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OROMIA ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AUTHORITY

Oromia National Regional State Forested Landscape Program

(Program ID P156475)

[2017/18 - 2021/22]

Program Implementation Progress Status Report

Second Year first bi- annual [July 8 - Dec 31, 2018]

Contents

CRONYMS

A/R	Afforestation/Reforestation
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BoLAU	Bureau of Land Administration & Use
BoFL	Bureau of fishery and livestock
BoWME	Bureau of Water Minerals and Energy
BSM	Benefit Sharing Mechanism
BSP	Benefit Sharing Plan
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CRGE	Climate Resilient Green Economy
DAs	Development Agents
ER	Emission Reduction
ERPA	Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement
GHG	Green House Gas
GTP	Growth & Transformation Plan
GPS	Global Positioning System
IC	Individual Consultant
ICS	Improved Cook Stove
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
ILSM	Integrated Landscape Management
ILUP	Integrated Land Use Planning
IPCC	Intergovernmental panel on Climate change
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MRV	Measurement Reporting & Verification
MtCO2e	Metric tons of CO_2 Equivalent
OEFCCA	Oromia Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authority

OFLP	Oromia Forested Landscape Program
OFWE	Oromia Forest & Wildlife Enterprise
ORCU	Oromia "REDD+" Coordination Unit
ORSC	Oromia REDD+ Steering Committee
ORTWG	Oromia REDD+ Technical Working Group
PDO	Program Development Objective
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
PIM	Program Implementation Manual
PMU	Program Management Unit
REDD+	Reduced Emission from Deforestation & Forest Degradation,
RETF	Recipient Executed Trust Fund
SLMP	Sustainable Land Management Program
STEP	Systematic Tracking of Exchanges on Procurement
TTL	Task Team Lead
WB	World Bank

1. **SECTION ONE:** INTRODUCTION

1.1. Project Background

Environmental issue in general and climate change in particular has become a world-wide concern in the last decades and being the focus of discussions in a variety of forums at national and international levels. Hence, various international conventions and accords on climate change, adaptation and mitigation had been made and agreed upon between UN member states. Environmental problems are rooted in economic and social policies. Based on these, corrective actions have been made by each nation and international organizations dealing with these issues. Ethiopia is among one of these nations that Ethiopian government has been doing a great role to address these over the years by creating policies and programs, enacting environmental legislation, laws and also enforcing international institutions agreement and treaties, and regulations. And hence, Oromia Forested Land scape program is one of the interventions made by the Ethiopian Government and international communities.

The Oromia Forested Landscape Program (OFLP) is Oromia Regional State long term Program that contributes to transformation in how forested landscapes within Oromia are managed to provide multiple goods and services in perpetuity. The Oromia Forested Landscape Program goal is to reduce deforestation and net greenhouse gas emissions from land use in all forested areas in the region. The program addresses the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. The program deals with the tradeoffs and synergies among the land uses that include **forest, crop, livestock, water, and household energy**. To attain these goals, the program has been under implementation for the last one and half years.

In the **first year** of the program implementation, 65 program staff were recruited and placed at different locality ranging from region to woreda thought there were a series turnover. **5** vehicles were purchased by the design phase budget and placed in the program areas for program support. **762.1 ha** of land was planted in **70 sites with in** the

17-hot spot woredas **with 1,718,680 seedlings out of 2,861,448 raised seedlings** through the participation of local community, who owns the forest**.** Management of these planted seedlings has been undergoing by the organized community who owns the forest. First survival count of planted seedling was also conducted and the result showed that averagely **85%** survived (the survival count in each site varied from **58 % - 91%** among woredas and sites). In addition, 13668 ha of forests are demarked by the implementing institution to manage the forest through community participation. Thus, the aforementioned PFM has accomplished its mobilization phase in the program first year.

The program activities of the second year that runs from July 2018 to June 2019 were defined and articulated in the annual work plan. The approved AWP was used by program management unit to cascade the program activities and budget to the local level, zonal and woreda. The second year AWP has also included the pending activity of the first year that program activity has not been interrupted though they were separated into years for planning purpose.

1.2. Program Components

The program has three components; namely: **Enabling Investments, Enabling Environment and Emission Reduction payment.** The Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement **(ERPA)** is expected to be signed by Mid-2019. Then after, in one-year time, if ERs are generated, the payments will start. By now, this report focuses on implementation progress achieved over the last six months with some critical results of the first year on the first two components (Enabling investment and enabling environment) financed by the grant part.

- **Enabling Investments (US$62.11%):** This Component aims to make investments in participatory forest management (including livelihoods support and selected nature-based community enterprise development) and reforestation in deforestation hotspots woredas, as well as extension services, and land-use planning at local levels.

- **Enabling Environment (37.89%):** This component aims to improve the effectiveness and impact of institutions, incentives (i.e., policies, marketing, BSM), information (i.e., strategic communication, MRV) and safeguards management at all levels. This component enhances the enabling environment to help scale up and leverage action on-the-ground to reduce deforestation and forest degradation.

The **Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA)US $50M):** Emission Reduction (ER) payments will be realized when results are achieved and verified by a third party, and formally reported to the WB. Based on the design of the FRL/MRV system, it is expected that reporting and verification of ER can occur every two years. The ER payments will be managed by the MoF and distributed to the beneficiaries according to the Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) currently under preparation for the Program. The BSP will need to be formally adopted by the FDRE before any ER payment can be made.

1.3. Program Financing

OFLP is financed by the BioCF ISFL/ World Bank using two financial instruments: Recipient Executed Trust Fund (RETF) of US$ 18 million and ER Payment of US$ 50 million. The total RETF is funded by the BioCF ISFL, with funding from the United States of America and Norwegian Government. The details are:

a. Eight Million five hundred fifty thousand United States Dollars (US$ 8,550,000 is financed by the United States Department of State (USDOS Grant TF0A4442); and

b. Nine million four hundred fifty thousand United States Dollars (US$ 9,450,000 is financed by Norway Ministry of Climate and Environment (MoCE Grant TF0A4467).

The financial distribution to the components is enabling **investment** component: **62.11%** while the remaining **37.89% is for enabling environment** of the OFLP.

2. SECTION TWO: PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS INDICATORS

2.1. Program Development Objectives

The overarching program development objective (PDO) is to reduce net GHG emissions and improve sustainable forest management in Oromia. This overarching PDO combines the PDOs for the RETF grant and Emission Reductions Purchase Agreement (ERPA) portions of the Program, which are presented separately herein for ease of reporting. **RETF PDO:** To improve the enabling environment for sustainable forest management and investment in Oromia. Indicators:

A. **Score on composite index** for tracking changes in the enabling environment for reducing deforestation and forest degradation (Number). The determination of program result using this indicator is recurring every two years. In the near future the composite index survey is going to be conducted that the result will be known by then.

B. **Area reforested (Ha):** the expected reforested area is 1800 ha. But in the first year AWP preparation it was planned to afforest only 100 ha. Out of the planned 100 ha only

762 ha is succeeded. Thus, 762 ha. Of lands are planted in the first year of the program implementation.

C. **Direct program beneficiaries (Number) and female beneficiaries (Percentage):** survey is going to be conducted following the composite index survey and result reporting.

Emission Reductions Purchase Agreement (ERPA) portions of the Program: Emission Reduction in the OFLP accounting area (MtCO$_2$e) and Gross deforestation reduction in the OFLP accounting area (ha)

3. SECTION THREE: PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

3.1. Component 1: Enabling Investments

3.1.1. Sub Component: Sub-basin land use planning

This Sub-Component focuses on developing tools, knowledge and skills required to complete the ongoing sub-basin Integrated Land Use Plan (ILUP) in the remaining zones and woredas of the region. To do so, the program management unit together with the regional Land Use & Administration had planned to engage consultant. This sub-activity has been delayed for more than a year and half due to failure to get competent Individual consultant to do the job despite the many advertisements made by the unit. Different administrative measures had been given to resolve the problem at different time within the existing WB and Government regulation to resolve the challenges. By now, it is agreed with the Bank to go for a firm instead of trying to recruit either government institution or an individual consultant that it has been re-advertise again to recruit the firm through quality based and cost selection method. As a result, the notice is re-advertised. And thus, so far there is no output is generated despite the mile stones obtained at each stage of the advertisements.

3.1.2. Sub-Component 1.2: Investment and extension services

This sub-component seeks to coordinate on-ground implementation of landscape management interventions across Oromia. It guides the operational and administrative support through the engagement of the key technical personnel who are responsible for management and coordination of OFLP related activities on-ground.

Program staff engagement and maintenance: The following staffs were recruited and have been placed though there are program staff turnovers.

- Three OFLP lead facilitators, each hosted at three zones of the region's zonal offices of OEFCCA (Nekemte, Adama, and Shashamane);
- Three OFLP Program Accountants, each hosted at three zones of the region's zonal offices of OEFCCA (Nekemte, Shashamane and Adama,).
- Five drivers, each hosted at five zones of the region's zonal offices of OEFCCA (Nekemte, Bedele, Adama, Shashamane and Bule Hora); two drivers has terminated the service and as a result they were replaced from the roster
- OFLP Woreda Coordinators: 35 out of 38 are maintained, this indicate that by this year 3 of them have terminated. Since the beginning 13 of them have terminated services though there were replacement from roster and new recruitments. The recruitment process for the three open positions is undergoing that it is expected to place as of March 2019.
- **Vehicle Rental: eight** out of the **ten** vehicles demanded are supplied. **One** vehicle is maintained at regional level and **seven** of them were placed in the **field** offices. They were placed at **Woreda coordination office of Bore Woreda, Adola Rede woreda** and **Bule Hora woreda** in the south and eastern oromia facilitation cluster and at **safeguard coordination office of West shoa zone & West Hararghe zone, East wellega zone and** also **Hurumu Woreda coordination office**. The supplies of the two remaining are under process. The supplier was appealing not to supply to Kellem and West Wellega zones due to the security condition in the area.
- **Logistics supply:** The procurement of office supply & stationery is under process at the regional level. The purchase order is issued to the suppliers.

Organize training for Woreda experts on Integrated landscape management: One of the focuses of OFLP is to promote integrated landscape management interventions across the region. OFLP focuses on management of land resources in the region. Preparation and implementation of an integrated landscape management activities at woreda and community levels is very crucial for successful implementation and attainment of OFLP objectives. And hence, providing training on integrated landscape management (ILSM) to relevant zonal and woredas experts on integrated landscape management plays a role. **1593** woreda and zone expert were planned for the second and third quarter. Based on these, of **797** target of the quarter, **631(549 M & 82 F)** woreda and zone experts have been trained on ILSM in five zones of the region (East Hararghe, West Hararghe, Arsi,

North shoa and Buno Bedelle zones). The training objective was to build staff and implementing institutions experts' capacity on integrated landscape management. This will enable the implementing institutions to understand program objectives and implement at landscape scale and ensure effective and efficient program execution on the grounds level.

No	Zone	Bi annual target	Participants		Total	% achievement
			M	F		
1	West Haraghe		104	11	115	
2	East Haraghe		158	23	181	
3	North Shoa		94	14	108	
4	Buno Bedele		67	6	73	
5	Arsi		126	28	154	
Total		797	423	54	631	79%

See table indicating trainees of Integrated landscape management

- **The Field supervision and implementation support by respective woreda coordinators, lead facilitators and program accountant.**

The field office program staffs have been providing support and supervision to the program implementing institutions within their locality. Continuous field supervision and implementation support has been given on periodic basis to enhance the implementation of planned activity by focusing on the program goal. The intention of the monitoring and implementation support is to ensure the engagement of the implementing institutions, the stakeholders and other initiatives on the implementation and mainstreaming OFLP objectives. Thus, the Lead Facilitators, Woreda Coordinators and program accountant have been engaged in continuous supervision and implementation support to relevant sector offices of their respective cluster. In addition, the supervision support was to monitor the progress of the operational plan that the implementing institution at the specific locality had developed jointly.

The monitoring and support included desk reviews on the program implementation status, and field observation, discussion with the community, Z/WEFCCA offices, woreda and zonal administration, other implementing partners such as water and mining offices, land

use offices, livestock and fisheries office, agriculture & natural resource offices and others including NGOs and private institutions. The review, observation and discussion help to identify the situation and status of program activity progresses such as the nursery & plantation sites, and forest in PFM sites demarcation and community consultation, and also the other initiatives that contribute to the achievement of the program objective. **See annex A4.4 for sample field supervision report**

3.1.3. Subcomponent 1.3: Forest management investment in deforestation hotspots

3.1.3.1. Participatory Forest Management (PFM) and Livelihoods

These activities are implemented partly by OFWE (75%) and Partly by OEFCCA (25%). These may varies based on the area readily available by either.

This sub-component will contribute to the long-term conservation and improvement of forest condition in Oromia through adoption, expansion and implementation of Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in targeted forest blocks. This activity increases incentives for the protection of natural forests through forest patrolling, fire management, and restoration. All forest areas/ blocks bigger than **20 ha** within the target woredas is administered under the PFM arrangement. PFM contribute to poverty reduction and improvement of livelihoods in forest dependent communities through providing support for viable forest-based businesses led by Community based Organizations (CBOs). The implementation of PFM is classified by phases and steps that the progress is indicated by these phases and steps. It is categorized to three phases and each by two steps. The phases of PFM are: Mobilization Phase, Planning Phase and Implementation Phase**.** Mobilization Phase involves Step 1: Getting Started and Step 2: Familiarization of PFM Process.   Planning Phase comprises Step 3: Forest Resource Assessment and Management Planning, and Step 4: Organizing and legalizing Community Institutions. And finally, Implementation Phase involves Step 5: Capacity building and skill development and Step 6: Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation. Thus, the implementation of PFM has these phases and steps.

In this year AWP, the activities of this sub component comprise the **pending activity of the first year (2010EFY AWP):** in which the mobilization phases are done in the first year and **the activities of the second year (2011 EFY AWP)** which is **new site i**dentification and familiarization proceeds on.

3.1.3.1.1. The year 1(2010 EFY AWP) pending PFM activity progress

In the program's first year (2010 EFY), the PFM activity were targeted to be implemented in 12,000 hectares of forest by OEFCCA and ORCU. But it had been under implementation in **13668** hectares of area of lands ((OEFCCA-**3611** in two Woredas) & OFWE-**10057**(in three Woredas)) of the deforestation hot spot. OFWE had been implementing PFM activities in three deforestations hot spot woredas (Jima Horo in Kelem Wellega zone, Alge Sachi in Illu Aba Bor zone and Oddo Shakkiso in Gujji zone).

Progress of OFWE in these forest block: The activities such as community mobilization, familiarization and trainings on PFM process and procedures at different levels were completed. Thus, choosing forest site for PFM, establishing PFM implementation team, orienting stakeholders, meeting and briefing with Kebele leadership, kebele assembly and community members were completed. This means the first steps are completed. In addition, identifying & defining primary & secondary stakeholders' community groups, identify forest uses and gender issues, and training on woreda level facilitation team on PFM were also completed. PFM planning phase activities such as participatory forest boundary demarcation & resource assessment and management plan preparation were mainly conducted in two woredas (Odo Shakisso and Alge Sachi). However, outer boundary demarcation was also conducted in Jimma Hor woreda.

OEFCCA had been implementing PFM activities in two woredas (Gechi in Bunno Bedele zone and -Mana Sibu in West Wollega zone). **Progress of OEFCCA in these forest block:** OEFCCA had been implementing PFM activities in two woredas (Gechi in Bunno Bedele zone and Mana Sibu in West Wollega zone). A series of activities such as choosing forest site for PFM, establishing PFM implementation team, orienting stakeholders, and meeting & briefing with Kebele leadership, kebele assembly and community members have been completed. And also, the PFM familiarization process such as identifying and defining primary and secondary stakeholders' community groups, identifying forest uses and gender issues, and training woreda level facilitation team on PFM has also been completed. However, some PFM planning activities such as Forest Resource assessment has not been conducted yet and the participatory forest boundary demarcation conducted in the aforementioned two woredas is not satisfactory (field observation and discussion)

In general, consensus was reached with both institutions (OFWE and OEFCCA) to complete the pending PFM activities of first year (2010 EFY) by 31 March 2019 up to

cooperative establishment level. However, the social turmoil situation in the PFM woredas is threatening to finalize on the deadline.

3.1.3.1.2. Year 2 (2011 EFY AWP) PFM activity progress

The PFM implementing institution, OFWE & OEFCCA have planned to implement PFM in 26,000ha in new woredas and sites in this second year. As a result, OFWE identified **nine new** deforestations hot spot **woredas** (Anfilo& Gawa Kebe from Kelem Wollega Zone; Adolla Rede & Wadera from Gujji zone; Metu, Becho, Didu & Alge Sachi from Illu Aba Bor zone and Dedessa in Bunno Bedelle zone). The total forest areas that OFWE identified to implement PFM activities are **19,271.57**ha in the **18 kebele** of the aforementioned woredas. OEFCCA has also identified **new five** deforestation hotspot **woredas** (Surro Berguda, Dugda Dawwa, Birbirsa Kajjawo and Ambella Wamana woredas in west Guji zone and Nole Kaba woreda in west Wollega zone) to implement PFM activities. The total forest areas that OEFCCA identified to implement PFM activities are **7,533.53 ha** in**10** kebele of the aforementioned woredas.

PFM is an interactive process that engages various stakeholders and as a result, PFM requires frequent consultation & communication work. In all newly identified deforestation hotspot woredas planned for PFM, there is high social turmoil problem that has been threatening the implementation process. The Program Coordination Unit had discussed with PFM implementing institution to shift these sites to more secured areas. However, mainly one woreda of OEFCCA from West Wollega, Lalo Assabi shifted to Nolle Kaba, still this woreda has also same problem. In general, the implementation of PFM requires further discussion with concerned institutions. See Annex A4.2 for detail description

3.1.3.2. AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION

This activity is designed to be fully implemented by Oromia Environment, Forest and Climate Change Authorities. Forest establishment in areas of deforestation hotspots help to restore forests and reduce environmental degradation and boost provisioning of forest goods and ecosystem services. This is realized through the development of forests on lands that have not been forested for long period of time (Afforestation) and re-establishing of forests on lands where forests were removed or destroyed (reforestation) recently. The activities of A/R are: identifying appropriate sites for A/R; mobilizing communities; providing training to extension workers and community members; and

providing technical and material support to those farmers and communities interested in implementing A/R.

In the program design it was planned to afforest 1800 hectors of land in the first year and also the same in the second year. But during the first-year program planning it was not planed as in the design. the first-year plan was to plant 1000 hectares of land. This implies, the second-year plan to be 2600 hectares to achieve the end of the second-year target (3600 ha). But the achievement of the first year was only **762.1** hectares that the plan of the second year is adjusted to **2837.9** hectares. In the first-year program implementation, **762.1** hectares of land was planted with **1,718,680 seedlings (**out of 2,861,448 seedlings raised in the same year**) in 70 sites with in** the **17**-hot spot woredas through the participation of local community, who owns the forest**.** The total seedlings raised in the first year was **2,861,448.** Management of these planted seedlings has been undergoing by the organized community who owns the forest. These include weeding, spot hoeing, and mulching fencing, developing community by-law and frequent supervision and coordination works. First survival count of planted seedling was also conducted and the result showed that averagely **85%** survived (the survival count in each site varied from **58 % - 91%** among woredas and sites). See Annex A4.2 for detail description

The major bi-annual planned activities in year 2 were running of nursery sites in **fifty-one** identified deforestation hot spot woredas to raise **7,500,000** seedlings though there were a social turmoil issues that might affect. These nursery sites operations that has been done so far include **procurement & distribution of tree seeds**, **basic nursery tools, poly ethane tube; and sowing of tree seeds, weeding, pot filling and transplanting of seeds into plastic pots**. **2350kg** of various tree seeds (*Grevila robusta, Acacia decurence, Cupressece lusitanica, Cardia africana, Eucalyptus camaldulensess and Eucalyptus glublose*), 12800kg of various lay flat (8cm & 10cm) poly ethane tube and 50 sets of various basic nursery tools were procured and distributed to each 51-deforestation hot spot woredas. The distribution and allocation for each woreda is annexed to this report in annex A4.3. As of this biannual, **652,000** seedlings were produced in southern Oromia and of which 552,000 seedlings are transplanted to **pot** and 100,000 seedlings are bare rooted to be transplanted soon. These are produced by this time due to seasonal difference in this cluster.

In the fifty-one-deforestation hotspot woredas, operating on the nursery activities in the respective sites are undergoing. In addition to the nursery site, plantation site identification and community consultation has been undergoing in each woreda and kebeles. As a result, **1074 hectares** of land were identified and geo-referenced in **23 woredas and 88 sites** for this year plantation. These sites identified for A/R are all communal lands. The detail size and locations of each site are indicated in Annex A4.2. **Temporary Job opportunity as a result of A/R activity:** The local community members have got an opportunity to be engaged in the nursery site activities. As a result, **322**(245 **Male** &77 **Females)** have got temporary job opportunity. See Annex A4.2 for detail description

3.2.   COMPONENT 2: ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

3.2.1. Sub component 2.1: Institutional Capacity Building

Under this sub component, the program has three more sub components comprising sets of activities. These are maintenance of ORCU & Oromia REDD+ Steering committee and Technical Working Group, operationalizing M&E system and Development of Extension Guidelines and Manuals. The first two are planned to be implemented in this AWP (Year II). But the activity Development of Extension Guidelines and Manuals were not planned in this annual work plan.

3.2.1.1.   Maintenance of ORCU, Oromia REDD+ Steering Committee and Technical Working Group

- **Maintenance of ORCU**

19 staffs of the program management unit have been maintained though there were a number of turnovers specially the supporting staffs. By now, IT specialist, driver and secretary cashier are the vacant posts that are under the recruitment process.

- **Oromia REDD+ Steering and Technical Working Group**

The steering committee has also met and discussed on the progress and the committee has given direction for the upcoming actions once in this bi annual. The technical work group meeting was also conducted once in this bi-annual and the group has discussed on the second year approved annual budget, first year report and some of the technical challenges on planted seedlings such as challenges of termite in the West Wellega zone. They have given recommendation for actions such as using traditional means to overcome the termite challenges for the moment. They also recommended the program

management unit to work with research centers so as resolve the termite and related cases fundamentally. The technical work groups indicated that the meeting should be regular where the group may have joint planning, monitoring and reporting on the technical matter.

3.2.1.2. M&E System Operationalizing

The other sub component of institutional capacity building sub component is operationalizing M&E System comprising activity sets. Under this sub component the activity sets are: consultancy service and Planning, budgeting, monitoring, Program progresses follow up and program result assessment using the program indicators.

Consultancy service/ prepare M&E operational manual: The consultancy service has started in the previous year AWP and has continued to this year. The consultant had submitted draft of M&E operational manual, M&E Training manual and 5-year M&E plan. The World Bank and others concerned have commented on the documents. The overall observation from the comment indicates that the document produced is too theoretical and might not be contextualized with the practical work environment. As result the Bank suggested ORCU M&E specialist and the Bank M&E focal person together with some assigned ORCU team to work with the consult so that he might produce workable documents. In addition, it was planned to engage the consultant for composite index survey for the program result determination. As a result, the engagement process is undergoing.

- **Planning, budgeting, monitoring & progresses follow up, result assessment and reporting**
    - ❖ **Program progresses follow up activities**

One day review meeting was conducted in August 2018 to review the first-year program progress and also to review the budget allocation parameter jointly. A number of bottlenecks and way out were discussed in the review meeting. As a result, direction was given by the authority strategic managers for the upcoming actions. The approved budget is the overall program annual budget. But the budget needs to be allocated to each program woredas and zones. As a result, the proposal for budget allocation parameter that were developed by the program management unit was presented for discussion. After thorough discussion, the strategic mangers have given direction on the budget allocation parameters for activities implemented by program staffs. Thus, the parameters were

agreed and set to be applied in the same review meeting. And also, the budget allocation parameter and activity cascading for program activities implemented by implementing partners were not set and was directed by the strategic managers to give it to the implementing institution to play the role of budget allocation by using the program staff as a technical support. See annex A4.1 for detail review meeting report.

In addition, MS- Program training was given to 24 male trainees drawn from implementing institutions and program implementation unit. The trainees' capacity on planning and report is enhanced though the application of the Software were ineffective.

❖ **Budget allocation**

Based on the set direction on the review meeting by the authority strategic managers, the budget for the program activity was allocated using the agreed parameter. The allocated budget was notified to each program woredas and zones on time, within a week time following the review meeting. But for those activities implemented by partners, the implementing institutions were informed to allocate their respective budget using the program staff as a technical support. As a result, the implementing institutions had allocated the budget lately by engaging the program staffs. The budgets developed by the implementing institutions were notified to the program woredas though the allocated budget was not transferred right away. The reason for the delay of the budget transfer was that the program account was naught on the time. The reason for this is that the financial report was not submitted by the respective woredas that the program management unit were not able to report the financial progress. As a result, the fund transfer from EFCC were delayed.

❖ **Program Result assessment**

It was recommended by OFLP Mission to conduct the program composite index survey using the consultant who is currently developing M&E system. Though it had taken long time for OEFCCA to authorize the idea, it was decided to have addendum agreement with the consultant for the service. As a result, the consultant is under process of signing agreement with OEFCCA and in parallel he is clearing the questionnaire that he is expected to report composite index survey result at the end of the third quarter. By imitating the consultant action in the survey, the PMU will also conduct the others surveys following the completion of the composite index survey. The intention of the delay in

conducting the other survey is to learn a lesson from the consultant and apply that same method and contextualized it to the specific indicator for their respective surveys.

❖ **Report**

The program management unit had also been developing monthly and quarterly physical progress report. The reports were communicated to the concerned authority on time though the financial reports were not included. In addition, the unit has organized training & consultation report and then used Google doc to organize the whole reports and the submitted to the Bank.

3.2.2. Sub Component 2.2: Enabling environment

3.2.2.1.　　Resource Mobilization and leveraging

The consultancy for Preparation of strategic action plan to engage the private sector in sustainable landscape management has been undergoing since long. The draft report of the strategic action plan for private sector engagement in the OFLP has been submitted by the consultant and reviewed by ORUC and WB team. However, it is noted as it need improvements that the consultant has been provided comments and feedback. Accordingly, the consultant is improving the report, including identification of 5-6 key value chains taking into considerations such as the scale of the impact in reducing emissions and deforestations, expand economic development(livelihoods), covering enabling environment (public sector) and value chains (private sector) within Oromia.

3.2.2.2.　　Economic, markets, and policy to improve and attract investment

The individual consultant recruited to assess the legal framework on forest governance, tenure and use right and its application in the region has submitted the final draft report for the final comment incorporating the previous comment.

3.2.2.3.　　Preparation and supervision of Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM)

Following a technical advice on draft OFLP Benefit Sharing Mechanism (BSM) during the last implementation support mission, the draft BSM report was commented to address some issues which were not indicated in the previous ToR and Contract. Therefore, OEFCCA/ORCU elaborated ToR for the additional tasks which guided the contract extension with cost, and then contract extension has been signed between OEFCCA/ORCU and the consultant. Accordingly, a revised draft Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) was submitted to OEFCCA/ORCU by the consultant for review. Interim-feedback was

provided on the draft BSP to the consultant that the consultant is working on the provided feedback.

3.2.2.4.   Improved Cook stoves (ICS) and biogas marketing and demonstration:

The Bureau of Water, Minerals and Energy (BoWME) leads the implementation of this activity set. The main program activity to be implemented by Bureau as of this fiscal year is demonstration of market day promotion. In the last fiscal year (2010 EFY AWP) **4413** active ICS producers (**570** male and **3825** female) were identified by the Bureau. The ICS should be known and bought by the household to inhibit the deforestation in the region by providing the alternative means generating energy. To do so, the awareness creation and community mobilization activity should be done alongside with. As result, the Bureau has received 766,892.5 Birr fund for the market day promotion in certain localities of the region that by now the Bureau is on preparatory work. Yet no output is generated from this activity.

3.2.3. Sub-Component 2.3: Information

3.2.3.1.   Sub component: MRV & Establishing forest management Information System

Measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) is foundational response to climate change.

- **Capacity building**: This is to enhance the capacity of **90** zonal and woreda implementing institution experts & program staff in the deforestation hotspots woredas. The training was given on GIS & Remote sensing application and MRV basic concepts for **62** male experts drawn from five zones and 47 woreads of the region. Accordingly, knowledge on field data collection (A/R site identification and demarcation, PFM site identification and boundary demarcation up to map preparation) and data management were enhanced. This was intended to capacitate the implementing institution so that they can collect GPS data, prepare and deliver shape file to regional MRV team and finally verify its current land use and land cover on Google earth. However, due to technical gaps and other different factors, some of the woredas are not supplying the GPS coordinate data and shape file that the regional MRV team is currently carrying the burden. Thus, the program management unit and the implementing institution need to find the possible option to institutionalize the knowledge gained from the training.

- **Improving the data for the Land Use and Land Use Change in forest sector in the region**

The data for the Land Use, Land cover Change has been analyzed to improve Land Use Land Cover Change and Forestry sector of Oromia Region to pave the way for Regional greenhouse gaseous inventory which helps to make the ERPA sign. In addition to forest land, additional **5 IPCC** land uses classes: grassland, cropland, settlements, wetland and other land for the period 2000 to 2017 was validated for 10 days. In total secondary data from 3753 sample plots were collected and verified using stratified sampling approach to target potential areas of change and assess the land use and land use changes of the sample sites.

Field support: onsite support has been provided in the western and south eastern cluster. This was to ensure that site for afforestation/reforestation activities are identified based on the set criteria and demarcated properly using GPS.

Forest Management Information System: The TOR for assessing forest management information system is prepared, and the individual consultant to do the assessment is recruited. The consultant's inception report is approved, and he is now working on the assessment.

3.2.3.2.   Sub component: Strategic Communication

The activity conducting communication Need assessment and developing communication toolkit by engaging Consulting firm has been passing from year to year. As a result, this activity is re-planned to be implemented in this fiscal year. And hence, in this fiscal year, the consulting firm is selected to execute the activity. Accordingly, the consulting firm is conducting the assessment, following the approval of the inception report by OEFCCA. And therefore, the consultant is expected to assess communication need and the existing communication channels and sources of information to identify the communication gaps and to recommend appropriate communication tools and channels. Following the need assessment finding, the consultant will develop OFLP Communication need assessment report and prepare the recommended communication toolkits. Furthermore, the consultant will provide training on strategic communication for program staffs and implementing institutions. To avoid further delay, expediting the service is expected from the consultant and the program management unit. In addition, the program implementation unit is drafting the Bi-annual newsletter and brochures to advance the

program awareness to all stakeholders. Based on the decision made during OFLP Joint implementation support mission organized by the World Bank, OFLP website is developed. For the development of the website, the actual background activities such as designing the architecture and developing contents has been completed in this quarter that probably in the coming month the website will be launched.

3.2.4. Sub Component 2.4: Safeguard Management

A. OFLP SAFEGUARD MANAGEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING

OFLP implementation involves the application of safeguard instruments that requires training and continuous monitoring & evaluation to identify and properly implement proposed mitigation measures of the adverse social and environmental impacts. Capacity building through training and technical support on safeguard instruments (ESMF, RPF, PF and SESA including the Social Development Plan); on environmental and social monitoring and safeguard policies, procedures and relevant sectoral guidelines are the plan of action to be provided for different stakeholders drawn from zone and woredas (including Forest extension services) who in turn cascade to the community/kebele levels. Bases on this rationale, training have been given to the target trainee on safeguards management concepts and practical activities like implementation procedures, monitoring, reporting and documentation in collaboration with zonal and Woreda OEFCCA offices. Thus, the topics covered during training were Environmental and social safeguards policies (GoE and WB), Safeguards Instruments of OFLP (ESMP, SESA/SDP, PF, and RPF), Implementation of safeguards issues as per the ESMP, Review and Reporting procedures, Grievance Redress Mechanisms and Benefit Sharing Mechanism, Monitoring &Evaluation of safeguards performance, Consultation and civic engagement with communities in the regional state environmental and social advisory services. The training helps to address/mitigate the likely social and Environmental impact and risks, to coordinate other REDD+ initiatives nested under the OFLP and improve the ability to monitor grievances redress mechanisms and BSM activities.

i. **Workshops on the findings of the ESR of the two REDD+ Projects and OFLP safeguard instruments**

The capacity building training workshops were organized on ESR and OFLP safeguard instruments for a total of **138(**127 M and 11F) in the three zones of the region (Ilu Ababore, Bale and West Arsi zone). Specifically, total of **45** (42 M & 3 F) Officials and 44 (40 M & 4 F)

experts from eleven woredas of Bale and West Arsi zone and in addition, **26** (22M &4F) officials and 23 (all male) experts from five woredas of Ilu Ababora were engaged in capacity building training workshops.

During the training, the concept, principles and objectives of REDD+ safeguards, OFLP safeguards instruments (ESMF, RPF, PF, BSM and GRM), ESMP procedure and EIA steps was delivered. The training enables the participants to identify, predict, and evaluate positive and adverse environmental and social impacts of OFLP and the two ongoing REDD+ initiatives and also provide guiding principles for assessment and management of environmental and social aspects of the program activities to be financed under the OFLP and implemented by the ongoing REDD+ initiatives.

ii. Experts Training at Zonal level

Building capacities of relevant zonal and woredas experts is one of the thematic focuses of the program intervention. Capacity building training workshops on OFLP safeguard management for woreda stakeholders was organized for two days in different periods of times in the respective zones. The woreda participants were drawn from Office of Agriculture and Natural Resource, office of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, office of Water, Mineral and Energy, office of Land Administration and Use, office of Livestock and Fishery and branch and district of Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprises. The total number of the participants was **631(**549**M &** 82**F)** Woreda offices from the five zones of the region (East Hararghe, East Hararghe, Arsi, North shoa and Buno Bedelle zones) were engaged in the training. This training (at their respective zone) enhances the capacity of the woreda experts to address social and environmental issues that might arise because of OFLP intervention. The training also helps to cascade the safeguards training/awareness creation to development agents who cascade to kebele level. The training helps the experts to smoothly manage safeguard issues along the national regional state of Oromia.

See the expert trained on Safeguard management

No	Zone	Bi annual target	Participants		Total	% achievement
			M	F		
1	West Haraghe		104	11	115	

2	East Haraghe		158	23	181	
3	North Shoa		94	14	108	
4	Buno Bedele		67	6	73	
5	Arsi		126	28	154	
Total		797	423	54	631	79%

iii. Development Agent (DA) capacity Building Training at woreda Level

It is compulsory to clear both social and environmental safeguards before OFLP interventions on the ground. In this regard, sensitizing the community on the subject requires DA training. The trained DA intern will aware the community to consider environmental and social issues in afforestation/ reforestation and in a participatory forest management. To this end, the DAs support the local community to be able to protect the natural resources based at their local and also support for the establishment and maintenance of grievance readdressing mechanism. To realize the process of safeguards management, the knowledge and skills of development agents' needs to be enhanced to train and support communities so as to enable them make informed participation on safeguards management processes, DAs need to train and advanced on safeguard management and processes. The objective of the training is to enable DAs to use the checklist format developed for eligibility checking of identified program activities to address the likely environmental and social risks and improve the ability to monitor grievances redress mechanisms. The program management unit had planned to train **3445** DAs in the region on safeguard management in this bi annual /2011 EFY AWP/. In the region, so far **1153** DA (935 m and 218 F) has got trained in eight zones (south west shoa, West Shoa, Guji, Borena, Arsi, West Arsi, Bale, and West Hararghe).

B. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community consultation and participation is a tool for the effective implementation of OFLP. It ensures and creates a sense of ownerships; it also reduces the possible risks and mitigates the risks at its early stage, the consultation bridge information gap among community, and also builds and improves relationships among community. The consultation helps to reduce the rate of deforestation and forest degradation in the region. To realize the efficient and effective implementation of the program, **8193 (**6581**M** and

1612**F) community** members were consulted and also under the process of the consultation in the region.

Community consulted in the five zones of the region

No	Zone Name	No of participants		Total
		M	F	
1	West Arsi	254	58	312
2	Bale	756	59	815
3	Arsi	310	40	350
4	West Hararghe	1306	108	1414
5	East Hararghe	3955	1347	5302
Total		**6581**	**1612**	**8193**

instruments (ESMPs) were prepared, and approved by WoEFCCA, based on further screening carried out by OFLP focal persons from WoEFCCA and 4 A/R site which have no potential environmental and social impacts directly approved by WoEFCCA last year. But in this fiscal year 27 A/R sites were updated, reviewed and approved based on the ground reality of program activities.

● **Implementation status:** the implementation status data has not yet been reported that it may be included in the upcoming reports

● **OFLP Safeguard Preparation and approval for new A/R and PFM sites**

The implementation of OFLP safeguard instruments requires capacity building training to mitigate the likely Social and Environmental impact due to OFLP interventions. To this end, the capacity building training workshops were organized by the Oromia REDD+ Coordination Unit (ORCU) on the concept, objectives, principle of safeguard, World Bank operational policy and OFLP Safeguard Instruments for implementing partners at different administration level (Region, Zone and Woreda level). Based on the delivered trainings in some of the intervention area community consultation was carried out on the objectives, benefits and the likely impacts of the program activities (AR and PFM) to get the views and broad support of local communities. But site-specific safeguard instruments for both A/R and PFM sites are not prepared.

D. A/R INVESTMENT RELATED CRITICAL SOCIAL COMPLAIN REGISTERED AND SOLVED

In Alle woreda, one of the sites called Didi has encountered social complain. As a result, **a group of staffs of the implementing institution, OEFCCA** and program staff has traveled to the site and hold extensive discussion with community **187 (155 Male & 32 Female)**. **Five** people had complained that the site has enclosed their own tenured land wrongly. The team has practically checked on spot with kebele representative together with their legal tenure documents and has resolved the matter. Similarly, Bedelle woreda Bowa Hare A/R site was one of the serious complain area. The problem arises due to improper community identification which leads to inter community conflict. As a result, discussion was held with community member of **46 (all male)** and consensus reached.

It is believed that the communities own protect and manage the established plantation by their own. However, in Gechi woreda, Bido doma A/R site the community become reluctant in doing so. As a result, since the established seedlings was suffered from animal disturbance and mechanical damage. Following this issue, discussion was held with the community to correct it even though still it **is not satisfactory**.

E. GRIEVANCE REDRESS COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT

The implementations process of OFLP at landscape may trigger grievance in course of the process. This means implementation of the Program may create some potential conflicts. The actual and potential disputes and conflicts that may arise in the process of implementing OFLP are resolved through the establishment of Grievance redress committee at Kebele level. The program implementation unit had planned to establish a mechanism to identify and facilitate resolution of condition proactively. And hence, **244** grievance readdressing mechanism committees were established in most of hot spot kebeles where OFLP interventions carried out and in some of non-hot spots woredas based on the existing forested landscape areas. The members of the established committees are 1606(**1444** Male and **876** Female).

GRM committee established

No	Zone	GRM committee established	Members of committee		Total
			Male	Female	
1	K/Wollega	80	478	82	560
2	Buno Bedele	8			
3	W/wollega	18	108	18	126
4	East Wollega	117	714	714	714
5	Bale, Arsi and west Arsi	21	144	62	206
Total		**244**	1444	876	1606

Sample picture of the discussion on the Establishment of community Grievances readdressing committee (Reji forest, Arsi Negele)

F. SAFEGUARDS MONITORING AND SUPERVISION

F.1. Activities supported by OFLP Grant

The implementing partners have been implementing the program activities based on the approved AWP. The implementation of the program should follow the recommended mitigation measures that the program staffs were closely following and supporting the implementing partners. OFLP Safeguards and Woreda coordinators were closely providing technical support to assure environmental and social safeguards to the implementing partners so as to ensure the recommended mitigation measure. These program staffs were facilitating overall planning, implementing, monitoring and ensuring the coordination and integration of OFLP activities with other initiatives.

The program staffs have been supporting on the preparation of site-specific safeguard instruments, ensure environmental issues, consulted the communities and address the risks associated during the monitoring and supervision. The supervision supports the establishment of Grievance redress committee and their functionalities.

F.2. Activities not supported by OFLP Grant

The program staff had trained the newly assigned RIP staff so that they may be able to use the safeguard instrument in investing on forest sector. But no support on site specific safeguard instruments on those projects and other. Thus, so far there is no report for support on site-specific safeguard instruments for activities that are not funded by OFLP Grant

3.2.5. Sub-Component 2.5: Program Management

To ensure smooth program implementation on track, various efforts have been made and is undergoing at community, woreda, zone, clusters and regional level. Among these, the main efforts include annual Work plan preparation, Budget allocation, financial report development, monitoring and periodic follow up, progress tracking and continuous participation on meetings and giving and taking direction were some of them.

4. SECTION FOUR- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The government and the World Bank financial management manual apply to the financial execution of this program. All the internal control procedures and processes of the program expenditure follows the government's working manual except for some the particular elements such as fund flow uses channel II and the financial and procurement audit is made by the external auditor in addition to the government audit system .From the beginning of the program implementation to December 31, 2018, **71,868,627.81 ETB** was transferred from program's designated dollar account held by the MEFCC at NBE for this program to birr account held by the OEFCCA at Commercial Bank of Ethiopia. Of these transferred amount **51,106,727.53 ETB** has been expended for the program objective realization by OEFCCA/ORCU and other implementing institution. Of this expenditure, **31,981,396.68 Birr** is the expenditure of the first-year program implementation (due date July 07, 2018) and **19,125,330.85** ETB is expenditure from July 08, 2018 to December 31, 2018**.** The current Program Bank account balance is **4,466,977.29** ETB. Since the beginning **42,289,834.32 ETB** is transferred to the implementing institution based in different administrative levels of the region and **26,864,379.70 ETB** is settled so far.

Thus, **15,425,454.62 ETB** amount is unsettled from the transferred amount. The detail financial report will be reported by the finance team using the template already set for financial reporting.

5. SECTION FIVE: MAJOR CHALLENGES ENCOUNTRED AND WAY FORWARD

MAJOR CHALLENGES ENCOUNTRED

- ❖ Implementing institutions technical capability gap and as a result, the PMU is playing capacity building role
- ❖ Inability to obtain on time financial reports and cash flow from the woredas for OEFCCA, OFWE and BoWME
- ❖ Delay in procurement operation due to staff turnover and limited skills of OEFCCA procurement unit and as a result, the procurement specialist is made on board that in the future the PMU will resolve the matter
- ❖ Existence of social turmoil in the deforestation hotspot areas in the woredas of West Wellega zone, Woredas of Kellem Wellega zone
- ❖ Sector offices heads and focal persons turnover especially at woreda level;
- ❖ Loose Coordination at all levels among implementing institutions.
  WAY FORWARD
- ❖ Continuous awareness creation and on job training.
- ❖ Functionalizing steering and technical committees at all levels.
- ❖ Strengthening capacity building.
- ❖ Developing a binding rule that more strengthen collaboration of stakeholders and sign among the implementing institutions and other initiatives.

6. SECTION SIX: OFLP Result Frame work Progress

The program results are assessed and reported for the concerned stakeholders periodically in addition to the continuous progress report provided. OFLP result assessment ha snot yet been made except for the progress in conducting composite survey. Based on the stakeholder requirement the PMU is reporting the program results that can be obtained from performance record. As a result, the program result compiled so far are: **area reforested, forest area brought under management plans and the Forest users trained.** These are summarized herein:

A. **762.1** hectors of **area reforested** & brought under management by the community who had planted an owns the forest.

B. **13668** hectors of forest **area brought under management plans** (PFM) though there are some activities are remaining.

C. **15240** of the **Forest users** trained in the region. Of these **1754** are **females** (12% of the total).

For the detail description against the target and baseline, See Annex **A2** for detail.

Note: The program Progress reports are part of the documentation used for its review and evaluation. Result based monitoring and reporting requires a **structured system or framework** for the **collection and analysis** of performance information. OFLP result and routine information were reported from **Woreda coordination** to lead facilitation office and then the lead **facilitation office reports** to the regional ORCU/OEFCCA. The regional ORCU complies and share to the concerned. The data transferred from one level to the other requires further validation. Thus, the data collection and validation mechanism need to be strengthened to rely on the report.

7. ANNEX

1. **Annex A1**. Plan versus accomplishment table

Planned versus
accamplishement

2. **Annex A2**. OFLP Result Framework Indicator Progress [May 2017 – Dec,2018]

OFLP Result
Framework Indicato

3. Annex A2.1: Lists of program indicators and their data collection methods

Lists of program
indicators and their

4. **Annex A3**. Six months Project Financial Performance (in Birr)

Financial
performance progre

Annex A4. Other Tables

Annex A4.1 August review meeting report

OFLP first year
August Review Mee

Annex A4.2 Annex of the forest management sub component

Annexes of the
forest management

Annex A4.3 Annex of the safeguard management sub component

Annexes of the
safeguard managen

Annex   A4.4 Field supervision report

Final_South Cluster   Western Cluster
Nov 2018 Field mon   field supervision rep