were declining and did not yield the production with the previous year. According to individual Interviewee³⁶ opinion, the fertility of land was decreasing from time to time due to climate change reasons. Also, the loss of soil

³⁶ Interviewee number #7: interviewed on date 23.10.2019

fertilities cases were affected by soil erosion due to climatic change. According to Morgan (2006), effects of agricultural land where the distribution of soil in the field, the loss of soil from a field, the breakdown of soil structure, the decline in organic matter, nutrient results in reduction of cultivable soil depth and decline soil fertility.

On other way, the effects of soil fertility in the study area resulted decline of varieties of crop production and to mono cropping. Thus, according to above author argument, the lands which were affected by soil erosion were shifted to the maize production. This show, engaging the market by using one production item influences the investors in terms of market price. On other hand, there were strategies for soil erosion in order to increase soil fertilities.

Soil erosion costs the US economy between US \$ 30 billion price annually (Morgan 2006).Therefore, agronomic and mechanical conservation measures has to implemented to conserve soil erosion. The author, illustrated, agronomic measure of covering soil surface, increasing surface roughness, increasing surface depression storage, increasing infiltration, soil management, fertilizers, manures, increasing surface roughness (tillage), sub soiling and drainage were agronomic measures. Whereas, mechanical measures were contouring, ridging, terraces, shelterbelts and water ways.

On another hand, according sources of study area of districts investment office, I selected nine my sample sizes investors from coded number# 7, 10, 13, 16,12,15,20, 19 and 6. The hectares of these investors were 60, 200,251.46,40,60, 50, 50, 112.8, and 49 respectively. However, according to key informant Interviewee³⁷, shows all of investors grabbed the land and they have been requesting the state to add to their holding size of land. Investor's grabbed lands which have different size from 20 hectares to maximum 50 hectares grabbed on the course of time of land holding. However, analyzes of above respondent reveals that, the grabbed lands were either to add to investors land holding or to be withdrawal. Thus, it needs to use a balanced way of land acquisition mechanism and demands of land uses.

³⁷ Interviewee number #1: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

On other hand, the time of investment given for investors were different according to time of investment acquisition difference which ranges from 2000 to 2017 of study area. During these years, land demarcation was depending on traditional ways. For instance, the land demarcation boarder name of investment areas were given by saying that mountain, this river and so forth were the causes of land grabbing. However, observation of data sources shows, after 2015, land transfer system has been used by GPS, even though; skilled man powers were not yet employed in the study area.

In general, investors requisition grabbed land to their entitlement and state acknowledgement by giving consideration has effects on socio economic activities of local communities. Soil infertilities effect the production and affects to mono cropping. Therefore, the state has to use measurement of soil erosion and, effective use of land transfer mechanism by considering cases of local community's cases.

4.4.4. Claims of Local Communities

According to sources of 'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone office of finance, planning and economic development people have been engaged by depending on agriculture and livestock rearing. However, people of around investment areas were displaced because of investors grabbed around the areas of their investments and influence on local communities livelihoods styles. According to individual interview³⁸, who acquisitioned the investment land in 'Gorte kebele' was accused to a court and withdrew 10 hectares land given to claimant. This shows the local communities strength of recognition of land holding claim.

On other hand, land acquisitions results losing access to the resources for food security and livelihoods upon local people (Cotula, 2009). The author noted, as local users pushed from higher-value; lands encroachment upon more marginal lands. However, there are both positive and negative impacts of land acquisition process. This means, each stake holders have both positive and negative relationships during the implementation of the investment. Therefore, it needs facilitate balanced land

³⁸ Interviewee number #7 i: interviewed on date 23.10.2019

acquisition among government, investors and civil society for dealing compensation given during land transfer to investors.

On other way, Cotula (2009), described the positive way of land transfer; consultation, consent of participation for local rights holders and land users. But, the authors described that, there were weakness of provisions within national law for local people to steer development options and defend land rights. Likewise, according to local elder of individual Interviewee³⁹ shows that, there were enclosures water resources on local communities.

On other hand, Cotula (2009:81) states that, investors must benefit upon development opportunity in recipient countries by bringing capital and know-how, creating employment and developing infrastructure. Here, authors described infrastructural facilities of road, school, health, water and so forth. Therefore, during land transfer process; it requires solving infrastructural services for local communities. However, concerning this district, there were no social services given by investors to local peoples. Therefore, investors have to support community during the period of food insecurity.

4.5. Land Acquisition Process and Constraints in ‘Abe-Dongoro’ District

The process of land acquisition starts from selection of the appropriate site of investment. The decision about where to acquire investment land depends on a set of several factors. These factors include resource endowments, particularly agro-ecological characteristics of the target countries (Arezki & et al, 2011:16). In this regard, the character of ‘yield gap’ and ‘land availability’ are major determinants to provide typology of target countries (Deininger & Byerlee, 2011:17).

Meanwhile, land availability refers to the availability of land that is not being used, but suitable for rain fed cultivation. Thus, countries with high yield gap and abundant land availability are the most preferred investment destinations according to a

³⁹ Interviewee number #7: interviewed on date 23.10.2019

typology developed (Deininger & Byerlee, 2011:17).The underlying assumption in terms of the yield gap of farmland is underused compared to the potential yields and improved land increase market value through additional inputs (such as water, fertilizers, seeds, infrastructure, and know how) (Ibid: 16-17). In other hand, cropland and forests are the most commonly targeted land covers followed by shrub land/grassland and marginal land respectively (Anseeuw, & et al, 2012:12).Therefore, the targeted lands for investments were depending on the topography and potential yield and of land resources.

4.5.1. Process of Land Transfer on Local Communities

According to FAO (2009), there is principle for legislation of ‘*Compulsory Acquisition*’⁴⁰. FAO (2009), principles for legislation on compulsory acquisition should include the following:

Firstly, the protections of due process and fair procedure. Rules that place reasonable constraints on the power of the government to compulsorily acquire land strengthen the confidence of people in the justice system, empower people to protect their land rights, and increase the perception of tenure security. Rules should provide for appropriate advance consultation, participatory planning and accessible mechanisms for appeals, and should limit the discretion of officials. Secondly, good governance. Agencies that compulsorily acquire land should be accountable for the good faith implementation of the legislation. Laws that are not observed by local officials undermine the legitimacy of compulsory acquisition. Good governance reduces the abuse of power and opportunities for corruption. Third, equivalent compensation. Claimants should be paid compensation which is no more or no less than the loss resulting from the compulsory acquisition of their land. Laws should ensure that affected owners and occupants receive equivalent compensation, whether in money or alternative land. Regulations should set out clear and consistent valuation bases for achieving legislation of compulsory acquisition (FAO, 2009).

⁴⁰ Compulsory acquisition: - is the power of government to acquire private rights in land without the willing consent of its owner or occupant to benefit society.

However, according to individual interviewee⁴¹ argument revealed by saying, “I did not see any meeting concerning the land aroused for investor’s issue”. But, I hear concerning the meeting held from other friends. The district officers and worker of other government office and rural ‘kebele’ office worker finish the cases first without discussing the issues with us. We hear when activities of investment were going on. The above respondent states his argument as follows:

...The impact happened when investor’s enclosure to us from using the land and natural resources during investment the planting crops and built a fence protecting the investments. Then after, during project implementation cattle rearing activities stopped, a ways of river flow diversion and water for cattle denial and enforced as to settle other areas. Therefore, the land enclosure to us enforced to add over an hour to our day to day activities. For instance fetching water from a river took from 30 minutes to 1 hour. These all were the beginning of life disturbance on us.

Above argument shows, investors denies of natural resource of local communities prior usage. Whereas, FAO justification on the characteristics of land acquisition process. I understand from the above respondent and FAO sources, there are principles for land acquisition process guidance to be followed for the action of investors on local communities. This means, if the legal procedures followed, there will be minimum in complain in land transfer cases. To do so, the consultation, free, fair and full consent and compensation measures must be used.

Moreover, the acquisition of land has always been a delicate issue and is increasingly so nowadays in the context of rapid growth and changes in land use. Governments were increasing pressure to deliver public services in the face of an already high and growing demand for land. However, from the perspective of government and other economic actors, the conflict and ineffective process are seen as a constraint to economic growth and development of a state.

⁴¹ Interviewee number #2: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

On other hand, FAO (2009) analyzed that, the process also brings tension for people for its nature of threatening with dispossession. The compulsory acquisition of land for development purposes may ultimately bring benefits to society but it is disruptive to people whose land is acquired. It displaces families from their homes, farmers from their fields, and businesses from their neighborhoods. Similarly, it may separate families, interfere with livelihoods, compulsory acquisition of land and compensation deprive communities of important religious or cultural sites and destroy networks of social relations. If compulsory acquisition is done poorly, it may leave people homeless and landless, with no way of earning a livelihood, without access to necessary resources or community support.

On the other way, if governments carry out compulsory acquisition satisfactorily, they leave communities and people in equivalent situations while at the same time providing the intended benefits to society. This means, it requires effective of land transfer process to balance the state and local people interest. However, if it was not used accordingly, the above impacts would follow looses of effective compulsory acquisition process. Thus, effective and fair compulsory acquisition cannot exist without good governance and adherence to the rule of law. Therefore, conflict could be reduced when there are clear policies that define the specific purposes for which the government may acquire land. When there are transparent, fair procedures for acquiring land and for providing equitable compensation. The following are analyzes of ways of land acquisition process in this district.

4.5.2. Community Consultation

The decision of whether approval or rejection of state developmental project needs local community's consultation. However, the real thing on the ground shows no consultation. The investigation of the result shows, the local people were not consulted during the land transfer and they were not provided information explaining how they would benefit or be affected by the project. For example, from the FGD⁴² reveals, government told to the investors as the land is free from another holder. However, after land was transferred to investors; the land holder started land ownership claim. The issues have been still on hands of court.

⁴² Group 2 interviewees: interviewed on date 22.12.2019

On other way, from both a peasant and investors different efforts and payment were made a much time and investors paid compensation to the peasant claims of local communities of 'Abe-Dongoro' district). This shows there was no prior or informed consent with the people about the project and they were not involved during land transfer process. According to Rahmato (2011:37), the most agricultural investment projects in Ethiopia are undertaken without consultation of local communities and without their knowledge or consent. Similarly, investors are with no full consent in the study area. Therefore, free, prior and informed people are needed before land transfer to investor.

On other hand, there were also another case of individual interviews⁴³ of my second session of field work from the side of investors argument was similar with above respondent. The state was not prepared for consultation before implementation of the investment. This created a conflict and claimant took the cases to the court. However, the court decided for investors by ordering compensation for the displaced peasant. Above analyses shows, government officials told to investors as land was from land bank of the state. However, by refusing local community consent case of land acquisition process;| the land was to be prepared for the investors as it was free. But later, the investors know that the land was not reserved in land bank but it used to by local communities.

On another hand transparency was important during the process of land transfer. However, analyze of focus group discussion⁴⁴ show lack of transparency. Whereas, state has the ideas of idle land, and no one owns the land before the investors. However, issues such as how the land was going to be used, what the investor's commitments would be, how the local peoples' interests would be protected and how they would benefit or be affected by the land transfer etc were not sufficiently addressed.

Moreover, the issues of infrastructure during the investment process were aroused as one advantage for local communities. However, later on, investors at large did not support social services like clinic, water, and school. Furthermore, the issues of

⁴³ Number #7 interviewee: interviewed on date 23.10.2019

⁴⁴ Interviewees of 'Dalecho kebele' of group 2: interviewed on date 8.7.2020

environmental and social effects of land grabbing which evicted peasants and made them un accessibilities of natural resources of forest, livelihoods ways of life from farming and non-farming economic activities. Therefore, the results sound the exploitations of natural resources by investors and made low status of living condition.

4.5.3. Compensation

The concept of compensation was wage guarantee for displaced people during land transfer process in cash or in kind. However, analyzes of interview shows, there were a problem in communal land with is whether belongs to state and local people's uses. Most of the time land has controversial issue during compensation process because of land were not at hand of people in legal way of land acquisition. For example, from FGD⁴⁵ interviews revealed that, the land cases were seeing by the court. Investors took their land holding cases at first high court the zonal level. The process of the court cases took around 3 years.

Finally, the investors won the claimant. Therefore, the court decided for compensation in kind and in cash. Thus, crop planted for one year and 34,000 Birr for land holder. However, the land holder withdrawal it because of illegal land holder and the land were given for investors. Thus, the local people lost their land and investor continuous its production. Here, from above discussions of FGD, local communities faced to no longer graze their cattle or cultivate the land after investors land acquisition.

However, government gave attention to the unemployment. The so called 'investors' were gathered from students who were collected from different university and colleagues. Those students were received the money from micro saving and credit association banks by loan. However, investors were faces serious problem by investing a time and budget. They faced a problem by paying the compensation and agricultural machineries were takeoff by the district officials for the loans which were not paid for the one year. The combiner takeoff during the time of harvesting affected the investors. Therefore, they faced serious problem to pay the loans and machineries

⁴⁵ FGD of group 3 interviewees: interviewed on date 09.7.2020

to harvest their crops. Among the FGD, the participant eagerly respond my interview individually by stating:

“The court cases have been taken 3 years. However, the government officials neither gave a solution nor machine withdrawal ... cases were going on like this. I’m doing other work and I’m waiting to hear our final court judgment.”

Likewise, from the individual interviewee⁴⁶ described above about the status of community consultation. Court decided to withdraw the 10 hectare of grabbed land after judicial judgment. However, I examined that the investors were still did not stop grabbing the land. All investors were looking to have legalization for their extra land. On other side, government officials were looking positive for the concern of land grabbed by investors. However, investors took the cases to legalize but they are waiting for response of responsible higher official’s response.

Above discussion shows, land grabbing is still seeing by the eyes of investors as a positive contribution to the country. Therefore, from above argument I investigate that; ineffectiveness of the land by disfavoring a peasant has negative effect on peasants. In other hand, other interviewers interviewed in groups revealed that ‘Tullu-Lafto’ forest use in many ways. For example, people use such communal land for their day to day activities of grazing, bee keeping, and forest market such as charcoal, fire woods, and other types of forest usage. However, there are provisions for individually interviewed land to receive compensation for the lost opportunities. For example, the land administration use proclamation (2005) obliges investors to provide compensation to the local community in the event of eviction by stating:

... Holder of rural land who is evicted for the purpose of public use shall be given compensation proportional to the development made on the land and the property acquired or shall be given substitute land thereon. Where the rural landholder is evicted by federal government, the rate of compensation would be determined based on the federal land administration law. Where the rural land holder is evicted by regional governments, the rate of compensation

⁴⁶ Interviewee number #7: interviewed on date 23.10.2019

would be determined based on the rural land administration laws of regions (FDRE 2005, Art. 7 (3)).

Therefore, state has to understand the land and forest can contribute to local communities in many ways. Many local communities who used to live on farming activities were displaced to this district. Thus, above discussion shows, the effects of displacement and act of compensation which have to given for those who withdrew their land which out compensation.

On other hand, the compensation given to the displaced people is in terms of land substitution and in cash. However, from the FGD⁴⁷ arguments shows, there was no compensation given for those prior areas of settlement. For instance, at my first session of observation, I tried to search the displaced people in ‘Tullu-Gana’ town. One of my interviewee responds my question of “Where displaced people were used to live right now?” The respondents respond his argument like this:

...Most the people you look hear were among the family of displaced people, from the villages of town. The dwellers were built houses, opened a shop, others migrated....You could not get the ancestral family of the adult you see. They were migrated to other. The people were uneducated Therefore; if you want for job you can take a hundreds of young unemployment from one place. Thus, a people used to live here was as a temporal employment resident. They migrate to other after a while...

On other hand, there were revised proclamation of compensation process for investment by considering whether the amount or in kind of the compensation. Therefore, implementing the revised compensation proclamation to ensure the sustainability during the process of compensation is important for economic development of peoples. However, FAO (2009:6), define compensation as ‘*Equivalent compensation*’ by stating, “Claimants should paid compensation which is no more or no less than the loss resulting from the compulsory acquisition of their land.” According to this source, laws should ensure that affected owners and

⁴⁷ Group of 3 interviewees: interviewed on date 9.12.2019

occupants receive equivalent compensation, whether in money or alternative land. Therefore, regulations should set out clear and consistent valuation bases for achieving compensation.

4.5.4. Issues of Free, Fair and Full Consent

The state has obligation and power to protect the land right from peasants and to withdraw from investors. To do so, the procedure of the free, fair and full consent were urges to be implemented. State use power to implement land holding process which is necessary for social and economic development. According to FAO (2009) justification, land must be provided for investments such as roads, railways, harbors', airports, for hospitals, schools, for electricity, water and sewage facilities, for the protection against flooding, the protection of water courses and environmentally fragile areas.

On other hand, FAO (2009:5) supports arguments of sustainable development; which requires governments to provide public facilities, infrastructure that ensure safety and security, health and welfare, social and economic enhancement, protection and restoration of the natural environment. On other way, land acquisition requires finding the balance between the public need for land, provision of land tenure security and the protection of private property rights. However, applicability's principles that ensure the use of this power are limited. I.e. it is used for the benefit of society for public use. The following Individual Interviewee⁴⁸ added the argument by stating:

There was a meeting only for the sake of benefiting the investors and the so-called 'development Come to Home'. In next time, the government selects the pseudo elders and media which were only for propagation of the job opportunities and state benefits from investment by refusing the claimant complain. At the end, I saw only land transferred to investors. Defending the cases by bringing to the court takes many years. However, the dealers, who bought by investors defend our justices by making corruption between land officers and courts.

⁴⁸ Interviewee number#2: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

Likewise, according to key informant interviewee⁴⁹ revealed that, Ethiopia's investment policy regulation has a problem in implementing investment policies due to non-participation of private sector. Specially, investors are not favored by local investors like the foreigners. Thus, I argued with above respondent argument. Therefore, I examined that; one can answer investment policy regulation by using political power for participation in ideas of investment policy implementations.

On other hand, World Bank (2009) urges on, '*Operational Policy on Involuntary Resettlement*' listed below by stating:

The policy itself is detailed and should be reviewed entirely to understand it fully. Therefore, first, about involuntary resettlement avoided or minimized: Involuntary resettlement should be avoided where feasible, or minimized, exploring all viable alternative project designs. Second, to sharing in project benefits: Where it is not feasible, to avoid resettlement, steps should be taken, to enable displaced persons to share in project benefits. Third, restoring or improving livelihoods: Displaced persons should be assisted in efforts to improve their livelihoods and standards of living or at least restore them, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher.

4.6. World Bank Operational Policy on Involuntary Resettlement

World Bank has criteria of detailed policies of resettlement process even if there were involuntary resettlement. For example, World Bank firstly, focused, on consultation by stating, "Displaced persons should be meaningfully consulted and should have opportunities to participate in planning and implementing resettlement programs".

Second, World Bank concerns for the impacts covered: The policy covers impacts including those associated with the acquisition of land (caused by the relocation or loss of shelter, loss of assets or access to assets, loss of income or means of livelihood), as well as impacts on livelihoods from restrictions on access to parks and protected areas. Third, attention given for on vulnerable groups: Attention should be

⁴⁹ Interviewee number#11: interviewed on date 16.12.2019

paid to the needs of vulnerable groups among those displaced, especially the landless, elderly, women, children, indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities.

Fourth, the regulation on indigenous peoples land holding right. This shows physical displacement of indigenous peoples may have significant adverse impacts on their identity and cultural survival, so all viable alternatives to avoiding such displacement should be explored. Where it is unavoidable, preference is given to land-based resettlement strategies compatible with cultural preferences and prepared in consultation with such groups. Finally, the timing issues. The possession of land and related assets may take a time only after compensation (FAO, 2009:41).

Here, the above criteria are 'operational criteria' for 'involuntary resettlement procedures' in the law act. Therefore, the understanding of source shows considering the World Bank operational work of resettlement procedures have a contribution for understanding the operational ideas to be implemented for involuntary resettlement.

CHAPTER FIVE

5. EFFECTS AND IMPLICATIONS OF AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENTS ON THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

As the agricultural investment impacts up on the local communities, it also has negative effects on the economic and political conditions of peasants. For example, globally over 110 million people were affected by the food insecurity (BBC report). Similarly, in Ethiopia over 25 percent has been living unemployment at national (EBS report⁵⁰).

On other hand, the political domination in economic system influences the market by inflation. For example, According to the analyzes of key informant interviewee⁵¹ the agricultural works of cultivation land, livestock grazing and forests has direct implication on economy of the local communities. Thus, the state have to work by integrations with stake-holders to focuses on examined the effects agricultural investments in the study area. The analysis agricultural investment effect was based on the information obtained from conducted interviews, key informant and focus-group discussions and supported by the data gathered through observations.

The natural resource bases such as land, water, grazing land and forest are the base for economic development, livelihood security of people. However, according to FGD⁵² of 'Gorte kebele' shows, there were exploitation of resources by investors, which effects economic, cultural and social security of people for the threatening sustainability of land resource accessibilities and land ownership management. The analyzes shows, as land and all natural resources are the main sources of local livelihoods either the loss or change in land holding and use has a considerable effect on the local communities in the study area. The data obtained from the field work of third session of my observation indicates, households have been affected in many ways. For example, they lost farm land, forest and woodland, grazing and water uses.

⁵⁰ EBS report broadcasted on date 12.4.2020

⁵¹ Interviewee number # 19: interviewed on date 21.11.2019

⁵² Group 4 interviewees: interviewed on date 11.07. 2020

Similarly, according to FGD of above ‘kebeles’ the land transferred to investors used for crop production, livestock rearing and forest uses before land transferred to investors. Households from the displaced community of FGD⁵³ of ‘village twenty’ also claimed for loss of their sources of their livelihood by grazing lands, crop cultivation and livestock rearing. Thus, above discussion shows the loss of peasant dependency on land resources. Therefore, this effect needs the solution to reduce influence of agricultural investor’s restriction of access of land and natural resources.

5.1. Economic Implications of Agricultural Investment

Agricultural investments enhance economic development and contribute to poverty reduction by initiating growth in the economy. However, according to FGD⁵⁴ from ‘Galessa kebele’ shows, agricultural investments have a negative impact on local peoples by evicting access to production. On other way, its proponents argued that, agricultural investments have contribution in ensuring local food security and establishing diversified livelihood sources. But, the findings revealed that, local households were suffered from their prior livelihood potential to constraints which were resulted from agro-business farming projects.

Although, Ethiopia has major land resources, however, large parts of the land are already used by cropland and pasture by families and local communities (Mulligan, 2013). On other hand, these areas are not legally recognized as their land (Deininger, & et al, 2007). On other way, one of the three major factors of production of labor, capital, an essential input for housing and food production. In fact, land use is the backbone of economic sector in agriculture and it provides substantial economic and social benefits.

Both state and investors were argued agricultural investments were assumed as marginal, underutilize or abandoned in the studied area. According to key respondent interviewee⁵⁵ revealed that, agricultural farming project does not negatively affect the local community. However, results of the study revealed that, the land are often

⁵³ Group3 interviewees: interviewed on date 09.07. 2020

⁵⁴ Group 3 interviewees: interviewed on date 09.07. 2020

⁵⁵ Interviewee of number #1: interviewed on date 18.10 .2019

important for local livelihoods. According to interview in group of respondents⁵⁶, from ‘Galessa kebele’ shows, the acquisition of land by investor from the peasant ways of livelihood upon land acquisitions. The lands used for crop cultivation, livestock rearing and enclosures of livestock transit routes, collection of fuel wood, wild fruits, honey production, medicinal plants and other natural products.

Similarly, according to key informant interviewee⁵⁷ shows, the forest of 2000 hectares of ‘Tullu-lafto’, which covers more than one ‘kebele’s, have positive implication for its contributions of coffee production, fire wood, fuel wood and legal lumbering activities. However, there were variations on the effects of agricultural investments on the local communities based on the livelihood activities in which they are engaged on land use patterns depending on socio-economic and cultural background.

On other hand, the effect of relocation affected people by direct displacement from ‘Galessa kebele’ cultivable land. According to my respondent above, before ‘Galessa kebele’ investment area, the lands were transferred to agricultural investors. However, they were previously utilizing it for sell and for cultivation of crops for household consumption. Thus, because of newly established farms, this local farming system and factors of productions have been interrupted and threaten the local livelihoods.

According to individual interviewee⁵⁸ revealed by memorizing his way of livelihoods before resettled to the near town as follows:

We have resources like forest, river, land, before relocation to this area. These natural resources are food for us.... However, things changed. After relocation to town my house compound is as you see. I did not think things were changed like this.

Above respondent shows how the respondents were evicted and affected by changed ways of livelihoods activities. For instance, the land was a base for the life of the local communities before it was acquisitioned by the investors. However, it was considered

⁵⁶ Group three #3 interviewees: interviewed on date 9.12.2019

⁵⁷ Interviewee number #3 : interviewed on date 19.10.2019

⁵⁸ Interviewee number #2: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

as free and underutilized by government officials and investors. Therefore, farm land is critical to these communities now hunted by agricultural investors. On other hand, according to individual interviewee⁵⁹ reminded that, the occasion of before arrival of investors to their former life by stating:

The agricultural office agent helped us how to cultivate land, seedling, harvesting and storing system. Therefore, I become to increased agricultural production, sell to the market and become rich man.

This indicates peasants have managed to reach the stage of social re-articulation before they are forced to leave their farm lands. They began to produce surplus and diversify their income sources. On other hand, according to individual interviewee⁶⁰, who was engaging in agricultural farming of ‘Gorte kebele’ says that, before the arrival of agricultural farming investment, the land was prepared by the local communities for crop cultivation.

However, according to my third session of field work observation, I examined a complaint, who a claimed to above respondent investor by saying that, “The land which is grabbed around 10 hectares by investor was the land which I acquired previously in legal way.” However, it was transferred to this investor. But, later the person takes 10 hectares from this investor by court decision. Therefore, I analyzed that, this person forced by investor to stay and cultivate on a limited farm land. This show, the effects created by investor for the decrease of the size of farm lands by minimizing the productivity and process of livelihood diversification of local households.

5.2. Political Implication of Agricultural Farming

The study was concerned on the political effects of agricultural investments on the local communities. The examination is based on prevalence of conflicts between the local communities and the investors on land, land based natural and manmade resources. The discussion was based on the data obtained through the conducted

⁵⁹ Interviewee number# 4: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

⁶⁰ Interviewee number #7: interviewed on date 23.10.2019

individual interviewee⁶¹ analysis of different ethnic groups conflict because of ethnic difference prevailed in this area. For example, in ‘kebele of Dalecho’ river named ‘Dilbo’ diverted to another direction caused a conflict between the investors and local communities. According to above interviewer argument, peasant used the river during dry season. However, after the river changes direction to another direction, it created conflict amongst peasants and investors.

In fact, agricultural investments require larger size of land and abundant natural resources that are scarcely available in the rural areas. However, according to group interviewees⁶² of ‘Dalecho kebele’ shows, expansion of the agricultural investment projects caused eviction and restriction of local communities from getting access to land and land based natural resources which were critical to local livelihoods. Therefore, the eviction and restrictions on local households from getting access to land and other land caused conflicts over scarce resources among the local communities and agricultural investors.

Conflicts over resources are frequent phenomenon between resettled peasants and the agricultural investors. The effects of agricultural investor’s establishment of agro processing farming investment up on the local communities are multiple as the local communities were engaged in diversified livelihood activities. Similarly, according to key informant interviewee⁶³ shows, the effects agricultural investments on the local communities were associated with the acts of deforestation and cutting of trees by the agricultural investors who were aimed to expand their holdings and prepare the land for crop production. Hence, investors engaged on clearing forest areas and trees were to expand their farm.

However, the eviction, deforestations and restrictions on access to land and associated resources, are potential reasons for the prevalence of conflicts among the local communities and investors. In general, analysis of above interviews revealed, agricultural investment farms was a principal factor for the eviction of peasant from their cultivable land. Therefore, even though, conflicts over resource were inevitable,

⁶¹ Interviewee number #4: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

⁶² Group two interviewees: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

⁶³ Interviewee number #18 : interviewed on date 18.10.2019

it requires using balanced and systematic procedures of implementing resources of land use implementation.

5.3. Analysis of Agribusiness Effects on Relationships of State, Investors and Local Communities

This section analyzed about effects of agricultural investments on the aspect of relationships among local communities, government and investors. The scope was limited to deal with among the three stake holders namely; local communities (peasant), local government and investors during and after the implementation of agricultural investment projects. Results from both individual and group interviews conducted with local community members, government officials as well as investors and farm managers was treated as evidences of empirical basis and reliability.

The investigation of interviews⁶⁴ from ‘Galessa kebele’ shows that, the concerns for economic development in agricultural farming of investment activities must ensure the balanced economic growth and status of local people sustainability in livelihoods. However, it was common to involve in relationships and interactions of agribusiness stakeholders. Most of the agricultural investments in ‘Abe Dongoro’, involves stakeholders of government and private investors and peasants.

As it is indicated earlier, the implementation of agricultural investments ignores the local community’s participation in the study area. The analyses of key informant⁶⁵ revealed that, the local communities were discriminated by the implementation of agricultural investments in the process of land acquisitions. Thus, due to the factors displacement, enclosures and inaccessibility of land and its natural resource use prevalence. Therefore, I analyzed relationships of the three stake holders (peasants, government and investors) shows the minimum relationships among stakeholders to the management of land and other natural resources.

⁶⁴ Group three interviewees: interviewed on date 9.12.2019

⁶⁵ Interviewee number #23: interviewed on date 22.11.2019

5.3.1. The Nature of Relationships between Local communities and Investors

The agricultural investments were aimed to contribute food security and food self-sufficiency. However, according to analysis of key informant interviewee⁶⁶ revealed, investors intention to grab vast farm land from the local community members, other natural resources. However, the consequences of displacements contributed for the rise of negative perceptions of communities to investors.

On other way, investors are immediate causes and primary beneficiaries of land acquisitions and investment projects. According to individual interviewee⁶⁷ from ‘Dalecho kebele’ shows, communities were believed the investments were not benefiting them rather, influencing by displacements and marginalization from their cultivable land. Similarly, analyzes of interviewee⁶⁸ shows, the relationships between local communities and investors affected by the uses of land and natural resources. Hence, the competitive spirits produced a sense of rivalry between the local communities and investors. Therefore, analysis of interview result shows that, the nature of relationship between the local communities and investors were influenced by the nature of land deals and implementation process.

On other hand, the agricultural investments took place without adequate and genuine participation of the local communities. The activities made the local communities dissatisfied on investors and their projects. For example, according to respondents of the interviewees in group⁶⁹, from ‘Dalecho kebele’ told that, there were non-participation nature of the land deals created diverse implementation problems in the process agricultural investments and confrontations from the local community.

Similarly, other interviewee⁷⁰ from ‘Galessa kebele’ analyzed that, the entrusted relationships created dissatisfaction among local communities and investors because of displacements and imposed restrictions on access to cultivable land and other land-based resources, conflicts over resources, put the two of them into disregard able

⁶⁶ Interviewee number #22: interviewed on date 22.11.2019

⁶⁷ Interviewee number #27: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

⁶⁸ Individual of interviewee of number #22: interviewed on date 22,11,2019.

⁶⁹ Group 1 interviewees: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

⁷⁰ Group 3 interviewees: interviewed on date 9.12.2019

relationship. Consequently, the unfriendly nature of relationships among local communities and private investors affected the local people stability, security and safe livelihood while implementation of agricultural investments.

5.3.2. Relationship between Local Government and Agricultural Investors

Analyze of study area indicated that, the relationship between government and investors was pleasing and encouraging. Government officials are very responsive to the requests of investors. For instance, according to key informant interviewee⁷¹ argued that, the local government officials responsive for the requests of investors due to state plan of policy directions. Hence, in the eyes of government officials, private investors have contribution to achieve the economic growth goals. However, if the relationship among stakeholders of local community, government and investors is not encouraging, the investors may drop their interest on agricultural investment.

On other way, according to interviewee⁷² opinion the local government has to implement the appropriate and instant responsiveness to make the environment conducive for investors. In fact, the above respondent witnesses, the local government officials are very responsive to investors in all circumstances. For instance, local government officials are committed to take part and resolve conflicts between local communities and investors with nonviolent mechanisms.

On other hand, another key informant interviewee⁷³ analyses that, the local communities are complained by state officials for their decisions of favor to agricultural investors. However, according to interview of respondent⁷⁴ shows, the nature of relationship between government and agricultural investors characterized as pleasing and collaborative. In case, some obligations and responsibilities failure activities during field work.

⁷¹ FGD of group 1 interviewees: interviewed on date 6.7.2020

⁷² Individual interviewee number #5: interviewed on date 15.10.2019.

⁷³ Interviewee number #16: Interviewed on date 21.11.2019.

⁷⁴ Group 2 of village 21 interviewees: Interviewed on date 13.12.2019

5.3.3. Analysis of Effects on the Relationships between Local Communities and Government upon agricultural Investment

State has obligation for peasant development by providing infrastructural services. However, analyzes of observation shows during land ownership by agribusiness investors shows, the process of implementing farming projects created malfunctions, injustice and unfair treatment upon local communities. Similarly, during implementing on the ground, it affected by disregarding the local communities during process of agricultural investments.

But, the nature of relationships among the local government and peasants has changed during and after the implementation of agricultural investments. According to FGD interviewees⁷⁵ revealed, by the eyes of government officials; the land transferred to investors considered as free and out of reach of the local communities. However, while interviewing this districts land administration official; the land deals and implementations were granted by land administration office.

On other way, the perceptions of the local community toward investors were affected by lack of trust and disobedience to the local government. For example, according to key informant Interviewee⁷⁶ opinion, there was superiority of investors, illegal marketing in areas of chemicals supplies, insecticides and pesticides for local communities instead of supplying the needed chemicals for crops. However, this disregards and mistrust relationships among government and local communities affected the nature of relationships among members of the local communities and local government officials. Therefore, this behavior affected the stability of societies, local livelihood security and market trends.

5.3.4. Analysis of Agricultural Investments Effects on the Local Communities

The needs of land for agricultural investment affected peasants by displacing people of investment areas to another. This activity was created social changes in the societies of study area. According to respondents of FGD⁷⁷ from ‘Gorte kebele’ revealed, the cultivation of crops like maize and sorghum and other vegetable, cash

⁷⁵ Interviewees from group two: interviewed on date 8.7.2020

⁷⁶ Interviewee number #10: interviewed on date 13.12, 2019

⁷⁷ Group four interviewees: interviewed on date 27.12.2019

crops like coffee, and chat used to as a means of livelihoods shifted to agricultural investments. Similarly, livestock rearing areas enclosure for use it because of the transit route of livestock were closed. The activities of enclosures have its effect on ways of livelihoods of the societies.

On other hand, forest resource which was used by local communities for lumbering, fire wood and charcoal, honey productions were denied by investors. Similar effect also examined from respondent of FGD⁷⁸. The analyzes from respondent shows, this forest areas and grazing lands have been threatened and damaged due to the establishment of agricultural investment. A key respondent interviewee shows, opinion of the land lease contractual agreement between the investor and government have rules and regulation of environmental effect assessment and other contractual agreement for the issues investors cleared forest and shrubs of wood land while using land for crop production.

Unfortunately, the act of agricultural investors for the action of clearing forests, grazing areas and other land based natural resources negatively affected the life of the community. Investigation from a key informant⁷⁹ remind that, out of twenty-two agricultural investors six of them refuse to plant forest for the agreement of environmental effect assessment criteria. As a result, the activities of refusal of forest planting affects environment by air pollution and affect climate change and made vulnerable in copying strategies of local peoples. Then, peoples are exposed to a greater vulnerability to food insecurity, in cases where communities no longer have access to resources. For instance, according to interviewee⁸⁰ of 'Dalecho kebele' revealed, that there were serious declines in varies agricultural crops in this area. Therefore, the environmental degradation was the direct result of the expansion of the agricultural investments.

⁷⁸ Group two interviewees: interviewed on date 8.7.2020

⁷⁹ Interviewee number #1: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

⁸⁰ Group two interviewees: interviewed on date 18.10.2019

5.4. Coping Strategies

Analyses of interview shows tremendous impacts on local livelihood peasants adopted certain coping strategies. This section outlines the various livelihood strategies pursued by households. Scoones (1998:9), identified the livelihood resources that household possesses by determining what kind of livelihood strategies to pursue. Accordingly, it is important to note that households adopt a particular livelihood strategy for factors of agricultural investments. The examination of coping strategies shows, local farmers forced to shift their economic activities, depending considering previous livelihoods.

According to the interviewees of group respondents ⁸¹ revealed that, households adopted some coping strategies to overcome the lost opportunities as a result of the land transfer. Examination of above respondent shows, some households diversified their livelihood strategies, while others strengthened existing ones. For example, above respondents told that some farmers changed their land uses. Others engaged in share cropping, and on tenant farming.

Similarly, investigations in FGD interviewees⁸² show that, major coping strategies being pursued by households. For instance, ‘Gorte kebele’ respond different copying strategies to the lost opportunity followed by the land acquisition by changing land use, share-cropping, tenant farming, changing occupation, migration and other strategies. The further analyses of types of coping strategies were elaborated as follows.

5.4.1. Land use Change

This coping strategy of land use activities were enforcement to change due to land holding by investor. This happened by renting the land by fixed amount depending on agreement of whether in fees or in kind of production items planted in a given areas. According to focus group discussion⁸³ of ‘Gorte kebele’, the land which was fertile before the arrival of investment was used by investors. Similarly, analyzes of key

⁸¹ Group interviewees of village 21: interviewed on date 13.12.2019

⁸² Group three interviewees of village 20: interviewed on 9.7.2020

⁸³ Group four interviewees: interviewed on date 11.7. 2020

informant interviewee⁸⁴ shows, agricultural investment projects of study area influenced by changes to livestock rearing, to use forest and different natural resources. Thus, the local communities were enforced to change land uses.

5.4.2. Share cropping

Another coping strategy undertaken to overcome the loss of crop land were sharecropping. This is the act of allowing someone to share cropping of land by providing access to land for the landless peoples. The interview source shows some farmers have been forced to share-cropping with those who have relatively abundant land. The individual interviewee⁸⁵ revealed that, “I shared agreement from some one farmer who has abundant land of ‘Dalecho kebele’, by sharing one third of the product and the rest were shared by the land holder.” Thus, above respondent argument shows, the activities of peasants share cropping strategies to overcome their problem.

5.4.3. Change of Occupation

This is other strategy of coping strategy of peasants for the loss of land. This was abundantly prevailed in societies who used to live in livestock rearing, cropping and other coping strategies to another lower status of economic activities. For example, peasants were engaging seasonal works of agricultural activities and labor works.

The interviews by FGD⁸⁶ of local peasant shows change of occupation of two men and one girl from Village 20 dwellers. The people were changed their occupation because of the land hold by investors. This shows effects of agricultural investment change way of life of peoples. Of course, the eviction of previous way of life activities can change livelihood activities to another work.

5.4.4. Migration

The migrations of peoples from villages to town were other coping strategies. The peasants of ‘Dalecho kebele’, who were lived around agricultural project, migrated

⁸⁴ Interviewee of number #12: interviewed on date 16.12.2019.

⁸⁵ Individual interviewee number #8: interviewed on date 15.11.2019

⁸⁶ Group three of FGD interviewees: interviewed on date 9.7.2020

for better job opportunities in town areas. Analyzes of Focus Group Discussion of interviewees ⁸⁷ of ‘Tullu–Gana’ town shows migration of those who could not have land holding ownership certificate. According to one of respondent of above interviewer revealed that, agricultural farming forced to migrate to another area. For example, above respondents told that, due to eviction of agricultural investment local communities tried to search better labor wage opportunities in a town.

5.4.5. Tenant Farming

These coping strategies were practiced by local farmers as a result of loss of crop land due to the land transfer. In tenant farming, a tenant resides on and farms by another person for a given period of time and gets his payments either in the form of a share of the product, money or a combination of the two. This coping strategy also observed from interviews in group of ‘village 21 kebele’ interviewees respondent of local livelihood who resettled to the town of ‘Tullu-Gana’ town. In general, these all activities of coping strategies were analyzed during the field work. The reasons of all these coping strategies were the effects of agricultural investment prevalence. Thus, one can examine people as a means of livelihoods to overcome the eviction of the land.

⁸⁷ Group two interviewees: interviewed on date 22.12.2019.

CHAPTER SIX

Conclusion and Recommendation

6.1. Conclusion

The activities of domestic agricultural farming projects exploitative nature have economic and political influences on the state and local communities. Similarly, the eviction of land and natural resource use by investors created marginalization and displacement of peasants. Even if, agricultural farming investments have positive contribution for the state, it has also negative effects on local community's means of livelihoods.

On other hand, the investment projects of the study area did not consult the local people before its implementation. Similarly, there was no local community's participation during agricultural investment process. On other hand, the state compensation activities did not ensure the livelihoods sustainability of local peoples. On other way, the 'Abe Dongoro' agricultural farming project implementation affected the local community's former land and natural resources dependent way to the new livelihoods. The new way of livelihoods made the local communities affected by enclosure of land, inaccessibility of land and natural resources uses.

To conclude, the acts of unbalanced state developmental planning in areas of agricultural farming have negative effect on the local communities. The negative way of political power usages and the ways of economic planning in agribusiness farming project implementations has the effect on the relationship between state, investors and local communities which were appeared us entrust, unresponsive and un-collaborative.

6.2. Recommendations

6.2.1. To the State Officials

- State has to give considering the cases of local community's interest of land recognition at first before implementing the investment for the effects of agribusiness farming project.
- State has to consult the local people before the agricultural project. Similarly, state have to make a sessions for participation of local communities in order to get free, fair and full consent for effective implementation of agricultural projects.
- Even though land grabbing is unavoidable, state have to minimize the level of land grabbing by using effective land use management and implementing effective legal frame work policies related to agricultural farming projects.
- The state have to follow investors provisions of social services facilities to local communities.

6.2.2. Agricultural Investors, stakeholders of agriculture and local communities

- The investors have to make sure the interest of local community's interest before implementing agricultural farming, follow if the state made the local communities participation and then by, making the compensation which ensures the local communities livelihoods sustainability.
- Investors have to use only the land provided by state by using the effective mechanized technologies of land and natural resource uses and investors have to contribute to the local food security by selling a certain percentage of its production for the local market and have to contribute to local food security and food self-sufficiency.
- To reduce the effects of agribusiness farming projects, stakeholders of agricultural investors have to give training by researched finding of agricultural investment effects by the use of knowledge, skills of technology to ensuring state willingness and commitment by widening space for political measures like public meeting concerning participation before, during and after investment process.

- Local communities have to ask the state to ensure their right of participation in the state developmental plan of ensuring the right of consultation, participation, and to have the compensation which ensures the sustainable livelihoods.

In general, effective land use management requires, state balance of interest of investors needs of land use and the demand of local communities right of land uses recognition.

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APPENDECES

Part One. Check List of Questionnaires of interviews

Notice

All questionnaires were prepared by semi structured and unstructured of stakeholders of Agribusiness projects (State, Agribusiness investors and Peasant).

1. Observation

- The observations of topography, relief, physical location of ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district.
- The observation of how peasant’s connection with nature.
- The observation of values of natural resources surrounding the study area.
- The observation of social knowledge, value, opinion, tradition of peasant with environment.
- Observation of the use farming investment.
- The observation of ways of livelihoods of people after agricultural projects.

2. Interview (Semi structured and unstructured type)

2.1. Individual interview questionnaires

- Aspects copying strategies of local communities.
- The effect of land grabbing analyzes.
- Discussions of availabilities of natural resource uses for local communities.
- What is and how investors uses agricultural machineries?
- The effects of agribusiness farming on the environmental ways of peasants?
- The examination of compensation mechanism and its effects.
- The examinations of free, fair and full consent of peasant’s pre, during and after implementation of agricultural projects.
- The analyses of political influence of agricultural projects during implementation of the projects.
- Analyzes of land acquisition process with investors.
- Analyzes of level of effectiveness and roles of agricultural investors with investors.
- The examination of the benefits and effects of agricultural investment with investors and peasants.

2.2. Group interview questionnaires (Semi structured and unstructured)

- Discussion of peoples knowledge and experience, belief, opinion, values and meaning they have towards the agribusiness investment.
- Discussion of environmental impacts of agricultural farming.
- Discussion of effects of extraction of forest by investor.
- Examining the lack of good governance examined in process of land acquisition for agricultural investment.
- Discussions of the consultation process before land acquisition process.
- Analyzes of social service of agricultural investments.
- Analyzes of investors and local communities relationships.

2.3. A key informant interview questionnaires (Semi structured and unstructured type)

- The analysis of effects of investment policy.
- Discussions of the intentions of the agricultural investment?
- Examining the benefits and loses prevailed of agricultural investment on local communities.
- Analyzes of the uses of agricultural farming product for industry.
- Discussions on analyzes of economic objectives of agricultural farming investment and its influences.
- Discussions of the political Analyses on the objectives of agricultural farming investment and its influences.
- Examination of how land acquisition process interviewed by state for investors.
- Discussions of the environmental effect assessments of land acquisition process.
- Analyzes of pre requisitions of agricultural investment requirement.
- Analyses of effect of land grabbing on peasants.
- How the local communities use land and its resources for their livelihoods?
- Discussions of land right for farmers of those living around investment area.
- Examining land right policy effects while using land resources in local community.
- Discussion on investors rushes to lowland areas for agricultural investment.
- Discussion of fairness of compensation activities for peasant.

- Analyzes of participation of local peoples before hand over of land from the owner of land to investors.
- Analyzes of peoples satisfaction and give full consent while the project of developmental investment of agricultural farming.
- Discussion of how investors conserve land and natural resources.
- Analyze of peasants coping strategies.
- The effects of agricultural projects during land transfer from local communities to investors.
- Examining relationships between investors and state, and local communities.

3. Focus Group discussion (Semi structured and unstructured type)

- How the natural resource enclosure to the peasants for the need of agricultural investors?
- Discussion of consultation process.
- Issues of environmental effects of land grabbing.
- Analyzes of environmental effects of land grabbing.
- The analyses of the copying strategies.
- Discussion of potential of natural resource of ‘Abe-Dongoro’ district
- Analyzes of soil infertilities due to climatic change by the eyes of local communities.
- The examination of effects of agricultural investment in low lowland areas effect.

Part two. Checklist of Respondents Information

Table 3. Overview of Respondent Information

No	Age	Sex	Position/Description of Respondents	Place of interview	Date of interview	Methods data selection
#1	35	M	District investment board head	'Tullu-Wayyu'	18.10.2019	Key informant Interviewee
#2	75	M	Community Elder	'Tullu-Gana'	18.10.2019	Individual Interviewee
#3	22	M	Surveyor	'Tullu-Wayyu'	19.10.2019	Key informant Interviewee
#4	77	M	Elder	'Tullu-Wayyu'	18.10.2019	Individual Interviewee
#5	25	M	Investor	'Tullu-Wayyu'	15.10.2019	Individual interviewee
#6	38	F	Expert at district level	Tullu-wayyu	16.10.2019	Key informant Interviewee
#7	48	M	Investor	'Tullu-wayyu'	23.10.2019	Individual interviewee
#8	60	F	Local people	'Tullu-Wayyu'	15.11.2019	
#9	28	M	Local people	'Charu kebele'	10.12.2019	
#10	35	M	'Tullu –Gana' peasant cooperatives association	'Tullu-Gana' town	13.12.2019	Key informant Interviewee
#11	50	M	Expert at 'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	'Shambu' town	16.12.2019	
#12	32	F	Expert at district	'Abe Dongoro' district	16.12.2019	
#13	35	F	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	11.11.2019	
#14	36	F	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	12.11.2019	
#15	47	M	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	17.11.2019	
#16	45	F	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	21.11.2019	
#17	33	M	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	21.11.2019	
#18	27	M	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	21.11.2019	
#19	59	F	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	21.11.2019	
#20	42	M	Expert on zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	21.11.2019	
#21	28	F	Expert on Zonal level	'Horro Guduru Wallaga' zone	24.11.2019	

#22	58	M	Expert on zonal level	‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ zone	22,11,2019	Key informant Interviewee
#23	26	M	Expert on zonal level	‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ zone	22,11,2019	
#24	33	M	Expert on zonal level	‘Horro Guduru Wallaga’ zone	22,11,2019	
#25	34	F	Public Lecturer	‘Wallaga’ University	27.11.2019	
#26	35	M	Public Lecturer	‘Wallaga’ University	27.11.2019	Individual interviewee
#27	53	F	Farmer	‘Dalecho kebele’	18.10.2019	Individual interviewee
#28	43	F	Farmer	‘Galessa kebele’	18.10.2019	Interviewee of group 1
#29	51	F	Unemployed			
#30	43	M	Farmer			
#31	40	M	Farmer			
#32	33	M	Farmer			
#33	36	F	Farmer			
#34	32	F	Unemployed			
#35	39	M	Unemployed			
#36	35	M	Farmer			
#37	49	M	Farmer			
#38	41	F	Farmer			
#39	47	F	Unemployed			
#40	32	M	Farmer	Village 21	13.12.2019	Interviewee of group 2
#41	32	F	Farmer			
#42	43	M	Farmer			
#43	33	M	Farmer			
#44	27	M	Farmer			
#45	25	F	Unemployed			
#46	22	F	Farmer			
#47	19	M	Unemployed			
#48	36	F	Farmer	‘Galessa kebele’	9.12.2019	Interviewee of group 3
#49	32	F	Farmer			
#50	39	M	Unemployed			
#51	35	M	Farmer			
#52	49	M	Farmer			
#53	41	F	Farmer			
#54	41	F	Farmer			
#55	41	F	Shopping	‘Tullu-Gana’ town	6.7.2020	FGD of group 1
#56	25	F	Unemployed			
#57	32	F	Unemployed			
#58	56	F	Shop keeper			
#59	21	F	Agent (dealer)			
#60	19	F	Shopping			
#61	22	F	Unemployed			
#62	31	F	Carpenter			
#63	23	M	Farmer	‘Dalecho kebele’	8.7.2020	FGD of group 2
#64	22	M	Farmer			
#65	21	M	Farmer			

#66	32	M	Unemployed			
#67	42	M	Unemployed			
#68	27	M	Farmer			
#69	33	F	Unemployed	Village 20	9.7.2020	FGD of group 3
#70	25	F	Farmer			
#71	34	F	Farmer			
#72	51	F	Unemployed			
#73	45	F	Unemployed			
#74	34	F	Farmer			
#75	41	F	Farmer			
#76	41	M	Unemployed			
#77	25	M	Farmer	'Gorte kebele'	11.7.2020	FGD of group 4
#78	32	M	Farmer			
#79	56	M	Farmer			
#80	21	M	Unemployed			
#81	19	M	Farmer			
#82	22	M	Unemployed			
#83	31	M	Unemployed			
#84	41	M	Farmer			