

SUPPORTIVE SUPERVISION REPORT ON PROGRESS IN DISABILITY INCLUSION IN FOUR TIGRAY REGION WOREDAS

Woredas visited: Degua Temben, Seharti Samre, Endamehoni and Ofla

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Team: Aino Himanen (FTAT DIS), Brhan Weldegebriel (Tigray RSU Gender&MSES and DI focal person), Solomon G/Tsadik (Tigray RSU Team leader) for the first two woredas and Desalegn Kirose (Tigray RSU CMPS) for the last two woredas

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND OF THE VISIT

The team undertook a supportive supervision visit to four COWASH woredas in Tigray (Degua Temben, Seharti Samre, Endamehoni and Ofla) on 7-11 May 2019 to assess the current progress of disability inclusion in practice at the woreda level.

The team's main aim was to assess the current status of disability inclusion in practice at the woreda level. Visits to sites in the field were done in all woredas, as well as office discussions with the CMP Supervisors. Site visits focused on checking the accessibility of the water points and latrines as well as the community's awareness on disability. In the office discussions, the following issues were focused on: 1) the disability trainings conducted, and how disability issues have been included into other COWASH trainings; 2) how the woreda is using the new application and appraisal formats, and whether they are collecting the disability data in the community and WASHCO levels; 3) how the physical accessibility to WASH facilities is progressing; 4) how disability inclusion has progressed in other components such as MSE establishment; 5) as well as what kind of support woredas would still need from FTAT or the RSU. Similar visits are made in all the other COWASH regions.

A Disability inclusion awareness raising for the Region, zone and woreda office heads and training for the experts of all COWASH stakeholder offices was organised in Mekelle in December 2017 with the support of FTAT. Following this training, woreda level awareness raising and Kebele WASH Team (KWT) trainings were planned and conducted in Q4 of 2010 EFY. In Tigray region, similar capacity building activities on disability inclusion at all levels have been included for 2011 EFY. These have been conducted as planned with the exception of the region level. In addition, the plan has been to raise disability issues in all other meetings and trainings whenever possible. On-the-job support has been given by the RSU and all the Water Bureau technical staff have been trained on disability and accessibility as well.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

Overall, it was very good to see that all woredas visited have taken steps towards disability inclusion. Although it is a new concept to all, there is progress in all woredas and generally a very positive attitude towards inclusion. The region has done especially well on the awareness raising activities at all levels. There is still need for stronger support and monitoring to ensure action on the ground, especially in physical accessibility of the WASH facilities, by the RSU and the woreda CMP Supervisors.

In terms of ensuring physical accessibility to water there still further progress to be made. There is an attempt to ensure accessibility in all woredas, but due to different reasons, in practice no fully accessible water point could be observed during the visit. Construction was still ongoing in some woredas, and some woredas had not implemented or understood the new accessible design. In addition, for example in Ofla woreda all the shallow wells are managed by the region

who were not aware of the accessible design, and the woreda has left the construction fully to the region. There is also a lack of regular monitoring at critical times by the RSU and CMP supervisors to ensure accessibility of the water point constructions and the full implementation of the new design. All woredas except Endamehoni had received the new design, and all were reminded of the importance of implementing it. There is need for more regular monitoring and on-the-job training for the woredas. For spring developments accessibility is usually more challenging due to the topography, although all woredas assured they will make it as accessible as possible.

All woredas assured they will make the institutional latrines accessible, and during the field visits it was clear that they had mostly understood the accessibility principles, which was positive. In Seharti Samre woreda the team visited the school latrine just at a critical time and was able to correct some of the issues on the spot with the contractor (e.g. extremely steep ramp, redesign the toilet seat etc.). He was aware of the accessibility issues, but had not fully understood how practically they should be made.

For the disability inclusion trainings for woreda stakeholders and KWTs, all woredas had conducted them as planned in 2010 and 2011 EFY. All had included in both events as trainees local Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) or persons with disabilities in the absence of formal associations, which is very good. In all woredas the CMP supervisors were supported in the training cascading by all sector office focal persons trained earlier. All woredas trained all the COWASH kebeles. From discussion with the officials and experts from different offices it was clear that the level of awareness and understanding of disability was high.

Disability issues have been included in all woredas in other trainings organised at the woreda level e.g. in the WASHCO CMP management training. From discussions with the WASHCOs met especially in Seharti Samre and Degua Temben woredas it was clear that the community level trainings had been very successful as their level of awareness on disability issues was very impressive. In Degua Temben we met with one WASHCO member whose husband is visually impaired. She said the training allowed her to understand him better and they even added a rope to their household to guide him to the toilet. He is now practicing using the toilet independently, which is positive for all family members.

The revised application and appraisal formats are both in use in all woredas. All four woredas had identified persons with disabilities during application and appraisal time, and Seharti Samre and Endamehoni found some in all communities. In all four woredas no WASHCO members with disabilities were found in the WASHCO files. However, the WASHCO CMP management training data revealed that in Seharti Samre, Degua Temben and Ehdamehoni woredas there are WASHCO members with disabilities. For Ofla the data was not collected during this visit, but it is known from previous visit that they also do have some WASHCO members with disabilities.

Two of the woredas visited, Endamehoni and Ofla, are among the pilot woredas for MSE establishment. In Endamehoni the MSEs have members with disabilities, but Ofla did not manage to include any.

Overall the woredas very much appreciated the disability component in COWASH and are taking its implementation seriously. Many described also very positive feedback from the woreda and kebele stakeholders, as well as communities. They also underlined that a positive change in attitudes towards disability has been made, which is a great achievement in this short time. All woredas stated the trainings had been very successful and that there would be need to do more. It was also positive to witness the good cooperation between the Water Office and the Labour and Social Affairs office at the woreda level. The Social Affairs focal persons were together with the team in all woredas during the field visit. In Endamehoni the Social Affairs focal person truly appreciated the importance of COWASH as a mainstreaming project that supports their work on disability not only in WASH but in all sector activities.

DETAILED FINDINGS BY WOREDA

	Degua Temben	Seharti Samre	Endamehoni	Ofia
<u>2011 EFY construction plans and achievements so far; physical accessibility considerations</u>				
2011 EFY construction plans	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 new community (3 HDW, 5 SPD, 10 SW, 1 RPS, 1 expansion) - 3 rehabilitation community (2 HDW, 1 SPD) - 1 health facility (roof water harvesting) <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 school - 1 health facility 	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 community (18 SW (12 rollover), 2 HDW) - 1 health facility SW - 1 school SW <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 school - 2 health facility 	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 27 community (1 HDW, 11 SPD, 8 SW, 1 DW, 4 rehabilitation, 2 expansion) - 8 school (1 HDW, 1 SPD, 1 Expansion, 4 SW, 1 roof water harvesting) - 3 health (2 SW, 1 roof water harvesting) <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 school - 1 health facility 	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19 community (3 HDW, 9 SPD, 7 SW (2 new, 5 rolled over)) - 1 school (SW) rolled over - 1 health (SW) rolled over <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 school - 1 health facility
2011 EFY construction achievement to date	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all 24 applications received and approved by the WWT. - all under construction except the RPS which is still in procurement phase <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - both are in process, about 20% done 	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 HDW completed - out of the 20 SW, 2 have been abandoned as no water was found, all in process or completed <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 school (1 more than planned) - 2 health facility - all in process 	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 23 community applications approved by WWT - 17 community completed (SPD and SW), others are in good progress (more than 50%) - all 8 school and 3 health facility are completed <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 school and 1 health are completed, 1 remaining school is almost completed 	<p>Water supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21 applications received and approved by WWT - 3 HDW in process, SW completed <p>Latrines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 school latrines soon to be completed - 1 health latrine soon to be completed (visited)
Ensuring physical accessibility of new WASH facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new accessible HDW design has been received, and the woreda assured they will implement it. However the topography in the woreda is very challenging. - The latrines will be made accessible as per the design. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The HDW and SW will be made using the new design which had been received by the woreda. - Latrines will also be made accessible as per the designs. The team visited the school latrine under construction and some key issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new accessible design had not been received (or noted) by the CMP supervisor. It was apparent also during the field visit that it is not being implemented for the HDW/SW. As most sites had been completed already this shows a lack of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Latrines are made accessible and during the field visit the construction office focal person seemed to be very well trained and aware of accessibility issues.

	Degua Temben	Seharti Samre	Endamehoni	Ofla
		were identified, although in some ways the design was followed. A ramp leading to the facility was constructed, but it was very steep. A seat was made in the cubicle meant for children with disabilities, but it was not very convenient for children. The timing for the field visit was excellent as we were able to still make changes to the implementation before it was finalised. There is a need for closer monitoring and practical on the job training by the RSU and the woreda. From the construction it was clear that the contractor had not fully understood the latrine design, but when showed the issues he understood and agreed.	monitoring and supervision. The design appeared not to be clear also to the RSU CMPS. - The CMP supervisor was given the new design and also practical training during the field visit. He assured he will implement it for the remaining schemes as much as possible. - The woreda water office head assured that if budget can be found modifications will be made to the sites already completed and if not it will be used in the future. - Due to the challenging topography full accessibility is difficult to guarantee.	- HDW design has been received and will be implemented for the 3 sites in process. - SW are mainly done by the region, and they are using their own old design, especially for those rolled over (as the site observed during field visit, which was totally inaccessible). However, the CMP supervisor assured 6 SW already completed are accessible, but these were not observed by the team.
<u>Disability inclusion trainings</u>				
Woreda's participation in Disability Inclusion training in Mekelle (Dec 2010)	All sectors' focal persons took part in the training and there has not been much turnover in the woreda. All experts remain the same, except for health.	The CMP Supervisor and all other relevant stakeholders in the woreda took part in the training.	The CMP Supervisor and all other relevant stakeholders in the woreda took part in the training.	The CMP Supervisor and all other relevant stakeholders in the woreda took part in the training.
Woreda level awareness raising and KWT trainings in 2010 and 2011	The woreda organised as per plan the woreda and kebele trainings in both years. The main trainers were from the different sector offices trained in Mekelle. The woreda had as participants persons with disabilities in both events. There were no trainers with disabilities, but the participants with disabilities were asked to share their experiences which was very good. They were from 2 local DPOs, one which brings	The woreda organised as per plan the woreda and kebele trainings in both years. The sector offices all gave the trainings together. They did not have trainers with disabilities and there are no local DPOs in the woreda. However they did invite local role models to share their experiences, such as a Paralympic medal winner and a successful hairdresser/business woman.	Together the CMP Supervisor and the sector focal persons were the main trainers at woreda and kebele trainings. All have been given as per plan in both years. There were no trainers with disabilities, but many trainees with disabilities who were asked to share their experiences. At the woreda training they were not purposefully invited, but happened to be among the trainees. At KWT training local	Due to time constraints and the CMP supervisor being held at a meeting during the day, the trainings were not discussed in detail. But the woreda did conduct the trainings as per plan during both years.

	Degua Temben	Seharti Samre	Endamehoni	Ofla
	together those affected by the war, and another with other types of disabilities. All 14 COWASH kebeles have been trained.	All 11 COWASH kebeles were trained. The woreda also commented it was very good to conduct the trainings twice as there has been a lot of turnover at both levels.	DPOs and other persons with disabilities were specifically invited to take part. All 16 COWASH kebeles were trained in two separate events to keep the number of participants reasonable.	
Inclusion of disability issues into other trainings	The woreda has been including disability issues in other trainings as well, and is routinely using the 8 questions list to identify persons with disabilities among the trainees.	The woreda has been including disability issues in all other trainings as well, for example in the WASHCO CMP management training.	Disability has been included in other trainings as well, for example in the WASHCO CMP management training. Data on the participation of persons with disabilities in all trainings is also routinely collected.	Disability has been included in other trainings as well, for example in the WASHCO CMP management training.
<u>Use of the revised application and appraisal formats; identification of persons with disabilities in the community; WASHCO members with disabilities</u>				
Application and appraisal formats	The revised application and appraisal formats are in use in the woreda.	The revised application and appraisal formats are in use in the woreda.	The revised application and appraisal formats are in use in the woreda. For the SW the appraisal has not been done by the woreda but by the region, thus only the application forms were available for the SW.	The revised application and appraisal formats are in use in the woreda. For the SW the appraisal has not been done by the woreda but by the region, thus only the application forms were available for the SW.
Identification of persons with disabilities in the community	Identification of persons with disabilities is being done nicely, with most communities having persons with disabilities. In the application from of the water point visited the community had marked 3 persons with disabilities, but after having received the training they now identified 7 people. This is very normal and commonly observed in practice.	Identification of persons with disabilities is being done nicely, with all communities having persons with disabilities.	Identification of persons with disabilities is being done nicely, with all communities having persons with disabilities. During field appraisal disability is discussed with the community again and in this process more persons with disabilities may be identified.	Identification of persons with disabilities is being done during the application process. Out of the 11 files checked, 4 included persons with disabilities. It is somewhat less than in the other woredas.
WASHCO members with disabilities	No WASHCO members with disabilities were found in the checked files. The WASHCO CMP management training data (total 130 total	No WASHCO members with disabilities were found in the checked files. During the WASHCO CMP management training data was collected, and out of the total 64	No WASHCO members with disabilities were found in the checked files. As their disability status is asked before they receive the awareness raising and training on	No WASHCO members with disabilities were found in the checked files.

	Degua Temben	Seharti Samre	Endamehoni	Ofla
(WASHCO files and WASHCO training data)	trainees) identified 10 males and 6 females with disabilities.	trained, 1 male with disability was found.	disability, most people do not know or want to reveal their status at the application time. But the WASHCO CMP management training data revealed that there were 12 WASHCO members with disabilities (6 male, 6 female) out of the total 93 trained.	
Any other issues				
MSE development	No MSE as it is not an MSE pilot woreda.	No MSE as it is not an MSE pilot woreda.	There are 2 MSEs in the woreda and each have one member with a disability. For the sanitation marketing it is a person with hearing impairment and for O&M a person with physical impairment. They are fully and equally participating in the MSE.	There is an MSE in the woreda, but it has no member with disability.
Any other issues related to disability inclusion; support needed from FTAT/RSU; general field visit observations	<p>The woreda appreciated the disability inclusion component in the project and also said as it is a learning process it will improve over time.</p> <p>During the field visit to the water point it was clear that the CMP supervisor is very aware of the need to make the facility accessible and also eager to do so, but still on the job training, support and especially monitoring is still needed to ensure full accessibility. The visit was also good for him to practically see how the water point design could be improved. We also had a very useful discussion with the water point guard (with physical disability) who practically demonstrated how it was very challenging for her to walk on the ramp that was too steep and how</p>	<p>The woreda appreciated the disability inclusion component in the project and was also happy with the feedback received from the field visit. The water office head promised to discuss with the woreda construction office to solve quickly the issues identified.</p> <p>During the field visit, especially to the SW under construction, it was clear that the woreda had done an excellent job in improving the attitudes and awareness of the community with regards to disability. For example the WASHCO members were very skilfully and proudly able to explain how they will ensure accessibility for all to the water point.</p> <p>From the visit to the school it was clear that more support from the RSU</p>	<p>Following the field visits feedback was given to the woreda water office head. She was happy to hear the feedback and also complemented the training on disability inclusion she took part in Mekelle. She agreed some of the findings were due to a lack of proper technical follow up and could have been rectified during construction if spotted on time.</p> <p>The woreda Social Affairs focal person complemented COWASH for being the only such mainstreaming project in the woreda, and said it is very influential and important. COWASH supports the work of Social Affairs and disability inclusion not only in WASH but in all sectors' activities. WoLSA has collected data on persons with disabilities in the woreda and identified so far a total of</p>	<p>The field visit to the health centre latrine under construction was good, mainly as the focal person from the construction office was able to in detail explain how he will ensure its accessibility (ramp details, seat and handrails etc.). The HC director who had received training on disability was not there, so training quality could not be assessed.</p> <p>The visit to the SW was disappointing. It was completely inaccessible and the WASHCO managing it was the only WASHCO in the woreda that had not yet been trained, therefore unable to say anything on disability.</p> <p>As the CMP supervisor and the water office head were help up in a meeting they were briefed on the visit</p>

	Degua Temben	Seharti Samre	Endamehoni	Ofla
	<p>it was very difficult for her to reach the pump handle due to the steps. During the water point visit and discussions with the WASHCO it was also clear that the woreda had done an excellent job in improving the attitudes and awareness of the community with regards to disability.</p> <p>The CMP supervisor works closely with the Social Affairs office who have recently collected data on persons with disabilities from all the kebeles in the woreda. It is useful for the CMP supervisor as he has been able to compare the COWASH water point data with the data collected by social affairs to cross-check the situation in the community. So far they have identified 8000 persons with disabilities, which adds to roughly 6.5% of the total population in the woreda.</p>	<p>and closer monitoring of the constructions is required and very helpful for the CMP supervisor also.</p> <p>The CMP supervisor also works closely with the Social Affairs office. The Social Affairs focal person at the kebele level has been using the COWASH water point beneficiary data to collect data on disabilities. So far they have collected data from 37 water points.</p>	<p>1940, of whom 831 are in COWASH kebeles (601 male, 230 female).</p> <p>During the field visit technical on the job training was given to the CMP supervisor. He had not properly understood what accessibility means at the water point level (and also had not received the new accessible design developed by FTAT). This was useful for him to improve in the future. In the case of the school latrine accessibility it seemed to be clearer.</p> <p>The community members and the school staff met had some understanding about disability, especially with regards to the water point (e.g. a ramp is needed and the fence should not block it), but not much else. But in terms of attitudes towards disability also there was some understanding, but not as good as in Degua Temben or Seharti Samre for example. Of course this is a process which takes time.</p>	<p>afterwards. It was unfortunate that that SW was selected to be visited, as the CMP supervisor had not himself visited the site. But from the pictures taken he was able to immediately identify the issues related to accessibility, so he is aware of the issue. He assured not all SW had been constructed this way this year, but it does show a weakness in monitoring and supervision. According to him, the main problem is that the region is managing the construction of the SW and they are not aware of the inclusion criteria. From previous visits to the woreda it is known that they have done well in the awareness raising and capacity building of the communities as well, but unfortunately this achievements could also not be seen during this visit. The woreda water office head promised to strongly follow up on this issue, correct the site in question and also visit other sites to ensure their accessibility.</p> <p>There seemed to be also some confusion with the Social affairs focal person who claimed trainings had not been conducted this year, although it later came out that he had been part of delivering the training. In general it seemed that the cooperation between the two offices in this woreda was weaker when compared with the others. WoLSA had collected data on persons with disabilities in 2008 EFY and had identified 1200 in the woreda.</p>

FIELD VISIT OBSERVATIONS AND PHOTOS

Degua Temen worda



The team visited one Hand dug well recently completed in 2011 EFY. The CMP supervisor assured that the water point itself is accessible, but after discussions it was agreed that some modifications were needed to ensure full accessibility. There was an effort made towards making it accessible, but in practice it was not. At the site, it was realised that the water point guard was with physical disability. She was then asked to demonstrate if she could access the water point with her leg problem. Firstly they realised the big stones in front of the ramp were blocking the way and had to be moved. When she tried to walk on the ramp she almost fell backwards as it was so steep. In order to pump the water it was very difficult for her to take the big step down required. This was a very good practical lesson for the team. It should always be ensured that persons with disabilities themselves are consulted, as they are the best experts on accessibility. Practically it also showed why it is important to make the ramp slope not too steep. Even though she lives



The water point guard demonstrating why the water point is not accessible for her to CMP supervisor Nebiat and RSU Team leader Solomon

in the village which has a difficult and steep topography, it was difficult for her to walk that steep ramp. In addition to pump the water one had to take a big step down in order to reach the handle. It was decided that in order to improve accessibility and usability for all the ramp should be made less steep, and the fence taken down from in front of the pumping area. That enables easier access to the pump and also a safer walk up the ramp for all.

After the observations at the water point, discussions were held with the WASHCO. It was impressive to hear from them how the attitudes towards persons with disabilities had changed and how they were able to explain that persons with disabilities have the same right to access WASH, clearly showing how the training they had received had been successful. One of the WASHCO members' husband is visually impaired. She said the training allowed her to understand him better and they even added a rope to their household to guide him to the toilet. He likes the rope and the idea, but still faces challenges inside the toilet. However he is practicing now using the toilet independently, which is positive for all family members.



The WASHCO member demonstrating how to use the guiding rope to access the household latrine

The team also visited a Lemat Primary School latrine (grades 1-8). In the school we met Letteselassie Tekka (grade 8, age 19) who uses a wheelchair. As the girls block is a bit far, she has been allowed to use the cubicle meant for boys with disabilities that is closer to her classroom. There are no other students with the type of disabilities who would require the toilet so she holds on to the key.

However, as the toilet was constructed in 2009 but rolled over to 2010, it is not made fully accessible. It has a steep ramp and a cubicle which just about allows the wheelchair to enter, and a door that opens to the outside, but requires quite a lot of force to operate. When we asked Letteselassie to give her opinion on the toilet, she said "something is better than nothing", as the situation was much worse before this construction was completed. But she also had a long list of issues that could have been taken straight from our guideline: the entrance is not smooth and the path to it is not clear, so she cannot come and use it independently. Inside there is enough space to enter with the wheelchair, but not enough to turn around to close the door or comfortably move to the pit. Now she has to crawl on the floor which is rough so hard on the skin and also difficult to clean. There is no seat or handrails which would allow her to avoid touching the floor and getting dirty. There is no handwashing facilities at all in the latrine, even though the school has access to water. She also needs the help of others to get access to drinking water in the compound.

Although she is happy to now have the option of using the latrine during her school day with privacy, the attitudinal issues at the school could be observed at her classroom. There is a small step in front of her classroom forcing her to leave her wheelchair outside and having to crawl in. It could be easily fixed with local materials such as gravel or by switching her classroom to one of the more accessible rooms.



Letteselassie with her daughter in front of the toilet block and her wheelchair left outside of the classroom due to lack of access

Seharti Samre woreda



Assessing the school toilet ramp under construction in Seharti Samre woreda



The CMP supervisor and RSU team leader practically testing the toilet seat and adjusting it to fit children better

In Seharti Samre Keyehemba Primary School was visited where a latrine construction was in its final stages. The school has around 485 students (of whom around 210 are female). The director was new and not aware of any students with disabilities. The school has no access to water.

The toilet's construction quality was generally good. However, the ramp made is very steep and the overall set up should have been reversed. Now the urinal corner is closest to the school and the entrance and the ramp are on the other side, further away from the school.

There was a seat in the process of being constructed inside the inclusive cubicle, but when the team observed it, it looked quite big for small school children. As it was not finalised it was the perfect time to fix it. After the team practically tried it and also asked the children to come and test it, modifications were made immediately on the spot. The contractor was willing to learn and to make these small changes. Earlier he had not practically thought about the users of the toilet. It was also a very good on the job training opportunity for the

CMP supervisor. Also there was a lack of supervision and monitoring of the construction, but we were lucky to visit the site just at the correct time.

We also agreed to make the ramp somehow less steep, although it requires some additional materials. The elevation of the latrine on the side of the ramp means that the ramp would be unreasonably long if made with the correct slope. It would have been much easier to implement if the ramp had been placed on the other side closer to the school and with much lower elevation. Again this could have been corrected earlier if the team had visited the site more frequently.

In Seharti Samre the team also visited one shallow well in the process of being constructed. The drilling was completed but the well head still remained to be completed. In this community, the awareness level with regards to disability was again very impressive. It shows that the trainings have been conducted well and have changed the attitudes of the people. Two WASHCO members were met and they were able to identify 5 community members with disabilities (1 female, 4 male) among the beneficiaries. There are 3 with physical impairments, 1 with visual impairment and 1 with multiple impairments. When the WASHCO members were asked to explain how they will make the water point accessible for also these people, they started drawing the water point design into the sand. It was very clear for them how the water point should look like, and how it will be made accessible, with a smooth and not too steep ramp with space and access to both the pump and the outlet, and how the fence will be constructed without blocking the access to the ramp. They even explained how they will make the path to the village (the water point is a short walk away from most of the houses) smooth and convenient for all. Overall it was very positive to see and hear this directly from the WASHCO. Only when asked if they had discussed this with the community members with disabilities, they said that first they will construct and then they will invite them to enjoy the water point once completed. This shows still how changing the attitudes of the people still is a process and takes time, but when explained that they must involve them from the start and take into account their opinions about the accessibility they agreed to do so.



Two WASHCO members explaining how their water point will be made accessible for all in Seharti Samre woreda

Endamehoni woreda

In Endamehoni woreda, Jonamora elementary school (grades 1-4) was visited. The school has a total of 186 students of whom only 74 are girls. They also identified 6 students with mental disabilities (4 male, 2 female) who are supported as much as possible by the teachers and the school. They are also economically very poor. The school has also connected them with an NGO to get extra support. The school had a functional

water point very close to the classrooms, but no hand washing facilities. The old traditional latrines however were relatively clean and well kept.

The latrines (1 for boys, 1 for girls) were about to be completed, or had been so for around 4 months already. It was started in 2010, but rolled over to 2011. However, they were not in use by the students as the accessible cubicle was not yet completed. This was because it was not included in the agreement with the contractor and even when he has been offered more money he is refusing to come back to the remote area to complete the job. The situation needs discussions at the woreda level to find a solution. The school staff were explained how the seat and handrails should look like. The entrance and ramp to the latrines were already smooth and well-made and the door opened to the outside as it should.

When the school director was asked about the disability awareness training he had received at first he could not remember it. This was surprising, as earlier he had explained in detail about the students with disabilities in his school and how they support them. After some time he said yes, he had gotten some short briefing when he was reminded of the issue. He was saying as the training had not been given by the water office it was not important and he did not follow it properly. Generally it is not possible to conclude that the training was not adequate based on one person's feedback, but shows how improving the attitudes around disability takes time and there is need for more trainings at the community level.



Jonamora elementary school latrine in Endamehoni woreda

The team also visited two water points with similar construction recently completed by the woreda. One was in Mahan Kebele Health post and the other was Golenta Asa community water point in Tahtay Haya kebele. Both were not accessible and it was clear that the meaning of accessibility had not been understood properly by the constructor and the CMP supervisor. Later it also became clear that he had not received the accessible water point design prepared by the FTAT. It was a good opportunity for practical on-the-job training for the CMP supervisor and the rest of the team. There was some initial thinking about accessibility there, as a ramp had been added and the structure was relatively flat, but there was not enough space to move around and the ramp did not lead to the pumping place, making it impossible for the person to use the water point independently. The WASHCO members met at the community water point had received some training on disability and were able to explain why the ramp was constructed, but generally their

awareness of disability issues were less when compared with for example the communities met in Degua Temben or Seharti Samre for example. However, one WASHCO member is visually impaired (female, cashier), which is very good. She was not there during the time of the visit, but the community assured she has equally participated in all the activities of the WASHCO.



Assessing the accessibility of the health post water point in Endamehoni woreda



Assessing the accessibility of the community water point in Endamehoni woreda

Ofla woreda

In Ofla woreda the team visited Lat Health Centre where one latrine is under construction. The woreda Construction office focal person took part in the visit and he was very well aware of the accessibility requirements. Although the construction was still ongoing, he was able to clearly explain and demonstrate how the accessible cubicle will look like and how he will construct the toilet seat, how the ramp will be made and how the slope of the ramp will not be made too steep. This was very positive. He had taken the training for the woreda stakeholders in 2010 EFY. During discussion with the HC staff, they told that there are many persons with different types of disabilities in the community, but due to high negative attitudes, most are hidden at home and do not visit the health centre or the school.



Lat Health Centre latrine under construction and woreda Construction office focal person demonstrating the accessible toilet seat in Ofla woreda

The team also visited one shallow well recently completed. It was unfortunately not accessible. The ramp was fully blocked by the fence, it was very steep and did not lead to the pump. Also the space on the headwork was not big enough and there was no pot rest. It was clear from the construction that basic accessibility principles had not been understood. The team was told that the challenge is that the construction of shallow wells in the woreda is managed at the region level and they use their own design. As the region leads the construction process, the CMP supervisor and the woreda does not follow their progress. As the site was also changed very recently and the CMP supervisor had not visited the site previously. The CMP supervisor and Water Office head both agreed that the site will be corrected and made accessible. They also assured that out of the 9 SW planned, 6 are already accessible, and the 3 HDW under construction will also be made accessible.

The WASHCO members met at the site were interviewed about disability issues, but were not able to say much as they said they had not received training on it. This was confirmed later with the CMP supervisor, who said this particular WASHCO was the only WASHCO that had not yet been trained due to the delayed site selection. They will be trained soon in connection to the planned gender training. However the WASHCO members were able to identify 3 persons with disabilities in their community when asked. It was a shame that the site visited was not accessible and the WASHCO was not trained, as it was then not possible to observe much positive progress on the disability inclusion activities at the community level. However FTAT has previously visited the woreda and met WASHCO members with disabilities and observed other good practices in the woreda, therefore this site should not be taken as representative of the situation in the woreda.



Inaccessible shallow well constructed in 2011 EFY and visited in Ofla woreda

KEY PERSONS MET IN EACH WOREDA:

Degua Temben:

CMP Supervisor Ato Nebiat
WoLSA Focal person Ato Haile

Seharti Samre:

Water Office Head Ato Seyum
CMP Supervisor Ato Nuguse
WoLSA Focal person Ato Kalayu

Endamehoni:

Water Office Head W/ro Demila
CMP Supervisor Ato Desta
WoLSA Focal person W/ro Mulu

Ofla:

Water Office Head Ato Habtu
CMP Supervisor Ato Mebratu
WS Engineer Ato Girmay
WoLSA Focal person Ato Mikael
Construction office Focal person Ato Tamiru