



# Sustainable Utilization of Natural Resources for Improved Food Security

(SUN-Program)





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## Participatory Forest Management in Oromia Region of Ethiopia:

A review of experiences, constraints and  
implications for forest policy.

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## Challenges in Forest management

## The Dodola case

## Results

## Use of the experience

## Implication for forest policy

# Challenges in Forest Management

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Only 3 – 5 % forest cover in Ethiopia (highforest)

3% annual losses on forest

High demand, use (and value!) on forest products  
(energy, construction, NTP)

Livestock (free grazing)

Population growth: Expansion of farm land and new  
settlement areas

Unregulated access to forest and tree resources  
(ownership)

Not much attention to other tree plantings

# Challenges in Forest Management (cont.)

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Afforestation often not successful (only nursery/treeplanting)

Staff( high staff turnover, poor equipement, no transport, poor management)

Changing responsibilities for forests

Over regulation by government make use of forest products illegal (dont do this and that)  
Regulations are not implemented/ cannot be implemented

# The Dodola case

- Total forest area 83,000ha (30,000 Erica heather) in a FPA
- Logging carried out for long time.
- Old or dying forest
- Conventional protection
- Unregulated access - Informal and unregulated forest use
- Deforestation 3%, 1600ha/year (1993 vs. 1997 forest cover).


- IFMP started as an Ethio-German bilateral Cooperation Project in 1995.
- Adaba Dodola FPA
- Objective: Develop a feasible Forest Conservation approach.
- Implementation: OARDB and GTZ
- First phase focused on implementation of IGS and conventional approach, with no impact on forest cover.
- WAJIB implementation started in 2000 (the 1<sup>st</sup> forest user group in the country)

- WAJIB stands for Forest Dwellers Association
- The idea emerged from the local communities
- Up to 30 HH in a group on about 400ha of forest block.
- Enables to create sense of ownership and responsibility
- Central concept: Granting Exclusive user rights
- The approach approved by the regional council

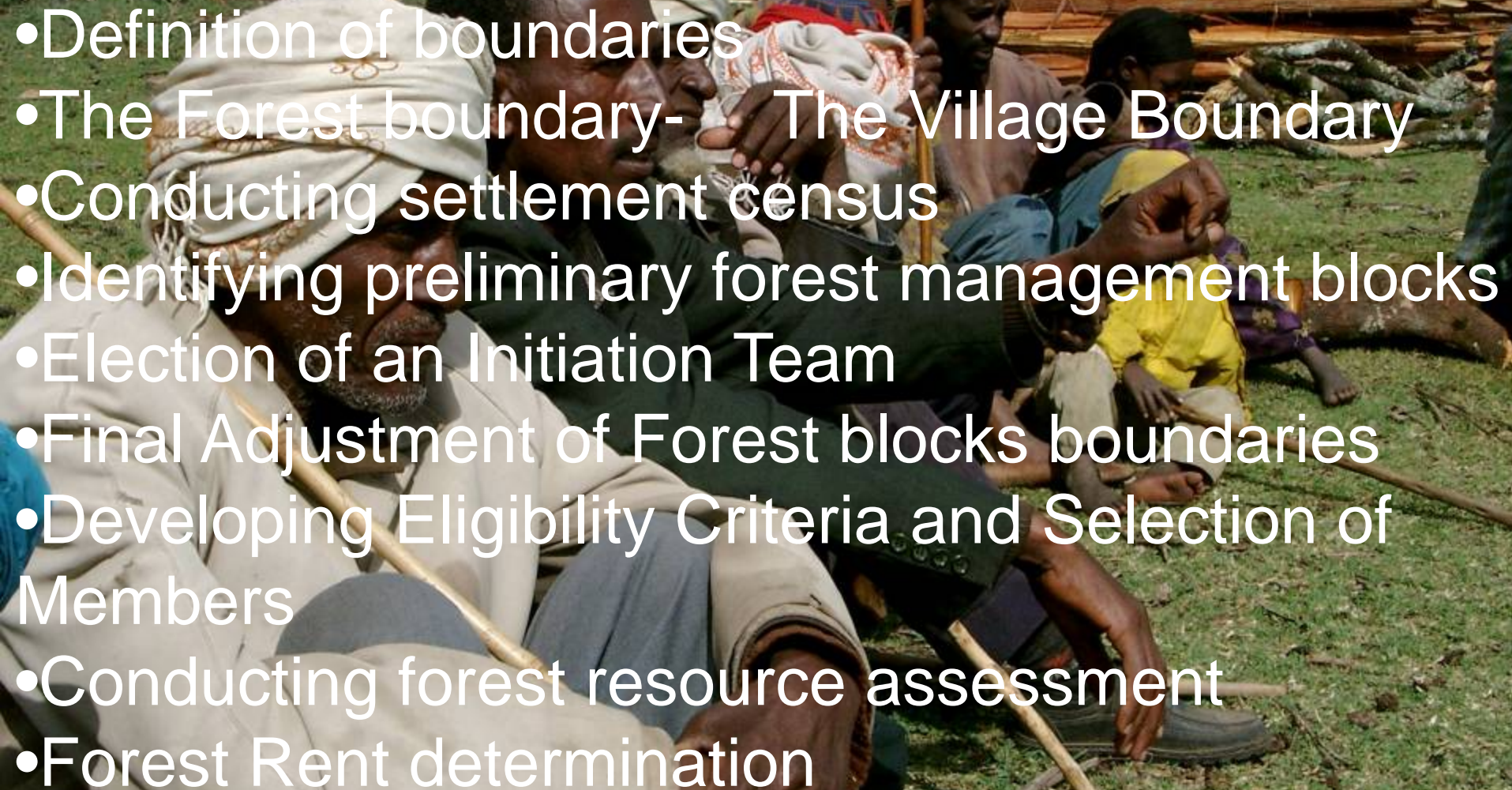
## Step 1: IDENTIFICATION

- Wajib preconditions: population, unregulated access; willingness of local government to hand over use rights
  - Meeting the local leaders and community members
  - Identifying primary stakeholders to participate in the WAJIB
  - Consensus with the village community on WAJIB implementation
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## Step 2: Familiarization

- Assessing the condition of the forest
  - Identifying forest uses
  - Analyzing livelihood strategies
  - Examining existing local institutions and power relations
  - Identifying the major problems and solutions
  - Determining carrying capacity
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- A photograph showing a group of men in a forest. One man in the center is pointing towards the trees while holding a document. Other men are looking in the same direction, some holding papers. The background is filled with dense green foliage.

## Step 3: NEGOTIATION AND PLANNING

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- Definition of boundaries
  - The Forest boundary- The Village Boundary
  - Conducting settlement census
  - Identifying preliminary forest management blocks
  - Election of an Initiation Team
  - Final Adjustment of Forest blocks boundaries
  - Developing Eligibility Criteria and Selection of Members
  - Conducting forest resource assessment
  - Forest Rent determination

## Step 4: INSTITUTIONALIZATION

- Election of WAJIB leaders
- Preparation of a Draft Forest Management Plan
- Forest Block Allocation Agreement (FBAA)
- Signing of Agreement and Formal Handing Over
- Elaboration of internal bylaws



## Step 5: IMPLEMENTATION

- Technical advice and skills development
  - Organizational development
  - Market Development and Income Generation
  - Conflict management
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# Step 7: FOLLOW UP AND MONITORING

Regular monitoring and evaluation  
Who should monitor  
what?



- 77 forest wajib groups in 77 blocks are using the forest on 35,000 ha sustainably
- More natural regeneration (Up to 15% increment in forest cover)
- Less number of livestock in the forest
- Significant reduction in the number of intruders
- Diversification of income, legal selling of forest products, eco-tourism.
- Influence on regional forest policy.
- Base for most PFM projects in the country



PFM in the Mojo fuelwood plantation

PFM in Chelimo Forest

PFM in Belete Gera

PFM in coffee Forests (Bonga)

PFM in West Hararge

PFM in Chilalo Galema, Arsi

Guidelines from Farm A. and JICA

International PFM workshop in Addis, 2006

Oromia forest policy

PFM course at Wondo Genet forestry college

# Challenges in wajib implementation

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Woreda staff (skills, equipement, transport)

Monitoring system

Rent payments

Carring capacity

Livestock

Capacity of selfcontrol within wajibs

## What does that mean for forest policies?

A simple formula:

- + Ownership
- + Internal Organization
- + Technical Support

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= Sustainable Forest Development

Inside Forest priority areas (FPA):  
Forest block allocation agreement

Outside of FPA:  
Group certification for hillsides  
Certification for individuals  
Other contracts

Empowerment of user groups

Responsibilities of stakeholders

Bye laws for usergroups

Institutionalization (relation gov. Groups)

Forest policy

- „forest department“ within ARDO (often not strong enough)
- Extension system for forestry
- Working facilities: transport, equipment, offices
- Implementation of laws, policies and regulations
- (Don't start from outside, start from inside)
- Institutional stability (gov. Institutions, experts, laws, responsibilities)
- Coordinated support by external Doners/agencies/NGOs

# More measures to increase forest cover

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Homestead plantations

Wood lots

Agroforestry

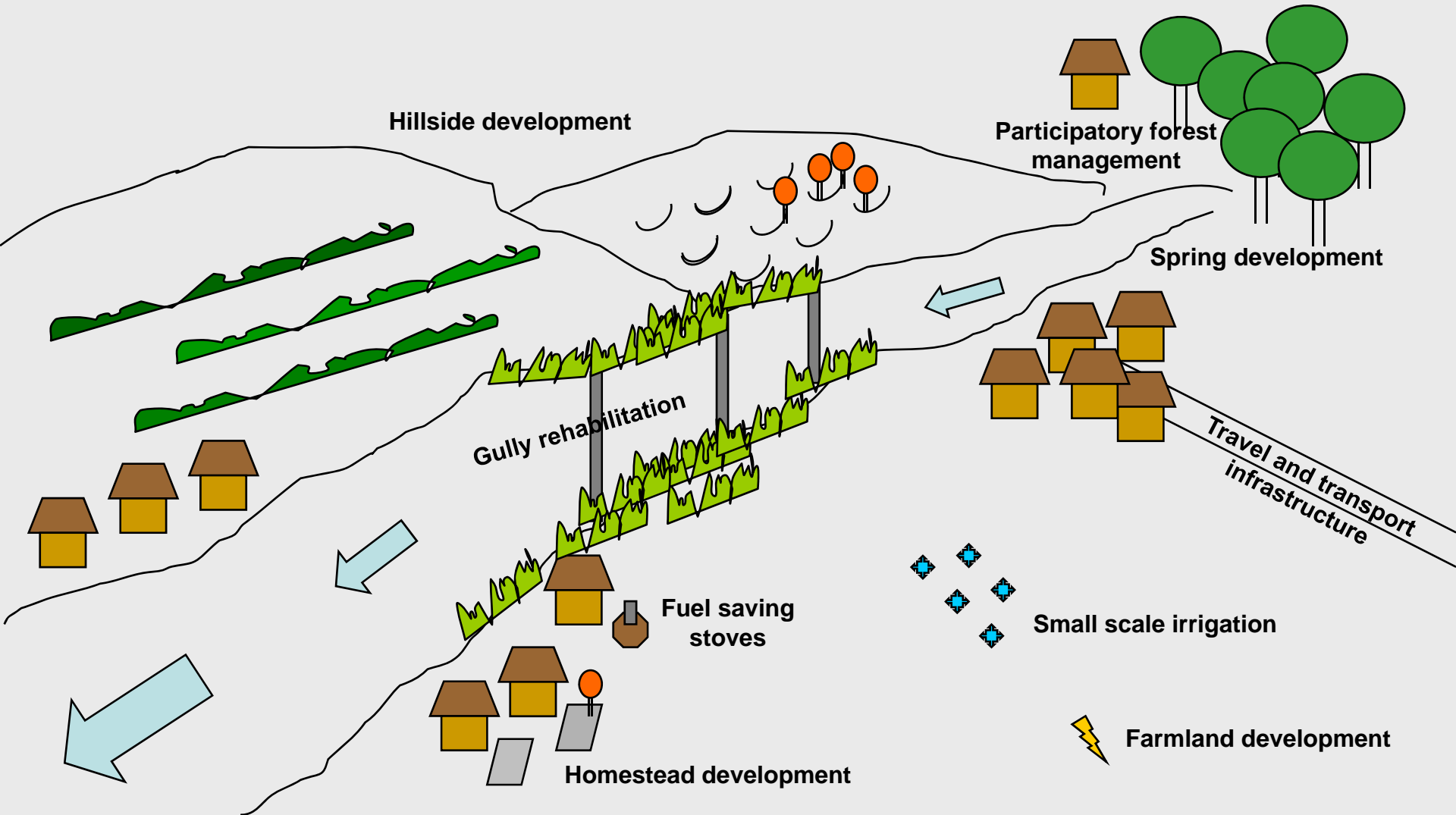
Gully rehabilitation

Nursery management

Royalties (45% in Oromia)

# Watershed development

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## Challenges

Dodola case: 7 steps to wajib

Formula: Ownership + Organization  
+ Technical Support = Sustainable Forest  
Development

More measures to increase forest cover



Thank you for your attention