

THE ROLE OF PRIMARY MULTIPURPOSE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN BUILDING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD FOR RURAL WOMEN IN SELECTED DISTRICTS OF WEST SHEWA ZONE, OROMIA REGIONAL STATE

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The study focused on the Role of Primary Multipurpose Agricultural Cooperatives Societies in Building Sustainable Livelihood for rural women in selected Districts of West Shewa Zone to analyses the role of PMACS in enabling rural women to build sustainable livelihood which is capable of coping with and recover from vulnerability. From exist in 22 Districts of the West Shewa Zone, Six Districts had selected purposively rely on with large proportion members of rural women in the PMACS and from each selected Districts two, totally twelve PMACS through same consideration it mean the large proportion members of rural women in cooperatives were selected. The total population of rural members of focused study area were 4,867 and sample size of the research was 356 and it determined by using Kothari formula. The main objective of the study is to assess the role of primary agricultural cooperatives in enabling women to cope with stresses and shocks through building sustainable livelihood, evaluate the participation of the rural women in agricultural cooperatives and assess the factors affecting the role of PMACS in building sustainable livelihood. The study employed mixed method research approach as research design. It also employed both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and analysis. The quantitative method of data collection was employed survey method and the qualitative method of data collection that had employed Key informant interview, FGD, KII and observation methods. Simple random sampling technique was employed so as to select sample respondents of the study. The quantitative data for the study was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics aided by SPSS version 20. Descriptive analysis of the data was carried-out using percentages, mean and standard deviations. Correlation and t-test were also employed for bi-variate analysis of quantitative data to know cause effect of explanatory variables to regressed variable (sustainable livelihood). Accordingly, the correlation between predictive and regressed variables was assessed, as a result, influence of transforming structure and process of cooperative had highest correlation with sustainable livelihood, followed by factors affecting role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies, in others the result has shown there were negative correlation between shocks and stress of cooperative and problem facing women in cooperative against the sustainable livelihood. Therefore, as the shocks and stress and problem facing women in cooperatives increased, the sustainable livelihood of women would be decreased. The result of multiple regression analysis had shown that the explanatory variables stated in the study jointly explained 71.6% of the variance in sustainable livelihood of women whereas 28.4% of the sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of rural women was explained by the variables which were not included in the study.

Key words: Sustainable livelihood, rural women, agricultural cooperatives, shocks and stress

1. INTRODUCTION

ICA & ILO (2020) have reported that about 1.2 billion people are involved in different types of cooperatives. Cooperatives are believed to be source of employment at least to 280 million people worldwide (ICA, 2021). According to the ILO, the livelihoods of nearly half the world's population are secured by cooperative enterprises. In the context of Ethiopia, though cooperatives are source of employment and income for many people, women represent only 20 percent of cooperative membership and even fewer are found in management positions (Thomas, Fanaye, and Waller, 2013). According to Federal Cooperative Agency (FCA) official report (2021), there are more than 92,755 cooperatives in Ethiopia with 21,043,370 members (6,743,429 female and 14,299,941 male) and there are 21,328 primary SACCOS and they have 5,384,559 members (3,122,454 female and 2,262,105 male). The savings and shares of these SACCOS is 18.54 billion ETB (\$ 425,687,860). According to the same official report there are 131 unions in the area and member of women and men with percent was 32.04 and 67.06 respectively (FCA, 2021). From this Federal Cooperative report in 2021, we understood that the proportion members of women in cooperatives were very low and the men members were high proportion in cooperatives.

Rural based cooperatives can contribute to reduced vulnerability of rural women through improving women's access to productive resources. FAO (2012) stated that cooperatives play an important role in supporting small agricultural producers and marginalized groups such as young people and women. Through enabling them to access credit service, agricultural input supply and marketing service, the cooperatives enhances their productivity. Cooperatives reduce vulnerability by empowering their members economically and socially and create stable rural employment through business models that are resilient to economic and environmental shocks (ICA & ILO, 2014).

Cooperatives help create more equitable growth by making markets work better for poor people, by generating economies of scale, increasing access to information, and improving bargaining power. They also have role in tackling rural poverty by increasing the productivity and incomes of small scale farmers by helping them collectively negotiate better prices for seeds, fertilizer, transport and storage. Cooperatives expand poor people's access to financial services, including credit savings and in some cases insurance and remittances. These services can support startup and expansion of enterprises; enable the risk taking that can lead to increased profitability; and reduce vulnerability by allowing the poor to accrue savings, build assets and smooth out consumption (Gicheru, 2012).

Poor households typically face a range of risks, which are both economic and social in nature. Vulnerability to risk, and its opposite, resilience, are both strongly linked to the capacity of individuals or households to prevent, mitigate or cope with such risks (WHO, 2007, cited in Jones, Yisak and Tassew, 2010:4). Women typically have lower levels of education, have less access, ownership and control of productive assets and different social networks to men, which results in lower economic productivity and income generation, and weaker bargaining positions in the household (Holmes & Jones, 2011). This shows that to what extent vulnerability is embedded in gender relationships. Global and national evidence clearly shows that rural women play critical roles in bringing about food and economic security for their households (CSA and ICF International, 2012 pp. 246–260; FAO, 2011b; Gobezie, 2010; Jones et al., 2010). Due to this mounting evidence, greater attention is being paid to ensure that agricultural policies and programs are gender sensitive and address barriers to women's equal participation and benefit in rural producer groups and cooperatives (FAO 2011b, 2012; World Bank, 2009; USAID, 2012). This recognition, however, has not yet translated into policies and programs in the cooperative sub-sector that are effectively facilitating women's increased and meaningful participation in these formal groups.

Women face, more often than not, major obstacles to joining and being active members of typically male dominated cooperatives. Due to unequal gender norms and relations, women have a lower socio-economic status, compared to their male counterparts, which limits their opportunities to access and participate in formal groups. Women's freedom is constrained by men's control over their mobility, by socio-cultural expectations that they are primarily responsible for all domestic work, and in relation to this, by their uneven reproductive, productive, and community work burdens. Their restricted access to, control over, and ownership of land, credit, and information, as compared to men, disadvantage them from meeting conditions of formal group membership and leadership (FAO, 2011b; World Bank, 2009 pp. 63–70).

Women's equal participation in agricultural cooperatives is both a women's right and important for sustainable and people-centred development. If cooperatives are gender-responsive and inclusive, they can help women overcome gender specific constraints to improve their self-confidence, knowledge, leadership skills, income, and access to agricultural inputs, social networks, and position in value-chains. When women are more economically and socially empowered, evidence shows that there are direct and positive impacts on women's household and community decision-making power and on access to and control over productive assets. These changes lead to improved household nutrition, food and income security, broader development outcomes, and a more integrated production of both food and cash crops (CSA and ICF International, 2012; FAO, 2011b; Quisumbing, 2003).

In the context Ethiopia, a host of factors contribute to the vulnerability of households and individuals. Ethiopia has witnessed various frequent disasters such as drought, famine, epidemics, flood, landslides, earthquakes, civil war, and mass displacement (FDRE, 2002; MOFED, 2002). Women are among the most affected groups by these shocks. Their low social status and lack of access to and ownership of productive assets makes their coping mechanism futile and/or effete. The 2005–2010 development plan of the Ethiopia (Plan for Accelerated and Sustainable development to End Poverty PASDEP) placed due emphasis on the role of cooperatives to promote market linkage (commercialization) of smallholder agriculture (FDRE, 2002; MoFED 2002). This emanates from the firm belief that cooperatives will contribute to the capacity building efforts of small holder peasants and attaining increased productivity.

Despite the aforementioned benefits which cooperatives are believed to render, cooperatives also suffer from various problems which in turn affect the potential benefits of members, including women. The problems ranges from those problems embedded in organizational structure of the cooperatives to external problems (Gray & Kraenzle, 2002). The issue of entrepreneurship and cooperative formation is one of internal or organizational problem that affect performance of cooperatives. The overall lack of suitable legal framework, lack of available data on issues like the size, typologies, scope and resources of cooperatives, and poor managerial skills and lack of consciousness of entrepreneurship are among obstacles to cooperative development that adversely affect the benefit of members including women. The overregulation and increased effort to control cooperatives is also among problems the cooperatives suffer from (Borzaga & Spear, 2014).

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Agricultural cooperatives offer important benefits for economically weak farmers both female and male to improve their livelihoods through developing their collective and individual capacities (Alkali, 1991; World Bank, 2009). However, in Ethiopia, cooperative membership is generally very low. According to a study based on 2005 data, only 9 percent of smallholders were members of agricultural cooperatives and only 40 percent of rural households had access to cooperatives within their *kebeles* (Bernard and Spielman, 2009). In the case of women, while their representation is slowly growing, they represent fewer than 20 percent of cooperative membership; and there are even fewer women in leadership positions. Men dominate in agricultural cooperative membership and management (Mogues et al., 2009). The existing gaps in previous research study can be fulfilled by this research study. As it is discussed previously, though there are sufficient of studies carried-out in the country which tried to investigate contribution of cooperative, participation of women in cooperatives and gender issue but there is a clear gap in terms of analyzing the role of cooperative in context of vulnerability of rural women, stress and shocks and problem of women in their cooperative to improve their livelihood outcomes and influence of transformation structure and process in cooperatives to build up sustainable livelihood of rural women. In previous research study, influence of transforming structures and process of cooperatives to sustainable livelihood of members of cooperative never touched and the scholar had assess its impact to building sustainable livelihood of rural women. Most studies in the literatures so far inclined towards studying the problems women face in joining cooperatives, but women still face ample of problems while participating in cooperatives & this not studied so far. Therefore, drawing on the DFID's sustainable livelihood framework, the study had assessed the role of primary multipurpose cooperatives cooperative societies towards building sustainable livelihood of women by focusing on essential outcomes of sustainable livelihood; increased income, improved productivity & reduced vulnerability.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

1.3.1. General objective

The overall objective of the study is to analyze the role of agricultural cooperatives in enabling women members to build sustainable livelihood.

1.3.2. Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To evaluate the role of cooperatives in enabling rural women to access livelihood capitals and modality service of the cooperatives to the rural women
2. To investigate the influence of transforming structures, policies and process of cooperatives societies in building sustainable livelihood of rural women
3. To assess the factors affecting participation of rural women towards primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies.

1.4. Hypothesis of Research

Hypothesis is a statement that introduces the research question and proposes an expected result. It is an integral part of scientific method that forms the basis of scientific experiments. The researcher has formulated the hypothesis of research through critically thinking about the relationship of independence and dependent variables that pointed in the study. For further assess the role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies in building sustainable livelihood of the rural women in selected Districts of West Shewa, Oromia Regional State, the researcher is developed the following hypothesis of research.

Hypothesis 1: Shocks and stress has significant impact in building sustainable livelihood of rural women

Hypothesis 2: Role of agricultural cooperatives societies has significant impacts in building sustainable livelihood of rural women

Hypothesis 3: Influence of transforming structures, process, and policies of cooperatives societies has significant impacts on sustainable livelihood of rural women.

Hypothesis 4: Problem facing rural women in participation of cooperatives has significant impacts in building sustainable livelihood of rural women

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Framework for Sustainable Livelihood

The increment of assets pentagons is one of the indicators of advance of sustainable livelihood. Sustainable livelihood is interconnected with varies independent variables such like vulnerability context (stress and shocks, adverse trend and changes), role of cooperatives societies, participation of members in cooperatives, problem face of members in cooperatives, influence of transforming structures and process and livelihood strategies is predictive variables that influence sustainable livelihood of communities. Fasil (2007: 27) stated that the sustainable rural livelihood framework clearly illustrates the links between different livelihood assets and strategies as well as how these can be enhanced or constrained by vulnerability and institutional context. Cooperatives are among structural contexts that influence women's access to assets, their capabilities, and strategies employed in making their livelihood. Drawing on the sustainable livelihood theories of Chambers and Conway, the

DFID has formulated a sustainable livelihood framework so as encourages users to take a broad and systematic view of the factors that cause poverty whether these are shocks and adverse trends, poorly functioning institutions and policies, or a basic lack of assets and to investigate the relations between them (DFID, 1999). Since the framework provide an analytical structure to facilitate a broad and systematic understanding of the various factors that constrain or enhance livelihood opportunities, and to show how they relate to each other (Krantz, 2001), it is best suited to assess role of cooperatives in enhancing livelihood opportunities.

Cooperatives operate on multiple stages and affect their members in several ways. In order to understand the complexities of cooperatives, it is important to use a broad framework. The DFID (1999) framework is selected for this study for it is holistic in character and has been developed to help analyze and understand the livelihoods of people in precarious situations. It is based on academic research on the area and is created so that selected parts of it can be given special attention, depending on the occasion (Holmgren, 2011:3). The researcher has modified set of conceptual framework by DFID framework to further assess the role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies in building sustainable livelihood of rural women through investigate the influence of transforming structures, policies and process of cooperatives, factors affecting role of primary cooperative societies, shocks and stress, participation level and problem of rural women in cooperative which highly impact sustainability livelihood of rural women. It also understands sustainability in terms of social, economic, environmental and institutional aspects (Carney, 1999) which is also the conception of this study.

Therefore, sustainable livelihood is the dependent variables that affected by other factors. The variables such as influence of transforming structure and process, livelihood strategies, vulnerability context, assets pentagons, factors affecting role of primary cooperative societies are shocks and stress, participation and problem face of rural women in cooperatives are the common factors that influence sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of rural women. Thus, sustainable livelihood is a comprehensive result of reduced vulnerability context, increased income and production trend and improved food security. The following sustainable livelihood conceptual framework is developed by the researcher through modified the Department for international Development Developed in 1999.

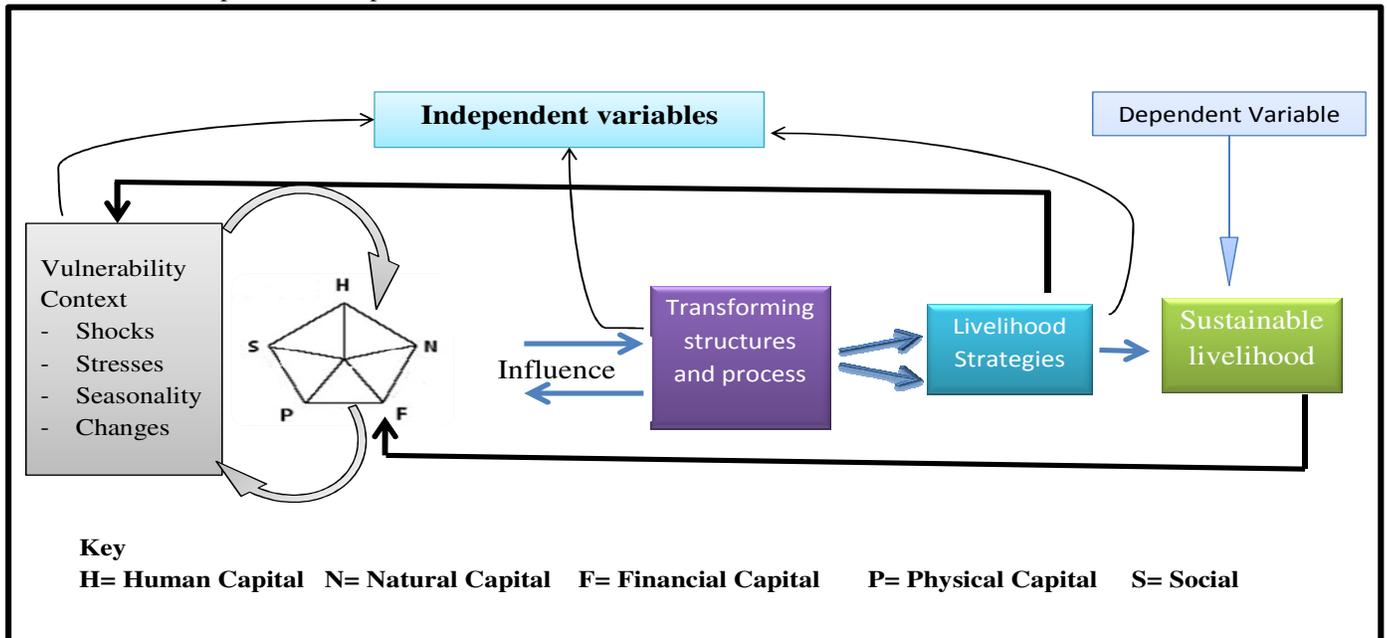


Figure 2.1: Modified Sustainable Livelihood framework Adopted by DFID, 1999

3. Research Methodology

3.1. Research Design of the Study

This study employed a mixed methods research design to meet its objectives, to investigate participation of women in agricultural cooperatives, to evaluate the role of cooperatives in enabling rural women to access livelihood capitals and modality service of the cooperatives to the rural women, to assess the influence of shocks and stress on livelihood outcomes of rural women, to assess influence of transforming structures and process on livelihood strategy of rural women, to measure the effect of livelihood capital on livelihood outcomes of the rural women and asses factors affecting role of agricultural

cooperatives in building sustainable livelihood. The section below defines the research design and the motives for selecting the design.

3.2. Population Size of the Study

The researcher has purposively used the large proportion of women members of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies to determine target of area of multipurpose agricultural cooperatives to avoid the sample biased. There were exist 481 primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies in the zone and the researcher had selected six districts purposively rely on the large proportion of members of rural women and from each Woreda two Primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies were selected purposively that had faith large proportion of members of rural women in primary agricultural cooperatives for further assessing the role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies in building sustainable livelihood of rural women.

Under selected districts there were 173 primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies and 12 agricultural cooperatives were selected for the study. Accordingly among the existing of districts under West Shewa Zone, the six Districts were selected and from each District two primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies had selected. Therefore, the researcher had selected Dendi, Gendiberet, Bako, Ejere, T/Kutaye, and A/berga Districts for the target research area. Accordingly, from Dendi Woreda Jawe Buri and G/Shokoru, from Bako Woreda N/Bako and Tefata Bore, from Gendiberet Woreda Muka Dima and N/Wine Roge, from Ejere Woreda Ilu Aga and Chiri, from A/Berga Woreda Marsa Gudina Kito and Ejere Nego Primary Multipurpose Agricultural cooperative societies selected. Therefore, the total population from the study area focused were 4,867 Women members and the men members was not considered in this dissertation paper due to the study focus to assess the role of Primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies in sustainable livelihood of rural women. The numbers of Multipurpose agricultural cooperatives of each District under Zone are mentioned the following.

3.3. Data Collection Instruments

The main tool for data collection is the questionnaire, key informant interview and observation. A questionnaire is a formalized set of questions for obtaining information from respondents that translate the researcher's information needs into a set of specific questions that respondents are willing and able to answer. The prepared questions were translated to Afanoromo or oromic language because of majority of participants spoken as native language and distributed to respondents. In the study with a certain modification the popular five scale standard questionnaires prepared by Swami Nathan (2004) was used. For the purpose of data collection, the researcher used open and closed-ended questionnaires and key informant interviews. Opened and Closed-ended questionnaires were prepared by considering the role of PMACS in building sustainable livelihood of rural women. The questionnaire prepared in giving attention about the factors affecting role of agricultural cooperatives in building sustainable livelihood of rural women, capability of cope with and recover from the shocks and stress, effect of impacts of agricultural cooperatives linkage with government and non-government, modality services provided by the agricultural cooperatives to rural women, status of rural women participation in government and livelihood outcomes achieved by the rural women and asked the sample survey in a time.

3.4. Sampling procedures and Techniques

Oromia regional state has 21 Zones and West Shewa Zone had been chosen purposively. The reason for choosing the study areas of the West shewa zone among zones of Oromo Regional state based on the existence of potential of cereal crops production and vegetable and fruits agricultural activities, good agro ecological zones to agricultural activities and suitable environment condition to industrial zone, access to infrastructures and proximity to the capital city of Ethiopia and high potential of multipurpose agricultural when compared to others zones. This event has made the researcher to select West Shewa zone. West Shewa zone had 22 districts or in local language Woreda and only six districts selected purposively focusing on the large proportion of rural women members in agricultural cooperatives and from each selected districts; two PMACS generally 12 were chosen based on large proportion of members of rural women in cooperatives. The total population of the target cooperatives was 4,867 and difficult to contact all population due to time and budget constraints. For this fact, the researcher had used Kothari (2004) formula to determine sample size that present true value of population and the determined sample size had been contacted by using simple random sampling methods.

3.5. Sample Size Determination

The total populations from the selected Districts were 4,867 women members. It is difficult to contact all population thus; the researcher used Kothari formula and determines the sample size. The sample size of the study or the number of member of the respondents was determined by used Kothari (2004) formula at normal curve distribution of variance.

$$n = \frac{p * q * z^2 * N}{(N - 1)e^2 + z^2 * p * q}$$

Where:

- ✓ n= is the minimum sample size required
- ✓ N= is number of population (cooperative under study)
- ✓ P &q= are estimates of the proportion of population to be sampled (i.e. based on pilot test conducted on some variables the proportion to be determined), (p=0.5 & q=0.5)
- ✓ Z= 95% confidence interval under normal curve (1.96)
- ✓ e= acceptable error term (0.05)

$$n = \frac{0.5 * 0.5 * (1.96)^2 * 4,867}{(4,867 - 1)(0.05)^2 + (1.96)^2 * 0.5 * 0.5}$$

$$n = \frac{0.25 * 3.8416 * 4,867}{4,867 * 0.0025 + 3.8416 * 0.25}$$

$$n = \frac{4,674.2668}{4,674.2668}$$

$$n = \frac{13.1254}{4,674.2668}$$

$$n = \frac{13.1254}{13.1254}$$

$$n = 356.1238 \sim 356$$

From the selected Districts’ primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies of total population, the members of women three hundred thirty six (356) respondents was chosen for further research investigation. Proportional sample size from each chosen Primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies was calculated by used the following proportional formula:

$$ni = \frac{n * Ni}{N}$$

Where: ni= sample size for each primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives, Ni= the total number of women members’ in selected primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies, N=the total number of women members’ in all selected primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives of the Woreda (n=356). Accordingly, the table below shows the proportionate sampling for each member of rural women had been chosen from primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives of the districts based on the above given formula. The objective is to allow for a representative sample to avoid bias and reduce sampling errors.

Table 3.2: Sample District and selected Primary multipurpose cooperative societies

S/N	Name of District	Name of Selected PMAC	Years of establishment	Capital	Total No. of members			Probability proportion to sample size (PPs)		
					Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	Dendi	JaweBuri	2005	589,350.00	11,505	1,800	13,305	-	132	132
		G/shokoru	2005	43,530.00	390	319	709	-	23	23
2	Ejere	Ilu Aga	2004	448,742.00	513	301	814	-	22	22
		Chiri	2004	2,410,323.5	442	196	638		14	14
3	G/beret	MukaDima	2015	72,876.32	903	429	1,332	-	32	32
		N/Wine Roge	2007	734,937.33	1,203	276	1,479	-	20	20
4	T/Kutaye	Qilinto	2010	3,659,300.33	1,437	565	2,002	-	41	41
		Mutulu	2001	3,140,275.00	1,875	153	2,028		11	11
5	Bako	N/Bako	2008	3,981,875.00	1,894	206	2,100	-	15	15
		Tefata Bore	2004	4,050,825.82	511	202	713	-	15	15
6	A/berga	M/G/ Kito	2014	106,194.84	166	264	430	-	19	19
		EjereNego	1979	7,574.00	753	156	909	-	12	12
Total				19,245,804.21	21,592	4,867	26,459	-	356	356

Source: Fromm Zonal Cooperative office report to Federal cooperative agency (2021)

3.6. Selection of Respondents

From the total population of rural women 4,867 in the members of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives society's that intent in the target of investigation, 356 sample sizes was determined and raw data was collected by using simple random sampling. The research instruments (questionnaires) are structured and self-administered to the respondents. The researcher had arranged sessions through supported by each head of cooperatives from all chosen primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives and accordingly, all respondents had been involved in filling questions supported by researcher and head of cooperatives at where they did not understood. The questionnaire is opened and closed ended items to collection of data from women members of primary cooperatives in the target area of research. For, focus group discussions JawiBuri and Kilinto primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies had been selected from Dendi and T/Kutaye respectively. Each FGD group had eight (8) members. The FGD had been selected basis on their stay & positions in the cooperatives, level of experience and their educational status. The selected rural women in survey was not again contacted and the researcher had been communicated the new members of rural women in PMACS for the FGD and KII for the purpose of get addition information about the role of PMACS in building sustainable livelihood of rural women.

3.7. Types of Data and Source

The study used both primary and secondary source. Primary sources are using questionnaire, both close and open-ended to sample the members of rural women in the primary multipurpose cooperatives societies and respondents were asked to furnish data regarding livelihood activities, livelihood assets, and the services offered by the cooperatives. Here, the relevance of the primary source in the study is to measure their perception level of rural women towards primary agricultural cooperatives. Secondary sources of data had utilized in the study to collect the relevant information about primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies. National and regional cooperatives office documents, both published and unpublished were collected and analyzed for the purpose of obtaining relevant data about cooperative history and performance.

3.8. Methods of Data Collection

Methods of data collection are the tools which are employed so as to gather data, such as questionnaires or key informant interviews. Qualitative research would be explored attitudes, behavior and experiences through such methods as key informant interviews or focus group discussions. It attempts to get an in-depth opinion from participants. The study therefore, utilized both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and analysis to obtain the strengths from both methods and to address their weakness by using strengths from each other. It was employed methodological triangulation of various methods of data collection and analysis in order to assure the validity and reliability of research results, and to effectively address different objectives of the research.

3.9. Methods of Data Analysis

Quantitative Data Analysis: The quantitative data for the study is to be analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics aided by SPSS version 25. The findings in turn are analyzed qualitatively. Descriptive analysis of the data was carried-out using percentages, frequency, mean and standard deviations. Correlation and t-test were also employed for bi-variate analysis of quantitative data.

Qualitative Data Analysis: Qualitative data analysis involves analyzing both quantitative and qualitative data using qualitative data analyzing methods. Accordingly, there is qualitative analysis of qualitative data as well as qualitative analysis of quantitative data. Qualitative analysis of qualitative data is performed by focusing on and naming themes in texts. Here the researcher could be the accounts of respondents as he/she sees it, of how the themes are related to one another and how characteristics of the speaker or speakers account for the existence of certain themes and the absence of others. He/she may deconstruct the text, look for hidden subtexts, and, in general, try to let his audience know using the power of good rhetoric the deeper meaning or the multiple meanings of the text (Russell, 2006). The qualitative analysis of qualitative data was employed in the study for it is best suited to achieve the objectives of the study by analyzing oral account of women on their lived experiences.

4. RESULT, INTERPRETATIONS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Demographic characteristics of the Respondents

Under this topic, all of dummy or continuous variables were clearly explained. The demographic information of the respondents such as age categories, marital status, and education level of rural women in cooperative members, family size and head of household were clearly summarized with under table stated.

Table: 4.1: Demographic characteristics of the respondents

Descriptions		Count	%
Age categories	18 to 25 years	53	14.9%
	26 to 35 years	68	19.1%
	36 to 45 years	124	34.8%
	46 to 55 years	69	19.4%
	above 55 years	42	11.8%
	Total	356	100.0%
Marital Status	Single	42	11.8%
	Married	237	66.6%
	widowed	37	10.4%
	Divorced	40	11.2%
	Total	356	100.0%
Are you a household head	Yes	190	53.4%
	No	166	46.6%
	Total	356	100.0%
What is the size of your family members?	I have no family	3	0.8%
	Less than 2 family size	46	12.9%
	2-3 Family size	121	34.0%
	4-6 Family size	134	37.6%
	Above 6 family size	52	14.6%
	Total	356	100.0%
Your level of education:	Can't read and write	86	24.2%
	Can read and write	68	19.1%
	Attended grade 1-4	80	22.5%
	Attended grade 5 -8	66	18.5%
	Attended grade 9-12	30	8.4%
	College diploma and above	26	7.3%
	Total	356	100.0%

4.2. The role of PMACS in Enabling Rural Women to Access Livelihood Capitals

Increased income has great significance for livelihood of rural women for it affects their livelihood choices to significant degree. With increased income, they can better access social services, diversify their livelihood sources and cope with stress and shocks. Cooperatives served as source of income to the women by distributing the profit in the form of dividend. Cooperatives can play important roles in overcoming the barriers faced by women and in supporting small agricultural producers. The data from the survey shows that cooperatives have the capacity to empower their members economically and socially and to create sustainable employment through equitable and inclusive business models that are more resilient to shocks.

Table 4.2: Role of PMACS to enables rural women to access livelihood assets

View for cooperative to improve livelihood assets		Degree of Agreement				
		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I think it was the right decision to join cooperative	Count	22	9	44	100	181
	%	6.2%	2.5%	12.4%	28.1%	50.8%
I feel more secured now than before joining the Cooperative	Count	53	17	49	114	123
	%	14.9%	4.8%	13.8%	32.0%	34.6%
Cooperative helped me in becoming economically independent	Count	66	13	58	95	124
	%	18.5%	3.7%	16.3%	26.7%	34.8%
Cooperatives helped me to access resources otherwise which I couldn't	Count	66	14	75	93	108
	%	18.5%	3.9%	21.1%	26.1%	30.3%
I think other women also should join cooperative if they have to improve their lives	Count	23	18	65	113	137
	%	6.5%	5.1%	18.3%	31.7%	38.5%
I thought cooperative help me better than expectation	Count	62	36	77	89	92
	%	17.4%	10.1%	21.6%	25.0%	25.8%

I am afraid to withstand if troubles occur to my life	Count	119	52	85	34	66
	%	33.4%	14.6%	23.9%	9.6%	18.5%
I am just wasting my time by participating in cooperative	Count	193	79	31	20	33
	%	54.2%	22.2%	8.7%	5.6%	9.3%
I think that they are men who shall participate in cooperative rather than women	Count	49	58	113	54	82
	%	13.8%	16.3%	31.7%	15.2%	23.0%
In my opinion cooperative lacks ability to changes women's lives	Count	179	62	28	35	52
	%	50.3%	17.4%	7.9%	9.8%	14.6%
Cooperatives are ways of incurring adequate livelihood capitals	Count	56	15	98	103	84
	%	15.7%	4.2%	27.5%	28.9%	23.6%
Cooperatives are the place where inequality promoted and disrupt interest of rural women.	Count	180	96	16	11	53
	%	50.6%	27.0%	4.5%	3.1%	14.9%
I thought that cooperatives with affordable price provide agricultural inputs for us and source of our funds.	Count	31	24	66	103	132
	%	8.7%	6.7%	18.5%	28.9%	37.1%
Principles of cooperatives not clearly practiced due to either private or government interfered	Count	73	44	61	89	89
	%	20.5%	12.4%	17.1%	25.0%	25.0%

Source: From Researcher survey, 2023

n=356

The researcher has provided different questions to the rural women members of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies to evaluate the cooperatives activities to bring improvement in livelihood assets of the member's cooperatives. Regarding the question that I think it was the right decision to join cooperative about the frequency of 50.8% (181) and 28.1% (100) were strongly agree and agree respectively from those rural women responded, understood that to join cooperatives was the first choice to improve livelihood assets and improve the income level of the members more than before joining the cooperatives. Some numbers of respondents that 6.2% (22), 12.5% (9) and 12.4% (44) were strongly disagree, disagree and neutral respond respectively. The majority of the respondents were confirmed that strongly agree and agree which it is more prefer to join cooperatives to get adequate service within a period. The majority of participants 34.6% (123) has strongly agreed on I feel more secured now than before joining the cooperative, followed by 32% (114) which was agreed that I feel more secured now than before joining the cooperatives, 14.9% (53) and 4.8% (17) of the participants were strongly disagree and disagree respectively and 13.8% (49) of respondents were responded that neutral. This implies that, the primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies did not deliver the expected livelihood assets to its membership and some parts of the members could not satisfy to the cooperatives due to sometimes inequality treatment appeared among their own cooperatives.

Regarding, I am afraid to withstand if troubles occur to my life, about majority of participants 33.4% (119) were strongly disagree and 23.9% (85) of respondents are answered neutral, this mean the cooperatives has promoted self-confidence rather than fright survive for which the sudden disturbance would be appear to daily life of the members of cooperatives. About 18.5% (66) and 9.6% (34) were strongly agree and agree, this was the contrary to the positive implication of cooperatives, meaning the some participants reflexed their suggestion that feeling afraid for which sudden trouble coming issue in their life. Concerning I am just wasting my time by participating in cooperatives, 54.2% (193) and 22.2% (27) of respondents reflexed their response in state that strongly disagree and disagree respectively, this result shows that the participating in cooperatives act as the membership got adequate resource and realized independently coped with from shocks and stress. In others, some participants about 9.3% (33), 5.6% (20) and 8.7% (31) had been responded that strongly agreed, agreed and neutral as participating in cooperatives is just wasting time rather than its necessarily. On this point of view, the scholarship has identified as small number of rural women could not get the expected livelihood assets from their cooperatives and small number of members were came to hopeless to participate in cooperatives for the reality of the principles of cooperatives did not applied to practice rather than its theory. Almost respondents 50.3% (179) and 17.4% (62) strongly disagree and disagree on correspondingly on opinion that in my opinion cooperatives lacks ability to changes women's lives. About 14.6% (52), 9.8% (35) and 9.8% (28) are reflexed their suggestion strongly agree, agree and neutral correspondingly on an opinion of in my opinion cooperatives lacks ability to changes women's lives. The majority of participants were believe that the cooperatives having the ability to provide changes women's lives through renders different livelihood assets and small number of participants are supposed that the cooperatives could not provide change to the women's with supposed that cooperatives are the place were inequality more developed due external organ interferences.

Concerning, the cooperatives are ways of incurring adequate livelihood assets, about 28.9% (103) strongly agree response, 27.5% (98) and 23.6% (84) of respondents of rural women had responded that neutral and strongly agree that cooperatives sufficiently provided livelihood assets to its members and about 15.7% (56) and 4.2% (15) of respondents of rural women are

strongly disagree and disagree that the cooperatives provide adequate livelihood assets to the membership of cooperatives. From this survey, the scholar understood that primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies has not adequately performed on contribution of livelihood assets to the members of cooperatives specially for rural women with reason out poor linkage of cooperatives with the government and NGO on getting subsidiaries materials that can sustenance all members of cooperatives. Wings of cooperatives are the place where inequality promoted and disrupt interest of rural women; about 50.6% (180) and 27%(296) of rural women of respondents are responded that strongly disagree and disagree respectively which illustrated that cooperatives the place where equality promoted and interest of rural women has got attention, around 14.9% (53) and 3.1% (11) of participants are strongly agree and agree, 4.5%(16) of respondents responded neutral which were not negative or positive about cooperatives are the place where inequality promoted and disrupt interest of rural women.

The members has got physical assets from their respective cooperatives such as pump water, house utensils, furniture and fixtures, drip irrigation, plough disc and tractor. In others , cooperatives had delivered training service and scholarship service for some number of members relied on the members who could not follow their education due to lack of resources to continuously follow their education program. The participants on interview also clearly stated the modality service and role of cooperatives had in increasing the access of resource, as result , cooperative had provided service to their members such agricultural inputs (variety seeds, herbicides, pest insect, irrigation materials), fertilizers, and credit service where are the mains service provided by the cooperatives with affordable prices. The great issued raised during the interview was the cooperatives did not delivered such modality service upon the time and they delivered after the majority of agricultural activities taken without got agricultural inputs which promoted the productivity level. The issues rose as instance was distribution of fertilizer both DAP and UREA, pest insects and herbicides are provided after some agricultural activities adversely affected. Thoroughly, the participants on interview, they acknowledged that the role of cooperatives should have been provide all agricultural inputs upon time and other modality service upon time of agricultural activities to be carry out to promote production trend of the members of cooperatives.

4.3. Factor affecting the Livelihood Activities of Women in Cooperatives

In this study, poor access of credit service, agricultural inputs supply and marketing service, and political instability in a region were the main problem of rural women to improve their livelihood outcomes or sustainable livelihood. The tab4.11: stated under herewith are depicted the problem of women when they engaged in livelihood activities.

Table 4.3: Factors affecting the livelihood assets of the women in cooperatives

Do you face any problem while working with the cooperatives? * If your answer for the above question is "yes" what problem/s do you face? Cross tabulation

Do you face any problem while working with the cooperatives?		If your answer for the above question is "yes" what problem/s do you face?					Total
		If No response	Problem in accessing credit service	Problem in accessing farm inputs	Problem in accessing market service	Male dominance	
Yes	Count	0	97	162	37	8	304
	% of Total	0.0%	27.2%	45.5%	10.4%	2.2%	85.4%
NO	Count	52	0	0	0	0	52
	% of Total	14.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.6%
Total	Count	52	97	162	37	8	356
	% of Total	14.6%	27.2%	45.5%	10.4%	2.2%	100.0%

Source: From Researcher Survey, 2023 n= 356

As a result shown in above table 4.5, about 85.4% (304) of respondents had responded that as they faced with lacks of access of credit service, farm inputs, marketing service and dominated by the power of men. Out of respondents responded “yes” for the question ‘do you face any problem while working with the cooperatives’, mainstream of respondents 45.5% (162) had reacted as they encountered with the problem of lacks accessing of farm input from their cooperatives or union from which they are membered, followed by 27.2% (97) of respondents lacks accessing of credit service. A slighter number of participants nearby 10.4% (37) and 2.2% (8) had answered that as they faced with the problem of accessing market service and dominated by the supremacy of men which inherited from traditional perceptions. In others, 14.6% (45) participants had been not encountered with the problems while working the cooperatives. The study findings shows that cooperatives could not able to provide farming inputs, credit and marketing service with time which enabling rural women to build their sustainable livelihood and livelihood assets that empower them to improve their purchasing power and incomes. Such events had limited increment of capital, amount of dividend and increasing production yield and ability to reduce vulnerability of women in cooperatives. As

the discussion made with JawiBuri PMACS, “The cooperative was provide service in adequate before three years ago (2021) as per our capacity to demand and relied on our farm size but recently the cooperative had reached unable to delivery what the members desires such as fertilizer, agricultural inputs, credit services and others upon time and in ways of distributing what exist resources based on biased which mean not it is transparency was invisible. In others, they stated that some members were come to hopeless from their cooperatives for the reality of poor accessing service and partiality activities of cooperatives delivering service relied on having strong and blood relations”. Besides of Kilinto PMACS, they stated that we did not complain lack of service from our cooperatives, our complain is lack of the chance of freely living and bad political situation that had forced our cooperative to ceased services, so peace is first stage for human being development and bring dynamic change in business movement, accordingly we inspired stability of politics then matter of poor accessing service from cooperatives will be solved because of leading problem of cooperatives sourced from security issue. In others they stated that sometimes irregularities activities also visible from our cooperatives such poor transparency on service delivery and equal participation in meeting available, conflict of interest rarely had been visible to benefit some members and missed others.

4.4. Modality Service of the Cooperatives to the Rural Women

According to FAO (2010), Cooperatives can provide a wide range of economic and social services to women in rural areas. These include access to input and output markets, as well as financial services such as credit and insurance. The main role of cooperatives is to bring a dynamic changes by financially and economically independent to their members with equally treating the membership through provide different modality service such as agricultural inputs, credit service, irrigation materials, training service, marketing access with develop from bottom to higher level linkage which could be highly influence marketing of member’s final products (Daniel, 2023).

Training service

One of the diligent of cooperative is providing structured training service through equal opportunity for the men and women members with the purpose of promoted building capacity of the individuals (Daniel, 2023), Accordingly, cooperatives has provided training service for the majority of rural women members as per survey collected from only considered rural women for assure their sustainable livelihood. Rural women had affected with different factors when compared with men because of in perceptive of cultural women did not have equal access with men to engage in agricultural activities and others. In cultural perceptive, women worked homework and around the garden and the men authorized to work for external activities with going far from their home residence.

Table 4.4: Training Service of cooperative to the members

Accessibility of training services from cooperatives to Membership			
Have you attended any formal training as provided by your cooperative?		Count	% of total
Response	Yes	248	69.7%
	NO	108	30.3%
	Total	356	100%
For ‘yes’ how many times have you attended the training?	A week	109	30.6%
	Two weeks	64	18.0%
	Three weeks	49	13.8%
	a month	14	3.9%
	More than a month	12	3.4%
	Total	248	69.7%
IF ‘No’ response, what was the reason?	Because the cooperative didn’t provide training	37	10.4%
	Because I didn’t want to participate in training	3	0.8%
	I couldn’t attend training because of my personal problems	41	11.5%
	Lack of equal opportunities with other’s members	27	7.6%
	Total	108	30.3%

Source: from survey, 2023 n=356

The above table 4.4 has depicted that the summary of the number of rural women had got whether not training service from their respective cooperatives. The researcher provided question of have you attended any formal training as provided by your cooperative? As a result, the survey shows that from total respondents 30.3% (108) responded ‘No’ that they did not get training service with reason out different factors, out of which 10.4% (37) reason out that the cooperative could not provide training service, 11.5% (41) of respondents were reason out that because of the personal case could not get the training service

provided by cooperatives, 0.8% (3) of respondents stated that because of I did not want to participate and 7.6% (27) respondent could not participate due to lack of equal opportunities with other's members. Overall, the scholar had understood that the performance level of the cooperatives provide training service to their members on right ways but mode of provide training service should be in ways of pre-communication for the proposed trainee to participate on training service to minimize complain of the members.

Besides of members obtained training opportunities, from total respondents, 69.7% (283) had got training for different period of time, thus, the majority of respondents 30.6% (109) had taken training service for a week and followed by 18% (36) of respondent had been participated on training programme for two weeks, 13.8% (49) of participants had been obtained training service for three weeks. The minority of participants 3.9% (14) and 3.4% (12) had been participated in training service for a month and more than a month correspondingly. This is reflexed that the cooperatives has properly assured training program for their members to promote building capacity of the rural women. In others, cooperative has reduced inequality between women and men that developed from traditional perception through stated almighty of God had been given woman for man with powered of man on women.

As the interview with respondents having Director, finance officer and secretary has unprotected that training is provided to women with objective of ensuring better benefit for women who are participating in the cooperatives. Human capital development is at the center of the service provision. Training is rendered for women on different aspects. Among others, cooperatives give training for women regarding the rules and regulations, and organizational structure of the cooperatives. This is with intention to attain the better understanding of women so that they can participate in the cooperative in effectively, and get benefit in sustainable way. The cooperatives also provide training on agricultural activities with the aim of inducing the agricultural productivity of member women. Consequently, the cooperatives provide training regarding appropriate use of fertilizers, conservation of soil, trees, grazing areas, water bodies and other natural resources, utilizing effective farming system, efficient use of financial resources, creating business and investing further, accumulation of assets and resources as aspects of the livelihood of women. In carrying out these activities, the cooperative closely works with the *woreda's* cooperative office.

4.5. Aggregate Service of Cooperatives to their Members

Cooperatives had been provided collective service to their members to develop their capacities of copies with from shocks and stress that sudden encountered through their daily life of women. Among the collective service renders from cooperatives to the members of cooperatives such as credit service, agricultural inputs supply, saving and marketing services had clearly stated under here with the table 4.7.

Table 4.5: Collective service of cooperatives to their members

Which one of the following services does the cooperative provide to you? * If the cooperative provide you with agricultural inputs, what are the inputs supplied to you by the cooperative? Cross tabulation								
Which one of the following services does the cooperative provide to you?	If the cooperative provide you with agricultural inputs, what are the inputs supplied to you by the cooperative?							Total
	Fertilizer	High yield crops	Water pumps	Variety of inputs	Herbicides	Pesticides		
Supply of agricultural inputs	Count	173	18	8	64	2	2	267
	% of Total	48.6%	5.1%	2.2%	18.0%	.6%	.6%	75.0%
Credit services	Count	19	6	3	11	2	0	41
	% of Total	5.3%	1.7%	.8%	3.1%	.6%	0.0%	11.5%
Marketing services	Count	12	4	2	11	0	0	29
	% of Total	3.4%	1.1%	.6%	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	8.1%
Training service	Count	1	1	1	2	0	0	5
	% of Total	.3%	.3%	.3%	.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%
Saving services	Count	3	5	0	4	1	0	13
	% of Total	.8%	1.4%	0.0%	1.1%	.3%	0.0%	3.7%
Other	Count	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

Total	% of Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	.3%	0.0%	0.0%	.3%
	Count	208	34	14	93	5	2	356
	% of Total	58.4%	9.6%	3.9%	26.1%	1.4%	.6%	100.0%

Source: from Survey, 2023 n=356

The data shows that cooperatives has provided collective service to its members, horizontal line represented what does the cooperatives provide service and vertical line represented what types of cooperatives provides agricultural inputs services.

Agricultural inputs supply: about 267(75%) of the respondent has responded that cooperative has provided fertilizer with affordable price rely on ownership right of farming land size and purchase of power of them, mainly included both DAP and UREA in order to increase the agricultural productivity of women, almost 64(18%) of participant have got variety input from their own cooperatives for more assure their subsistence of their daily consumption and decreasing of the disturbance of food insecurity. Among the respondents 18 (5.1%) and 7 (2.2%) has replied that cooperative has provided high yield crop seeds and water pump respectively to enhance increment of yield and three to four times cultivation in a year which before the member had engaged in agricultural activities for once or rarely in twice in a year. Minority of respondent about 2 (0.6%) and (0.6%) where forwarded that the cooperatives had rendered herbicides and pesticides to safe for agricultural activities. Women had got special support from cooperatives with attention given basis on passed trend that did not get service because of shortage of service delivery.

Credit service: Cooperatives are provided credit service to their member to ensure them to overcame financial problem and to enforce the women to meet upon time access of the different types of services shall be rendered through their cooperatives chain, about 41 (11.5%) of the respondents) has replied that cooperative diligently provided credit service with to all members. Regarding the question about what amount of money have got from your cooperatives in the past five years and for what purpose do you use the money get from your cooperatives through credit,

Table 4.6: Purpose of credit service to members

What amount of money have you got from cooperative through credit service in the past five year?		For what purpose do you use the money you get from the cooperative through credit?					Total
		For home consumption	To pay debts	To buy farm inputs	For trading purpose	Other	
Less than ETB 20,000	Count	16	17	155	27	5	220
	% of total	4.5%	4.8%	43.5%	7.6%	1.4%	61.8%
ETB 20,000 to 50,000	Count	7	5	44	42	2	100
	% of total	2.0%	1.4%	12.4%	11.8%	.6%	28.1%
ETB 50,000 to 100,000	Count	1	1	7	13	3	25
	% of total	.3%	.3%	2.0%	3.7%	.8%	7.0%
ETB above 100,000	Count	2	1	4	4	0	11
	% of total	.6%	.3%	1.1%	1.1%	0.0%	3.1%
Total	Count	26	24	210	86	10	356
	%	7.3%	6.7%	59.0%	24.2%	2.8%	100.0%

Source: From Survey, 2023 n=356

In further, the researcher has investigate for what purpose the amount of money received from cooperatives, as a result majority of respondents 220 (61.8%) has received less than ETB 20,000 credit service from the cooperatives and has reacted their response to be utilized for home consumption 16 (4.5%), to pay debts 17(1.8%), to buy farm inputs 155 (43.5%), for trading purpose 27(7.6%) and for others purpose 5 (1.4%) such as to cover education fees, labor wages and fattening animals activities. Among the participants 100 (28.1%) has answered that they has received credit service from ETB 20,000 to 50,000 to purpose of cover for home consumption 7 (2%), to pay debts 5(1.4%), to buy farm input 44 (12.4%), for trading purpose 42 (11.8%) and for other purpose 5(1.4%) such as purchase of motor cycle and sprayer herbicides and pesticides materials. In others, the majority of credit service provided to the rural women has concentrated for the less than ETB 20,000 and secondly on concentrated from ETB 20,000 to 50,000. The small of number of participants 25 (7%) and 11(3.1%) has utilized credit from amount of birr 50,000 to 100,000 and above birr 100,000 respectively for the purpose of trading service, to pay debt, for trading service, for buying farm inputs and others (fattening animals, for purchasing motor cycle, for purchase of oxen and cows that used for cultivating to their farm land size and high breeding to intent of yield of milk. In aggregate, 26 (7.3%) of participants has used credit service for home consumption, 24(6.7%) of respondents are utilized for paying debt, 210 (59%) employed credit to purchase farm inputs, 86 (24.2%) exploited for trading purpose and 10 (2.8%) of the participants are utilized credit amount received for other purpose such as for purchasing motor cycle, fattening animals, purchase of sprayer of

herbicides and pesticides, oxen and cows for strongly cultivating their held farm size land and high breeding to hybrid which can be provide high yield of raw milk per days in sake of increase income.

Marketing services: Markets are believed to play key role in the development of rural economy and ensuring sustainable livelihood for rural poor. In light of lack of good access to markets, women may face challenges including difficulties for market they produce, obtain inputs, sell labor, obtain credit, learn about or adopt new technologies, insure against risks, or obtain consumption goods at low prices. Cut off from markets, they are forced into self-sufficiency, whether for food, labor, or other items. Its own subjective valuations, rather than market prices, then determine how its resources are used. Under the current free market situation, small holder farmers have faced the difficulty of high competition in the market. To alleviate this difficulty, the role of cooperatives has become bigger than ever before (Alemu, 2011).

In the case of output market, the market share of cooperatives is very low due to shortage of finance, poor infrastructure, inadequate and poor quality warehouse, and weak entrepreneurship skills including business management, planning and financial management. About 29 (8.1%) of the respondents has reacted that cooperatives has facilitated market service for rural women in way of they could be get market access for their agricultural products. Accessibility of market for the final agricultural products are enhanced as a member or women come to economically independents by giving awareness to add economic value along with marketing convenient nearby their residential areas or promoted linkage with private or NGO organization as they utilized the products of women at their get with good negotiable price.

Table 4.7: Types of marketing service provided by cooperatives

Description	What type of marketing services does the cooperative deliver to you?					
	Bargaining for better prices	Providing market information	Purchasing for better prices	Affordable price with best quality products	Others	Total
Frequency	102	72	100	80	2	356
Percent	28.7%	20.2%	28.1%%	14.8%	0.6%	100.0%

Source: From Survey, 2023

n=356

As data presented in table 4.7: about 52 (33.5%) of respondents are replied that cooperatives provided different agricultural inputs with purchasing for better prices or with affordable prices and followed by bargaining for better prices with 45 (29%) of respondents. The cooperatives has benefited rural women through ensure the development of agricultural productivities by rendering agricultural inputs which more enhanced the yield of crops. Among respondents 23(14.8%) has replied that cooperative provided service with affordable prices with best quality products.

The scholar has interviewed the some number of respondents from both primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives means JawiBuri and Kilinto Primary Multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies rely on their higher position to lower level and duration of period they join cooperatives, As result, women has rose the main issue encountered regarding marketing service that lacks of transportation service to convey their products to market access with more relevant price and the government could not facilitate infrastructure which main of their product development such as poor stability of peace, poor road facility and electric line had been adversely affected the production performance of products. Specially, due to poor stability of peace, the members missed market access, fright of freely moving from place to place and lacks of consistency in the region was the reason affect marketing trend of overall communities agricultural activities.

Saving and other services: Cooperatives has learnt their member in ways of saving their money with keeping up with NBE's directives standard and relied on capacity of their saving, has rendered for different purpose such as for home consumption, for pay debt, trading service, buy agricultural inputs and others. As result, about 13 (3.7%) and 1 (0.3%) has released them suggestion, the cooperative has provided saving service and others service to women members. The others service stated from respondents providing funding, cleaning service and medical service in form life insurance for some members specially focused marital status of women divorced, widowed and household head women to recovery their life from different shock and stress.

4.6. Factor affecting Participation of Women in Cooperatives

The problems of women in cooperatives are classified as organizational or internal problems, external problems, and infrastructural related problems. Internal problem is emanated from the poor management, lack of adequate skilled and experience, poor technical competency of managerial, poor transparency and accountability. Inadequate capital, unequal participation men and women in decision and lack of knowledge about duties and responsibilities but those problems are under

the capacity of members to manage. External factors are factors that beyond the capacity of members to manage the events happen and adversely influenced all livelihood performance of women such as high cost of production, low prices of produces, interference of government on internal affairs of cooperatives, distance from cooperatives location, political instability and social conflict, tribe and race discrimination, market saturation for the final products are some instance of external factors. Finally, infrastructures constraints are other factors that affect the participation level of women in cooperatives; those can be emanated from external factors issue or internal factors due to poor managing the infrastructures facilities already stretched at location site of the cooperatives.

Table 4.8: Factors affecting participation of women in Cooperatives

Constraints	Degree of Importance										
	Important			Less important			Don't know			Total	
1. Organizational Constraints	Count	Row N %	Count	Row %	N	Count	Row %	N	Count	Row %	N
In efficient Managerial system	138	38.8%	156	43.8%	62	17.4%	356	100.0%			
Lack of transparency and accountability	130	36.5%	166	46.6%	60	16.9%	356	100.0%			
Inadequate capital	211	59.3%	145	40.7%	0	0.0%	356	100.0%			
Unequal participation of men and women in decision making	130	36.5%	168	47.2%	58	16.3%	356	100.0%			
Lack of knowledge about duties and responsibilities	132	37.1%	167	46.9%	57	16.0%	356	100.0%			
Poor management working activities	125	35.1%	157	44.1%	74	20.8%	356	100.0%			
2. External Constricts											
High cost of production	215	60.4%	136	38.2%	5	1.4%	356	100.0%			
Low prices of produces	89	25.0%	166	46.6%	101	28.4%	356	100.0%			
Interference by government on internal affairs of cooperatives	96	27.0%	186	52.2%	74	20.8%	356	100.0%			
Distance from cooperatives location	98	27.5%	166	46.6%	92	25.8%	356	100.0%			
Political instability and social conflict	235	66.0%	121	34.0%	0	0.0%	356	100.0%			
Tribe or race discrimination	81	22.8%	126	35.4%	149	41.9%	356	100.0%			
Market saturation for the final products	73	20.5%	174	48.9%	109	30.6%	356	100.0%			
Highly speed inputs cost increased	228	64.0%	105	29.5%	23	6.5%	356	100.0%			
3. Infrastructures Constraints											
Lack of transportation facility	190	53.4%	97	27.2%	69	19.4%	356	100.0%			
Shortage of electrification service	184	51.7%	107	30.1%	65	18.3%	356	100.0%			
Accessibility of rural road and easily linkages urban rural	193	54.2%	100	28.1%	63	17.7%	356	100.0%			

Source: From Researcher Survey, 2023

n= 356

Organizational problems: under organizational factors some of factors are stated which adversely affected participation performance of women in cooperatives. Thus factors turn by turn mentioned as under herewith:

Inefficient Managerial System: It is expected that the management who have efficient managing systems or tactics could be pull or renovate mind of all members to equally participate in general meeting or at every time the affairs of cooperatives held to improve in internal structure of cooperatives. As it is shown in table 4.8: the majority of participants 43.8% identified the existence of inefficient managerial system as less important whereas 38.8% of respondents has reacted that inefficient managerial system is more important, 17.4% of participants answered that do not know either exist or not inefficient managerial system in cooperatives. *The maim issued raised during the researcher discussed with interviewee and discussion, they stated that the employee assigned to cooperatives did not have good managerial competency and per weeks for once coming to office rather than he/she engaged in others activities, In others, they said that the concerned government organ assigned temporary or permanently employee who can act their politics rather than employees who have efficient managerial system to improve our participation equally with men in cooperatives. such events has made women as could not get opportunity of equal participation and head of cooperatives who more linked with government organ has reflected their politics action in cooperatives which violated the principles of cooperative independent and autonomous.*

Lack of Transparency and Accountability: About 46.6% of the respondents replied that lack of transparency and accountability is as less important while 36.5% and 16.9% of participants answered that the lack of transparency and accountability is as important and don't know about the problem respectively. The researcher has understood that there is less important lack of transparency and accountability which slightly affected participation of members in cooperatives.

Inadequate Capital: From the question provided to participants about majority of respondents 59.3% replied that inadequate capital is as an important problem while 40.7% of respondents reacted that as less important problem of cooperatives and all participants has identified inadequate capital which is one of the main problem that made women do not participate in cooperatives. As interview and FGD made with particular participants, they stated that inadequate capital is the serious problem including inability to provide credit service, inability to hire full time staffs, limitations to increase the cooperatives with necessary facilities and to provide better training service so as to capacitate both the members and administrative staff, the members and administrative bodies of cooperative provided different reason for the inadequate capital, the core reason stated from administrative staff was the delay as well as cut-off credit service from lending institution (union, micro finance and banking industries, reduction of financial fund from NGOs and the trend in international market that challenge profitability of the cooperatives are the causes for inadequate capital and as observed from the participants, the main problem for inadequate capital was lack of accessing of farming inputs with time, poor credit service, political instability through the region and poor business movement of cooperatives.

Unequal participation of men and women in cooperatives: The data depicted that 47.2% of participants recognized that unequal participation of men and women in cooperatives is less important problem and 36.5% respondents acknowledged that as it is important problem, about 16.3% of respondents responded that don't know about whether exist or not unequal participation of women and men in cooperatives. The FGD and interview discussion also shows that there is no such considerable gender based discrimination among members of the cooperative in terms of accessing the services. Though the respondents demand increased presentation in the administrative positions, they are happy with positive treatment from both the managerial staffs and men members of the cooperatives.

Lack of Knowledge about Responsibilities: Asked to rate the extent of lack of knowledge about responsibilities as a problem of the cooperative, 46.9% of the respondents replied that it is less important problem of the cooperative, about 37.1% of the respondents graded it is as important problem of the cooperative while 16% of them replied that they don't know about the problem. There are problems with some members of cooperative, ranging from minor offences like absence from meeting up to serious disruptions including selling their products to local merchants who exploit them, and have unwanted consequence on the performance of cooperative. While the problem has to do with ignorance, limited awareness of the members also is contributing factor. In addition to this, producing quality coffee and other agricultural product is still difficult for some members of the cooperative as they don't consider the problem.

Poor Management Working Activities: The researcher had provided question to rate the extent of respondents' response in regarding poor management activities, accordingly, 44.1% of respondents had reacted that poor management working activities is less important problem which sometimes abuse equal participation of women in cooperatives and 35.1% of respondents reflected that poor management activities is as an important problem of women in cooperatives that adversely impact the contribution of women and principles of cooperatives' member economic participation while 20.8% of participants replied that don't know about the problem. Poor management activities would be made the members to hate their cooperatives and reason out poor image or reputation of cooperatives. As per FGD taken with particular members of cooperatives from JawiBuri and Kilinto PMACS, from the both primary cooperatives the same suggestion emphasized as the followed: *"In our cooperatives, frequently delivering service basis on lineages or friendship relations had been presented and the members had complained why for such irregularities happened to senior administrative staff at districts cooperative office but it did not get solution till now such irregular activities are continuously materialize, therefore, lack of experience, technical competency and qualification of head of cooperatives had made our implication to hesitate of administration of cooperatives. Hence, we suggest that supervision and coordination of districts cooperatives office should be taken to improve the weakness of management frequently visible in cooperatives and ensure fair participation of members on internal affairs of cooperatives (audit report, capitalization of dividend, annual meeting and general assembly) and others gears."*

External Problems: External factors are factors that beyond the capacity of members to manage the events happen and adversely influenced all livelihood performance of members. To investigate the external problem, the researcher has asked the respondents to rate the extent of problem of participation of women in cooperatives. So, particular external factors in cooperative are explained under:

High Cost of production: From the asked regarding high cost of production, 60.4% of respondents answered that high cost of production is one of the important problems of the cooperative, 38.2 % of the respondents replied that it is as less important. The majority respondent's responses have failed under important and less important problem of cooperatives is high cost of production. From this figure, the researcher has identified the main issue of women in cooperatives is lack of accessing varies agricultural inputs with affordable price while 1.4% of participant had reacted that we don't know about the problem. Like problem is emanated from poor government intervention into market exposure and the producer setting price through consider their high income rather give attention to the end users to generate medium income and they endorse that the government intervention is the most important as the price of materials charged over.

Low price of produces: Low price of produces is another problem of cooperative. As a result, majority of respondents 46.6%

replied that low price of produces is less important problem of the cooperatives and 28.4% of respondent's ranked as don't know about the problem while 25% of respondents reacted that low price of produce is an important problem of the cooperatives. The data from interview and FGD has disclosed from the respondents of cooperatives, the main issue is not low price of product but the increment of price on our agricultural output and farm inputs has mismatched meaning the price of farm inputs has increased over than output of agricultural products, such event has minimized our income level less than what we generated in preceding years. Also, the discussants declared they feel that if the managers are committed and proactive, the cooperatives would have been more profitable by providing the products for better price. In order to increase the profitability and capital of the cooperatives, managerial staff of the cooperatives should be committed and proactive through purchase agricultural products at time of harvesting and store in warehouse while waiting for increasing the price of agricultural products.

Interference by Government towards internal affairs of Cooperative: From asked, 52.2% participants ranked Interference by government on internal affairs of cooperatives is less important problem and 27% of respondents replied that it is as important problem whereas 20.8% of participants reacted that we don't know about the problem. The survey research has revealed that interference by the government is not important problem in the cooperatives for majority of the respondents. Particular of respondents expressed that there is some degree of intervention by government in internal affairs of the cooperatives. As discussed with zonal managerial staff of cooperatives the government is not interfering in the affairs of the cooperatives despite attempts to work together with the cooperatives so as to enhance their capability and efficiency especially during structural reform government organ had presented as advisor organ. Despite this, the government doesn't interfere in any social or economic affairs of the cooperatives.

Distance from Cooperative: Distance from cooperative is less important problem for 46.6% of the respondents, 27.5% of respondents ranked as it is important problem of cooperative while 25.8% of respondents responded that don't know about the problem of distance from cooperatives. From research survey understood that distance from cooperatives is less important problem and majority of members did not have distance problem from cooperatives. As made interview and FGD discussion with particular members and managerial staff, the members who interviewed stated that we organized in cooperatives based on distance approach for this fact majority of membership not faced distance problem from cooperatives and some of our cooperatives having distance problem due to lack of opportunity new cooperatives established their surrounding suitable area.

Political instability and social conflict: Political instability and social conflicts among the factors affecting the participation of women in cooperatives is the second ranked next to highly speed costs of inputs increased. Accordingly, political instability and social conflict is the serious important problem of cooperatives for 66% of respondents while 34% of participants replied that it is as less important problem of cooperatives. The data from interview and FGD is exposed that community has faced with a serious problem of political instability after propensity party of Ethiopia came to power associated with different opposite party returned to their home residence and they started armed the structural reform of government. For the fact of conflict raised up among different political party, the innocent person passed away and sometimes in same family around 3 to five family members were died, they also stated that, due to political disorder happen in their farming area, some members of cooperative stopped to cultivate and harvest for fright of fighting, some part of members of cooperatives has lost by robbery or unknown party what they harvest, their heifer, oxen and other resources that associated with political instability.

Tribe or Race Discrimination: Tribe or race discrimination is another factor that made the cooperative to suffer. From the asked, the majority of respondents 41.9% replied that don't know about the problem in regarding the tribe or race discrimination, about 35.4% and 22.8% of respondents ranked race discrimination is less important and important problem respectively. Therefore, the survey has depicted that case of tribe or race discrimination is rarely happen in cooperatives and majority of PMACS has delivery service without race based discrimination.

Market saturation for the final products: It is lack of sufficient market for the final product due to similar competition or new entrant who supply same or better quality product increased in the market destination. In order to rank market status of final products of the women in cooperatives, the researcher has asked participants, as result about 48.9% of respondents responded that market saturation for the final product is less important problem and 20.5% of participants reacted that it is as an important problem while 41.9% of participants shows that don't know about the problem. The result of interview for particular participants shows that as they did not faced with the problem of market for their final product but their main problem is lack of capacity production due to political instability and shortage of agricultural input supply from the sources and inflation price of input farms. They stated that government had not facilitated marketing service through our cooperatives with better price, so difficulty of market service does not came to our final products. They recommend that government also solve the shortage of agricultural supply and inflation of price of farm inputs which can play to improve our production capacity and our participation in cooperatives.

Highly speed cost of inputs: Primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives is one of cooperatives which have mandate to provide agricultural inputs to their members. Therefore, agricultural inputs such as fertilizer; variety seeds, herbicides and pesticides are main inputs that used to increase the yield of production. To investigate its accessibility and costs of those farm

inputs, from the researcher asked about 64% of respondents replied that highly speed increased cost of input is a serious important problem and 29.5% of respondents answered that it is as less an important problem of women in cooperatives while 6.5% of participants replied don't know about the problem in case of speedily increased cost of inputs. The researcher has made interview with particular members, they has complained that the price of agricultural input supply since 2021G.C has increased from time to time and it has reached at a level of members could not afford to utilize for their production and some of members has started to cultivate with bare agricultural inputs specially for fertilizer and herbicides inputs, accordingly their yield of production was highly decreased due to shortage of agricultural input supply and overrun of its costs.

Infrastructure Related Problems: Government organ has primary duties and responsibilities to facilitate infrastructures to the communities and societies for ensuring sustainable development through the country. Thus, accessibility of transportation service, rural electrification and accessibility of rural road and easily linkage urban-rural societies are the other factors that contribute to socio-economic development to the cooperatives. In further, the influence of infrastructures on cooperatives has stated hereunder:

Inaccessibility of Transportation Service: Poor access of transportation service is adversely affect the participation level of women in cooperatives, in contrary adequate access of transportation motivated or initiated rural women to easily participated in cooperatives through saving their time which previous burned their time on voyage for reality of poor access transportation service and road facilities. From enquiry, 53.4% of respondents replied that inaccessibility of transportation service is an important problem of the cooperative and 27.2% of respondents answered that it is as less an important problem while 19.4% of respondents reacted that don't know the problem inline of transportation service. As per interview and FGD made with JawiBuri PMACS with particular members, they stated that poor transportation facility has adversely affected our access of market service and the majority of members has gone with bare foot above 10 Km distance to market destination for getting market service, the existing road also destructed and the government has not taken road maintenance activities.

Shortage of Electrification Service: Inaccessibility of electrification service is also other factors that influence the members to concentrate on one dimension of product. Specially, for agro processing industry such as bakery processing, dairy processing and vegetable and fruits processing and fattening animals are common agro processing industries. For poor access of rural electrification, the cooperatives could not develop such as activities that play significant role in their business diversification from farming activities. As per primary data collected from participants, about 51.7% of respondents ranked that shortage of rural electrification are an important problem and 30.1% of respondents replied that it is as less important problem for the cooperatives while 18.3% of participants reacted that don't know about the problem of inaccessibility of electrification.

Accessibility of Rural Road and Linkages with Urban-Rural: Poor accessibility of infrastructures is adversely affected mutual benefits of rural and urban residences. As observed, 54.2% of respondents reflexed that inaccessibility of road is a serious important problem of cooperative and 28.1% of participants replied that it is as less important problem whereas 17.7% of respondents shows that don't know about the problem in regarding accessibility of the road facility which encourage interconnection of rural and urban residence. The researcher has made interview and FGD with specified members regarding accessibility service of rural road and linkages of urban-rural, they stated that government has good vision to stretch infrastructure development through rural areas, mode of develop creational area in rural which more increase the interconnection of rural-urban but because of political disordered government could not carried out pre-oriented activities and some activities has stacked which previously stared with the government effort.

4.7: Influence of Transforming Structures and Process on Build up Livelihood Assets

4.7.1. Existence of Appropriate Transforming Structures and Process to Enhance Livelihood Assets

Transforming structures and processes occupy a central position in the framework and directly feedback to the vulnerability context, while influencing and determining ecological or economic trends through political structures, while mitigating or enforcing effects of shocks or keeping seasonality under control through working market structures; or they can restrict people's choice of livelihood strategies and may thus be a direct impact on livelihood outcomes. Livelihood Strategies Livelihood Strategies comprise the range and combination of activities and choices that people undertake in order to achieve their livelihood goals. They have to be understood as a dynamic process in which people combine activities to meet their various needs at different times and on different geographical or economical levels, whereas they may even differ within a household. Their direct dependence on asset status and transforming structures and processes becomes clear through the position they occupy within the framework. A changing asset status may further or hinder other strategies depending on the policies and institutions at work. When considering livelihood strategies and issues connected to the SLA in general it is important to recognize that people compete (for jobs, markets, natural resources, etc.), which makes it difficult for everyone to achieve simultaneous improvements in their livelihoods.

In the study, the influence of transforming structures, policies and process of the cooperative has been observed. The majority of respondent reacted that as there were appropriate transforming structure, policies, and process in their cooperatives and the reform of structures, policies, rules and regulation of the cooperative has been taken by three years and government organ from

the respective of cooperative office highly engaged in reform of transformation, structures and policies of cooperatives for bearing the socio-economic improvement and expansion of employment opportunities by expected cooperatives is the mains source of incomes and creation of employment opportunities.

Table 4.9: Influence of transforming structures and process of cooperatives in building sustainable livelihood of rural women

Are you expected your cooperative having appropriate transformation, structure and process to build up livelihood assets for its members? * If your answer above question is 'yes' what the transformation, structure and process more focuses to bring dynamic change in your cooperative? Cross tabulation						
Are you expected you cooperative having appropriate transformation, structure and process to build up livelihood assets for its members?		If your answer question is 'yes' what the transformation, structure and process more focuses to bring dynamic change in your cooperative?				Total
		If No responses	Supplementary serve as incentive for people to make choices	Boosting responsibility for access to assets	Enable stakeholders to transform and substitute one type of asset through another	
Yes	Count	0	113	79	142	334
	% of Total	0.0%	31.7%	22.2%	39.9%	93.8%
No	Count	22	0	0	0	22
	% of Total	6.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.2%
Total	Count	22	113	79	142	356
	% of Total	6.2%	31.7%	22.2%	39.9%	100.0%

As it is shown in table above 4.17, the mainstream of the respondents 93.8% revealed that cooperatives having appropriate reform of transformation, structures and process in which focus in supplementary serve as incentive for the people to make choices, boosting responsibility for access to assets and enables stakeholders to transform and substitute one types of assets through another while minimal number of participants 6.2% replied that as the cooperatives did not have adequate reform of transformation, structures and process to enhance social economic endeavor.

The study implies that the transforming structures and process taken in cooperatives is enables the stakeholders to transform and substitutes one type of assets through another and 39.9% of participants reacted as existence of appropriate transforming structure and process enables stakeholders to transform and substitute one type of asset through another. It is created opportunities of almost of members in cooperatives to increase a size of shares having in cooperatives by changing their cash crops, pulses oil seeds and vegetables and fruits to cash and shifting dividend to shares to increase capital in cooperatives and they can assured their living standard by improving their livelihood outcomes The livelihood outcomes are aggregative result of increased production, reduced vulnerability context and increased income from the livelihood activities. Therefore, it is advisable, timely taking part in reform of transformation, structures and process will be bearing a sustainability of livelihood and can be enhance the members to access of assets pentagon.

As a result shows, about 31.7% of respondents answered that transforming structures and process had been taken through intention of bring dynamic change as supplementary serve as incentives for people to make choices. The government through provide incentives for cooperative has achieved good livelihood outcomes or sustainable livelihood for members of cooperatives such as supplementary serve includes collective accessing farming land, facilitating credit service from owned state and private financial institutions specially for agricultural activities, pledge of collateral their ownership land right for guarantee of credit in which government intended to improve build sustainable livelihood. Accordingly, some part of members in cooperatives are empowered by reformed the transformation structures and process in cooperatives and almost of them has taken as decent opportunities. Some of participants 22.2% answered that appropriate transformation, structures and process of cooperatives enables them to improving responsibility for access to assets. Actually, reform of transformation structure and process has taken consideration in ways of members able to improving their contribution without compromising the existing resource to the next generation.

As per evaluated the implementation of transforming structures and process, about 52.2% of respondents are reacted as there were appropriate transforming structures and process which is bringing improvement for members of cooperatives through capacitate them to strongly participate in a regular work of cooperatives were regularly implemented while 47.8% of respondents revealed that as there were no appropriately implementation of transforming structures and process for developing their economic empowerment to improve their livelihood outcomes. The respondents who claimed poor implementation of transforming structures and process are suggested that the integration of the government organ among cooperative society, increasing the line of linkage cooperatives societies among NGO and private organization is important for the cooperatives to withstand for the development, accordingly, the retransformation structure and process shall be take place in give attention in

account of improving their own members' livelihood activities. As a result, 86.6% of participants revealed that transforming structures and process of cooperatives societies setting by public sector organization while 10.4% of participants reacted that transforming structures and process prepared by supported private sector organization. The minimal number of respondent's 7% depicted that transforming structures and process during preparation supported by civil society organization. It is same truth with explanation of cooperatives coordinator to the researcher as to the transforming structure and process of cooperative societies well prepared by the support of district cooperatives also the majority of participants agreed with this definition.

To more strengthen transforming structure and process, the participants who not believe appropriateness of transforming structures and process of their cooperative societies have given their suggestion through open questionnaires, almost of them were commented that cooperatives societies should reform transforming structure and process frequently through created integration with government organ, private sector and no-government organization, government attention towards cooperatives is more necessary, so government should give necessary incentives to cooperatives, restructured and re-organization of primary cooperatives societies with new forms more applicable to improve the performance of cooperatives, before transforming structures and process primarily discuss with members are valuable, acting as cooperatives societies' proclamation and directives can promote the cooperative movement in the rendering production and services. Hence, properly implementation of transforming structures and process which well prepared to developing the integration of cooperatives with NGO, private sector and government and acting as cooperative societies is the principal imperative for social change in empowering of social welfare (Daniel, 2023). To rate extent of proper structures of private and public sector, the researcher had asked participants whether existence of proper structure of private and public sector or not and what resource access you got from private or government when proper structures is rational and the below figures as shows result of respondents:

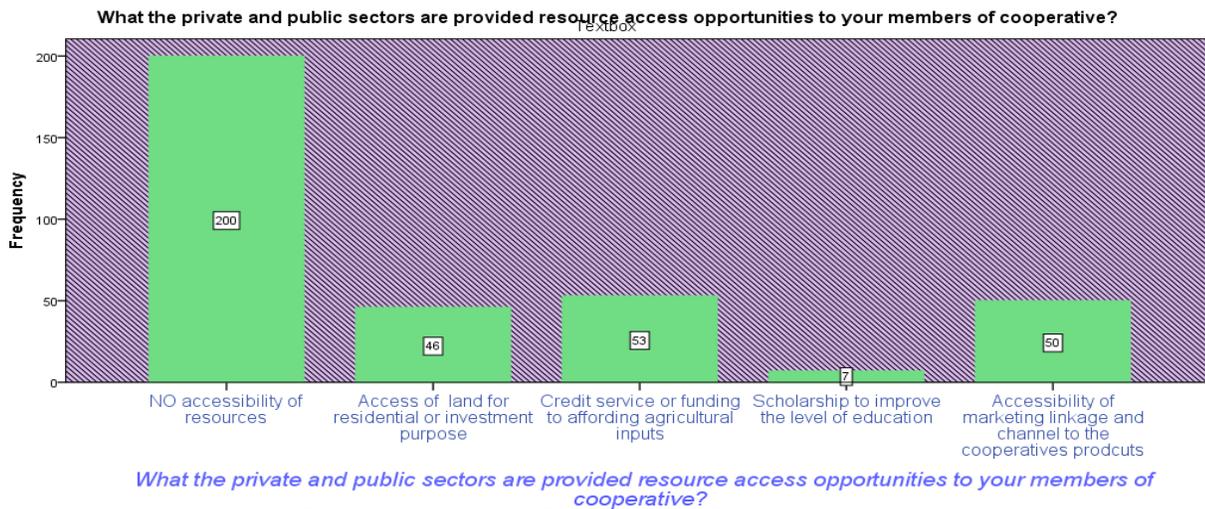


Figure 4.11: Access of Resources from Public and Private Sectors

As a result shown on figure 4.11, about 56.2% (200) of respondents reacted that there was no proper structures of private and public sector perfectly arranged in concept of mutually supporting to each other's, mostly structured in ways of boosting their profitability rather give attention in ways of promote integration with different stakeholders and they did not access resources from others stakeholders such like public and private sector whereas 43.8% of participants revealed that proper existence of private and public sector supported them through rendering different resources and they reported as they got different access of resources from public and private sectors. Among 12.9% (46) of participants where reacted that as obtained access of land for residential or investment purpose from the public sector, about 14.9% (53) of respondents replied as they access credit service or funding to afford agricultural inputs from the owned state and private financial institutions, 14% (50) of participants responded as they obtained accessibility of marketing linkage and channels to the cooperatives products while 2% (7) of respondents answered as they got opportunity of scholarship to improve their level of education. For more improvement of assets pentagon to the members and non-members of cooperatives, the integration of cooperatives among with private, NGO and public sectors is the first indicators for adequately accessing different types of resources (Daniel, 2023).

4.8.2. Perception of Member's on Sudden External Interference into their Cooperatives

According to FCC (2005) argues that the intervention of the government in the management and controlling of the cooperative affirms influenced the governance of cooperatives and resulted in passive participation of members since they lacked sense of ownership and belongingness to their cooperatives. The perception of rural women on external interference was evaluated in the study. Therefore, it is positive or negative attitudes toward intervention of the organizations who are interned into internal

affairs of cooperatives. The intervention party can be intervened into internal affairs of cooperatives for the purpose of either support the cooperatives to carry out their vision, mission and held strategy or interest of conflict that can be reasonable for the member’s complain in negative side. Therefore, the perception of women member’s in cooperatives towards the external party can be evaluated in negative or positive sides. As a result, the researcher had been evaluated perception of rural women in cooperatives towards external interferences and mentioned under table.

Table 4.19: Perception of rural women towards external interference into their cooperatives

What do you think about the government or NGO organs are sudden interference in our cooperatives?			
	Perceptions	Frequency	Percent
Valid	Government or NGO intervention is one of the mitigation mechanisms to our constraints	146	41.0
	The cooperative integrated with the private or public organization is considered as provide best quality service	93	26.1
	It will be difficult for the cooperative due to boosting bureaucracy and bring different challenges to your own cooperative	47	13.2
	They are increasing the opportunities of resource mobilization and fund allocation to our members	37	10.4
	To increase discrimination against the principles of cooperatives and restrict freely participation in own cooperatives	33	9.3
Total		356	100.0

As it is shown in above table 4.18, the mainstream of respondents 41% has reacted that interference of Government or non-government organization into their cooperatives support them to reduce the constraints that against their cooperative to effectively empower their economic participation. They expected that government or NGO have intervened sometimes into our cooperative to solve emergency problem faced cooperatives through providing different service such as facilitating in ways of obtaining credit service from owned stated financial institutions or NGO had helped the cooperative as a source of fund during the financial deficit encountered to cooperatives. In such condition, the interference of external party into affairs of cooperatives can be understandable as those parties has entered into internal affairs of cooperatives to empowering their economic strength in which previous time deteriorated their financial trend due to different constraints such like shortage of credit service, lack of adequate agricultural inputs and lack of knowledgeable leadership of their business.

In others, 26.1% of respondents revealed that cooperative integrated with the private or public organization is considered as provide best quality service otherwise poor integration of cooperatives with other external organ could limited the access of financial service, industrial or agricultural inputs, access of consumable goods and services, training service and others activities shall be encourage the socio-economic development and supported the cooperative to give attention into concern for community to bringing out sustainable development by expanding the opportunities of infrastructures facilities, expansion of healthcare service in rural area and diligently working for rural development. During the discussion made with a specific members of primary cooperatives, the issue of poor integration of cooperatives with government and other external party was the main problem and for this fact the members did not get the required service from their cooperatives and the cooperatives could not implemented its necessary target goals in rural development. Specially, during revision of transforming structure and process of the cooperatives, more experienced man who worked at respective cooperatives to evaluate the prepared revision and policy of the cooperatives can be make the cooperatives to properly structured its organization, before finalized the revision transforming structure and process, the concerned government organ should consider in line by-laws of cooperatives or inline of the laws governed cooperatives. The perception of rural women towards external interference into their internal affairs of cooperatives around 10.1% of participants reacted as necessity of external interference as they can increase the opportunities of resource mobilization and fund allocation to their members. Actually, external party when intervened cooperative inline of pulling up to self-develop or self-help, resource mobilization opportunities can be occurred to improve their business performance and financial viability of the cooperatives.

Some of respondents external interference into internal affairs of cooperatives, as a result, about 13.2% of respondents depicted that external interference can be difficult for the cooperative due to boosting bureaucracy and bring different challenges to own cooperatives while 9.3% of participants reflected their answers as the external party reasonable to increase discrimination against the principles of cooperatives and restrict freely participation in own cooperatives when not properly managed. As a result of FGD, the participant has complained as the government organ intervened into their primary cooperative societies sometimes to implements its purpose and activities rather give to attention for the account of solve the problem of cooperatives and facilitating facilities needs to the cooperatives. All members of cooperatives needs the support of government to

implement the oriented action of the cooperatives to enhance socio-economic and rural development by promoting accessibility of goods and services, for this fact the government organ intervention in case of positive attitudes more important to motivate cooperatives to diligently doing activities in communities.

4.8.3. Focus Area of Transformation Structures and policy in Cooperatives.

FCA is an authority organ that established with purpose of organize and register cooperative societies and giving training service, conduct research about the primary societies and provide technical assistance. Cooperative societies' proclamation No.147/198 has clearly declared that cooperative societies shall be established with the objectives of to solve the problems collectively which members cannot individually achieve, to achieve better result by coordinating their knowledge wealth and labour, to promote self-reliance among members, to collectively protect, withstand and solve economic problem, to improve the living standard of members by reducing production and service costs by providing inputs or service at minimum costs or by finding better price for their products or services, to expand the mechanisms by which technical knowledge could be put into practice, to promote credit and saving services, to minimize and reduce the individual of risks and uncertainty, and to develop the social and economic culture of the members through education and training.

Transforming structures and process of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives society primarily focused in ways of increasing the profitability of members promote, capital of society, promote self-reliance, awareness for socio-economic development through creation of employment opportunities, tax revenue to the state and foreign or local currency earning, improving quality of product and service in society to enhance social interaction and handling high demand to products and services with affordable price. Directives and by law cooperatives is other criteria to considered during the transforming structures and process of cooperatives, because proper structured and well-prepared process of cooperatives is having crucial role in promoting interconnection of multidimensional organ which collaborated to withstand for bringing social and rural development. Timely implementation of transforming structures could be reasonable to dynamic change in strength of the profitability of cooperative societies and motivate all members highly engaged in their cooperative societies to ensure the daily operation of the cooperatives. In the study, the main focus area of transforming structures and process of cooperative societies are evaluated and the result has stated according to the following:

Table 4.10: Focus area of transforming structures, policies and process of cooperatives in building sustainable livelihood of rural women.

In your cooperative, which more emphasis of transformation structure and process to keep the sustainability of the business? What do think about your working cooperative can use as criteria to bring about transforming structure and process? Cross tabulation

In your cooperative, which more emphasis of transformation structure and process to keep the sustainability of the business?		What do think about your working cooperative can use as a criteria to bring about transforming structure and process?			Total
		Federal Cooperative Agency 's policy and legislation	Different Cooperative societies proclamation	Legal framework analysis of international cooperatives	
Change in economic activities	Count	183	28	30	241
	% of total	51.4%	7.9%	8.4%	67.7%
Change in income	Count	29	23	23	75
	% of total	8.1%	6.5%	6.5%	21.1%
Change in purchasing power	Count	19	13	8	40
	% of total	5.3%	3.7%	2.2%	11.2%
Total	Count	231	64	61	356
	% of total	64.9%	18.0%	17.1%	100.0%

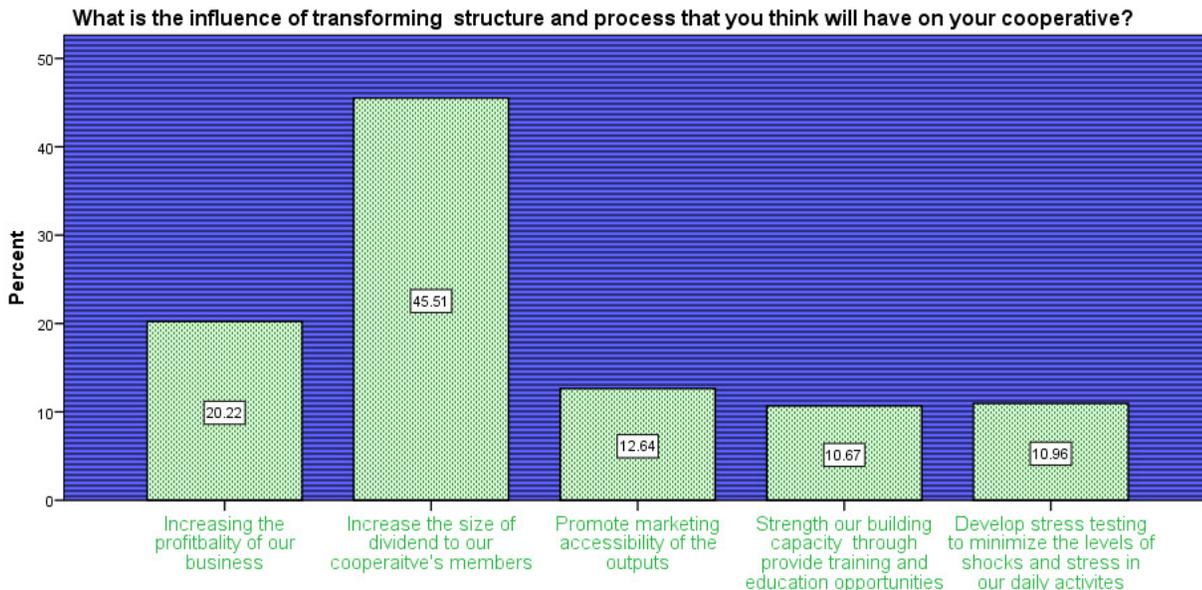
Source: Computed fro own Survey, 2023

As it is shown result in table 4.10 above regarding area of transforming structure and process, about 67.7% of respondents replied more emphasis of transforming structure and process strictly consideration of bringing change in economic activities of the cooperatives by the laws of cooperatives to more improve the movement of activities through societies whereas 21.1% and 11.2% of respondents answered that the main focus area of transforming structures and process was to the extent of change in income and purchasing power of members of cooperatives separately. Overall, the main emphasis of transforming structure and process were indented to change in economic activities, income and purchasing power of members of cooperatives to more drive of socio-economic development in societies. Besides of employing use of criteria to bring about transforming structures

and process was evaluated in the study, accordingly, about 64.9% of respondents responded as used FCA’s policy and legislation is early stage to transform structure and process of the primary cooperatives while about 18% and 17.1% of participants answered as to different cooperative societies proclamation and legal framework analysis of international cooperatives is the main criteria used during transforming structure and process of the primary cooperative societies. The directives and proclamation of primary cooperatives is the key fact for initiation of transforming structure and process of primary cooperative society to enhance more empowering of contribution of cooperatives in social well-beings.

4.8.4. Influence of Transforming Structure and Process in Cooperatives

Governance structures and processes will be affected by the purpose of the cooperatives (access to goods/services; or pooling risk); the stage in its lifecycle; the regulatory and legal frameworks; the historic and cultural environment; the strategic stakeholders; and the numerous evolving external pressures. Governance structures include ownership and control, governance bodies, and formal rules and policies. Governance processes, on the other hand, are about democracy and participation, channels of communication, and monitoring and control. Dynamics of governance as the third component of governance systems include the interplay between structures and processes and externally and internally induced changes. Hence, proper transforming structure and process of the cooperative as significant role in promote and socio-economic welfare and development of initiation to membership of cooperative to delivery products and service with affordable. Transforming structure and process had taken in primary cooperatives and its influence to decision making, quality delivery of service and goods and management of the cooperatives are strictly assessed in the study. The figure 4.12, stated below is stated the influence of transforming structure and process of cooperatives’ members.



What is the influence of transforming structure and process that you think will have on your cooperative?
 Figure 4.12: Influence of transforming structures and process on cooperative's activities

Source: Computed from own Survey, 2023 n=356

As it is shown result on figure 4.12: on the perspective of transforming structure and process, about 45.5% (162) of participants are expected that proper transforming structure and process of cooperative organization will support to earn more volume of dividend to our cooperative’s members while 20.2% (72) of the respondents responded as it create influence to increasing the profitability of business. As stated earlier, transforming structure and process based on the purpose of cooperatives, its can influence the quality of products and service delivery with affordable price to the members and non-members, increasing the opportunities of demands of goods and service through diversify the marketing channels among the societies or end users of the final products (goods and services). About 16.2% (45) of respondents reacted that the transforming structure and process will assist the cooperatives to promote accessibility of marketing channels for the final products or outputs. It is ways of expanding accessibility of channels of marketing through the society and the performance of cooperatives to transaction of goods and service will be increased as the marketing exposure or demands of final product increased. The minimal number of respondents 11% (39) answered their insight as transforming structure and process can be supported primary cooperative societies to strength building capacity through provide training and education opportunities while 10.2% (38) of participants

argues that it can influence cooperative to develop stress testing to minimize the levels of shocks and stress in daily activities of primary cooperatives.

Transforming structures is the part of governance which included ownership of activity and control, governance bodies (Board of Directors, leadership, executive committee, and chairman of cooperatives), policies and procedures, proclamation, directives, rules and regulation of cooperatives which can influence the process of the cooperatives. Processes are way strategic direction-setting and control is carried out. These processes are democratic and participative in well-functioning cooperatives and included democratic and participation, channels of communication, monitoring and control are the component of process of cooperatives. Cooperative organization which has proper transforming structure and process is an actively participate in business by improving the trend of profitability, increasing capacity building of the members by delivering training and education services, promoting marketing channels of outputs, developing stress testing to minimize the levels of shocks and stress in daily activities of cooperatives. In others, it is more valuable to improve the ability of members or rural women in membership of cooperatives to cope with the shocks and stress through employed best strategies which can reduce the redundancy of shocks and stress that could be adversely affected the livelihood outcomes of the members.

Overall, the perception of participants regarding transforming structure and process in cooperatives was averagely good, the main constraints there were weakness of increasing building capacity of the members, poor oversight of policies and directives by executive management and Board of Directors cooperative, ignoring with regularly discussing with members, poor communication of channels (formal and informal) means scrunched communication from top to bottom operating units were events that adversely affects the implementation of the transforming structure and process in cooperatives. For implementation of the transforming structure and process of primary cooperatives, qualification and experience of senior management, ability of monitoring and control intermediate organ, increasing awareness of members and accessibility of education opportunities to the members, improving communication among all business unit of the cooperative are the main elements that influence to appropriately enforcement. In others, creation of awareness to all members of cooperatives how to easily understand about policies, directives, rules and regulation of the cooperatives would be support to speedily implementation of transforming structure and process well prepared by their head of primary cooperatives.

4.9. Multicollinearity Analysis Results

The regression analysis was conducted to know by how much the independent variable explains the dependent variable. In this study, regression was employed to examine the impact of shocks and stress, role of primary agricultural cooperatives, participation of women in cooperatives, problem facing women in cooperatives, influence of transforming structure and process in building sustainable livelihood of women or livelihood outcomes of rural women. To have good results, the independent variables should not be highly correlated with each other. In multiple regression analysis, collinearity refers to the correlation among the independent variables (Pallant, 2007). Therefore, to make sure that there is low collinearity, the values of Tolerance and VIF (Variance Inflation Factor) should be checked. According to Pallant (2007), tolerance indicates to what extent the independent variables do not explain much of the variability of a specified independent variable and the value should not be small (must be more than 0.10) to indicate the absence of collinearity. In addition to that, VIF, the inverse of tolerance value, should have a value of less than 10 to avoid any concerns of collinearity (Pallant, 2007). Hence, the values in the Table 4.22 below indicate low collinearity because all Tolerance values are above 0.1 and all VIF values are less than 10. Therefore, these tests reflect that the variables used in the study are free from multi-collinearity. Hence, the values in the Table 4.22 below indicate low collinearity because all Tolerance values are above 0.1 and all VIF values are less than 10 which more approached to 1, therefore, these tests reflect that the variables used in the study are free from multi-collinearity and the correlation status of independents or explanatory variables was weak.

The values of the unstandardized Beta Coefficients (β) indicate the effects of each independent variable on dependent variable. Furthermore, the values of the unstandardized Beta Coefficients in the Beta column of the Table 4.22 above indicate which independent variable makes the strongest contribution to explain the dependent variable when the variance explained by all other independent variables in the model is controlled. The t value and the sig (p) value indicate whether the independent variable is significantly contributing to the prediction of the dependent variable.

Influence of transforming structure and process in cooperative has positive impact in building sustainable livelihood (livelihood outcomes) of women with statistically significant ($\beta=0.809$, $P=0.000$). In this case null hypothesis is rejected and an alternative hypothesis has gone to accepted because of it is significant at probability value of 5% and influencing positively the livelihood outcomes of rural women means of as the influence of transforming structure and process increased by one percent in cooperatives, the sustainable livelihood of the rural women can be improved by 80.9%. The role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies has positive impact and statistically significant in building sustainable livelihood of rural women at standardized beta ($\beta= 0.082$, $P=0.009$). As the role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies

increased by one percent, the sustainable livelihood of rural women has increased by 8.2%. Therefore, the sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of rural women has positive coloration with role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives. Also, the participation of women in cooperatives is statistically significant with ($\beta= 0.067, P=0.026$) and positively influencing the livelihood outcomes of women, hence the as participation of women increased by one percent, livelihood outcomes of women in cooperatives would be decrease by 6.7%. Therefore, to promote sustainable livelihood outcomes of rural women in cooperatives, effectively managing fair contribution of women in equally economic participation is more important to improve sustainable livelihood outcomes earnings

Regarding problem facing women in cooperatives, it was negative correlation and statistically significant in building sustainable livelihood of rural women at standardized beta coefficient ($\beta= -0.139, P=0.000$) and it shows that as a level of problem facing of rural women in primary cooperatives societies increased, in contrary , the sustainable livelihood of rural women decreased or livelihood outcomes of members comes to exploited by that problem happened to the members i.e. as the challenges or problem facing or rural women in cooperatives positively changed in 1% , the livelihood outcomes of women or members decreased by 13.9% . So, it is the pre-indicators which negatively absorbed asset pentagon of the rural women if not properly managed that problem faced rural women in cooperatives. The correlation analysis of shocks and stress of rural women in cooperatives against the sustainable livelihood/ livelihood outcomes was negative correlations which it was statistically significant ($\beta= -0.096, P=0.001$). As the shocks and stress of women increased by one percent, the sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of the rural women decreased by 9.6%. The shocks and stress is a reasonable to negatively absorb the assets of members in cooperatives if not the strategies which support to cope with shocks and stress impended.

Table 4.11: Multiple regression results

Model	Coefficients								
	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.	95.0% Confidence Interval for B		Collinearity Statistics	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Tolerance	VIF
(Constant)	2.640	2.229		1.184	.237	-1.744	7.025		
RCOOP	1.168	.444	.082	2.630	.009	.294	2.042	.829	1.206
SHOSTR	-1.343	.408	-.096	-3.294	.001	-2.145	-.541	.948	1.055
PARTWOM	2.134	.956	.067	2.232	.026	.254	4.014	.876	1.142
PROWOM	-4.235	.866	-.139	-4.889	.000	-5.938	-2.531	.987	1.013
INFLUTRP	2.465	.087	.809	28.388	.000	2.294	2.635	.985	1.015
a. Dependent Variable: SLHD-Sustainable Livelihood or Livelihood Outcome									

Source: Computed from own survey, 2023

n=356

4.10. Multiple Regression Analysis Result

The researcher has adopted multiple regression analysis for one dependent variable which is presumed to be a function of five independent variables. The objective of this analysis is to make a prediction about the dependent variable based on its covariance with all the concerned independent variables (Kothari, 2004). Kothari describes that in multiple regression analysis; the regression coefficients become less reliable as the degree of correlation between the independent variables increases. If there is a high degree of correlation between independent variables, we have a problem of what is commonly described as the problem of multicollinearity. In standard multiple regressions Pallant (2011) says that all the independent (or predictor) variables are entered into the equation simultaneously. Each independent variable is evaluated in terms of its predictive power, over and above that offered by all the other independent variables. This is the most commonly used multiple regression analysis. Hence, the standard multiple regression was used to analyze the data of this study.

The interpretations of multiple regression analysis include multiple correlation indices such as R, R², and adjusted R². Pallant (2011) states that Pearson correlation coefficients (r) can only take on values from -1 to +1. The sign out the front indicates whether there is a positive correlation (as one variable increases, so does the other) or a negative correlation (as one variable increases, the other decreases). The size of the absolute value (ignoring the sign) provides an indication of the strength of the relationship. A perfect correlation of 1 or -1 indicates that the value of one variable can be determined exactly by knowing the value on the other variable. A scatterplot of this relationship would show a straight line. On the other hand, a correlation of 0 indicates no relationship between the two variables. Knowing the value on one of the variables provides no assistance in predicting the value on the second variable.

As Mooi and Sarstedt (2011) posit β (pronounced as beta) indicates the (regression) coefficient of the independent variable.

This coefficient represents the gradient of the line and is also referred to as the slope. A positive β coefficient indicates an upward sloping regression line while a negative β indicates a downward sloping line. Technically the β s indicate how a change in an independent variable influences the dependent variable if all other independent variables are held constant. To compare the different variables, it is important to look at the standardized coefficients β , not the unstandardized ones. ‘Standardized’ means the value for each different variables has been converted to the same scale so that you can compare them. If believed to construct to a regression equation, it is important to use the unstandardized coefficient values listed as B (Pallant, 2011). According to the aforementioned authors view, and based on the values of the β coefficient, the predicting power of predictors within a multiple regression model could be compared; i.e., the larger the β coefficient value was, then the larger effect the predictor had in predicting. In this study β was used to determine the most powerful variable. Generally, five predictive variables were observed such as influence of transforming structure, policies and process.

Overall, five predictive variables were observed such as influence of transforming structure, policies and process of cooperatives, role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies or livelihood activities, Participation status of women in cooperatives, shocks and stress affects livelihood activities of rural women and problem facing women in cooperatives activities were predictive variables that can clearly explain status of sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of women. Sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes is the dependent variable which depend on others factors. Totally, ninety (90) questionnaires were asked the participants to investigate the role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies in building sustainable livelihood of rural women. The level of predictive variables that stated regressed variable has shown under table.

Table 4.12: Model Summary

Model Summary ^b										
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics					Durbin-Watson
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change	
1	.848a	.720	.716	4.41634	.720	179.955	5	350	.000	1.368

a. Predictors: (Constant), INFLUTRP, SHOSTR, PROWOM, PARTWOM, RCOOP
 b. Dependent Variable: SLHD

Source: Computed from own Research Survey n=356

The result of regression analysis in table 4.23, has shown that the predictive variables (independent variables) such as influence of transforming structure, policies and process of cooperatives, the role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies or livelihood activities, Participation status of women in cooperatives, shocks and stress affects livelihood activities of rural women and problem facing women in cooperatives are jointly determine the dependent variable sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of rural women. The adjusted R-Square ($R^2 = 0.716$) shows the explanatory power of all variables involved in the study. Hence influence of transforming structure, policies and process of cooperatives, role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies or livelihood activities, Participation status of women in cooperatives, shocks and stress affects livelihood activities of rural women and problem facing women in cooperatives are jointly explained 71.6% of the variance in sustainable livelihood of women whereas 28.4% of the sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of rural women was explained by the variables which were not included in the study. All result of descriptive analysis, correlation results and multiple regression analysis results are annexed under herewith end of dissertation paper pages.

4.9.4. Hypothesis Testing

The study’s hypothesis testing was made based on β , t, and P values. Hence using those coefficient results, the proposed hypotheses for this study were tested as follows. The findings of this research supported the earlier works on this subject matter. The hypothesis was to check for a significant relationship between independents variables and dependent variable (Sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of women). At the beginning of the chapter one, four number of hypothesis testing were assumed as it’s significant to the livelihood outcomes (sustainable livelihood) of rural women. To ensure its positive or negative impact of independents variables and its significant to sustainable livelihood of rural women were clearly hypothesized.

Hypothesis 1: Shocks and stress has negative and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood of rural women. The results of multiple regressions, as presented in Table 4.22 above, revealed that shocks and stress has a negative and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood with ($\beta = -0.096$, $t = -3.294$ & $p = 0.001$). Thus, the proposed hypothesis was accepted. This statistics infer that if shocks and stress of women in cooperative increased by one 1% when others factors remains constant, then the sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of women would be decreased by 9.6%.

Hypothesis 2: The role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies has positive impact and significant in building sustainable livelihood of rural women. The results of multiple regressions, as presented in Table 4.22 above, revealed that the role of primary agricultural cooperative societies has positive and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood outcomes of women with values ($\beta=0.082$, $t=2.630$ and $p = 0.009$). Thus, the proposed hypothesis was accepted. Here also the beta coefficient implies that if role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperative societies increased by 1%, by keeping the other variables constant, the sustainable livelihood outcomes of women would increase by 8.2%. Therefore, role of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives had positive and significant impacts in building sustainable livelihood outcomes of women.

Hypothesis 3: Influence of transforming structures, process, and policies of cooperatives societies has positive and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood of rural women. The results of multiple regressions, as presented in Table 4.22, above, revealed that influence of transforming structure, process and policies has a positive and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood outcomes of women with values ($\beta = 0.0809$, $t=28.388$, $p = 0.000$). The results clearly indicated that the proposed hypothesis is accepted because null hypothesis has gone rejected due to it is statistically significant. This implies that assuming other variables constant, a 1 % change in transforming structure, process and policies of cooperatives, by 80.9% increase in building sustainable livelihood outcomes of rural women.

Hypothesis 4: Problem facing rural women in cooperatives has negative and significant impacts in building sustainable livelihood of rural women. The results of multiple regressions, as presented in Table 4.22, above, revealed that problem of primary cooperative societies members has a positive and significant impacts in building sustainable with values ($\beta =-0.139$, $t =-4.889$, $p =0.000$). Thus, proposed hypothesis was accepted. In this case the beta coefficient describe that keeping the other variables constant, in this model as positively 1% change in the problem facing of women in cooperatives, the consequence would be decrease the sustainable livelihood outcomes of women by 13.9%, in others as the problem facing women in cooperatives at least managed by 1%, the sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes of the women can be increased by 13.9% .

Table 4.13: Summary of Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis	Tool	Outcome	Correlation status
H1: Shocks and stress has negative and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood of rural women	Multiple Regression	Accepted	Correlated
H2: Role of agricultural cooperatives has positive and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood of rural women	Multiple Regression	Accepted	Correlated
H3: Transforming structures, process, and policies of cooperatives societies has positive and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood of rural women.	Multiple Regression	Accepted	Correlated
H 4: Problem of Cooperatives society’s members has negative and significant impact in building sustainable livelihood of rural women	Multiple Regression	Accepted	Correlated

Source: Computed from Own research Survey, 2023

n=356

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion

Primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies has a great contribution in socio economic development by rendering different service such as farming inputs, credit service, herbicides and pesticides, training service, variety seeds, modern technology and education access to members which promoted their production capacity, food security, economic growth and their well-being. The study shows that primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives is crucial point in building sustainable livelihood of women by solved different constraints that would have been came to the agricultural activities of the members.

The study revealed that the members of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives societies about 61.5% of rural women obtained income which was less than EBT 20,000 and followed by 27% of rural women were obtained income which was intermediate between EBT 20,000 to 50,000. In others, members of primary multipurpose agricultural cooperatives about 11% and 0.6% of participants has attained income from birr 50,000 to 100,000 and above birr 100,000 respectively. This implies that the cooperatives could not satisfy its members with comparison of recent economic value due to the purchasing power of the societies adversely affected with highly inflation price of agricultural inputs and other relevant involvements.

The production capacity of women in cooperatives has increased after joining cooperatives for instance, production of cereals crops of the products has increased by 62.17% growth rate when evaluated with before joining cooperatives, the production capacity of pulses or oilseeds augmented by 59.63% growth rate as evaluated along with before joining cooperatives, production trend of cash crops and vegetables and fruits improved by 64.85% and 75.11% as gaged along with before joining cooperatives respectively. The study also depicted that the majority of respondents are illiteracy that they can't read and write which has driven from poor training services, poor creation of awareness and education access of cooperatives to their members.

The main problem facing of women in cooperatives were lack of access of agricultural input supply, credit service, varieties seeds, pesticides and herbicides from their cooperatives as they wanted for demand to their farm size upon a time. In others, overrun price of agricultural inputs were the main issue that exploited livelihood outcomes of women in cooperatives and pushed the members to engage in daily livelihood activities without accessing those agricultural inputs that promoted the yield of production.

Influence of transforming structure, policies and process of cooperative is crucial significant impact in increasing the capacity of the cooperative members to sustain sustainable livelihood and assets pentagon. Accordingly, 57.9% and 11.5% of respondents reacted strongly agree and agree as severely implement of proper policies, legislation, institutions, culture and power relation in their cooperatives and all activities of cooperatives measured and evaluated by directives of their organization while 17.7% of respondents replied neutral about proper implement of policies, legislation, institutions, culture and power relation in their cooperatives. About 9.8% and 3.1% of respondents answered strongly disagree and disagree about the proper implementation of policies, legislation, institutions, culture and power relation of their cooperatives. Hence, develop good culture in organization can increasing the extent of participation and motivation of rural women in activities of cooperatives, in contrary existence of bad culture regularized in cooperative societies has gone to violate all principles of cooperatives. Regarding area of transforming structure and process, about 67.7% of respondents replied more emphasis of transforming structure and process strictly consideration of bringing change in economic activities of the cooperatives by the laws of cooperatives to more improve the movement of activities through societies whereas 21.1% and 11.2% of respondents answered that the main focus area of transforming structures and process was to the extent of change in income and purchasing power of members of cooperatives separately. Overall, the main focus of transforming structure and process were indented to change in economic activities, income and purchasing power of members of cooperatives to more drive of socio-economic development in societies.

By taking the strength of their relationship, the finding further indicates that influence of transforming structure, policies and process of cooperatives has highest correlation with sustainable livelihood or livelihood outcomes, followed by the role of primary agricultural cooperative societies and participation of women in cooperative societies respectively. The negative correlation was observed between shocks and stress and problem facing women in participation of cooperative societies against with impacts in building sustainable livelihood of women. Thus, as the trend of shocks and stress and problem of women in cooperatives increased with equivalent amount the sustainable livelihood outcomes of the rural women can be decreased. Therefore, warming attention must be given to reduce the shocks and stress and problem of women in cooperatives to improve sustainable livelihood of members.

5.2. Recommendations

The major findings has founded during the research study is the best attention of researcher to recommend for improving in the future by the concerned bodies and it can be used as inputs for others researcher to fulfilling the gapes that stated upon recommendation. Therefore, based on the findings, the following recommendations are forwarded:

- The study has depicted that political instability and social conflict, and high cost of production was a serious problem that adversely affected the participation level of women in cooperatives from external problem, it is more believable that political stability plays a crucial role in socio economic development and boosting living standard of societies but in contrary instability of politics is reasonable for unexpected financial loss, migration to others and loss or damage of assets where were not properly managed. Thus, for enhancing livelihood activities of cooperatives, primarily political instability shall be solved and promote social interaction among community.
- The role of cooperatives had in increasing the access of resource, as result, cooperative had provided service to their members such as agricultural inputs (variety seeds, herbicides, pest insect, irrigation materials), fertilizers, and credit service is a great. The great problem was the cooperatives do not delivered such modality service upon the time and they delivered after the majority of agricultural activities taken without agricultural inputs. Therefore, proactively standby of the cooperatives to delivery core modality service is very important to build sustainable livelihood of women in their cooperatives by capacitate their production level in their livelihood activities.
- The study has implied that an inadequate capital is the serious problem including inability to provide credit service,

inability to hire full time staffs, limitations to increase the cooperatives with necessary facilities and to provide better training service so as to capacitate both the members and administrative staff. The main problem for inadequate capital was lack of accessing of farming inputs with time, poor credit service, political instability through the region and poor business movement of cooperatives. Therefore, timely accessing of agricultural inputs, credit service and political stability has positive implication to the improvement of capital of cooperatives' members. Thus, the cooperatives have to ready every time to delivery ingredient of agricultural inputs and credit services upon time and creation of awareness to women in actively participate in livelihood activities

- The study implies that income contribution of cooperatives to their members is not satisfied their members with comparison of recent economic value due to the purchasing power of the women has adversely affected with highly inflation price of agricultural inputs and other relevant involvements. The shortage of income contribution of cooperatives to their members might drive from the price inflation of materials and poor diversification of business mechanisms, thus, the cooperatives have to develop best strategies which can boost income of members like purchase of agricultural inputs as harvesting time and store in ware house while waiting for price increment of outputs and delivering effectively training service in ways of members promote their saving habits
- In the study, poor implementation of transforming structures, policies and process of cooperative had been observed due to the main constraints such as weakness of increasing building capacity of the members, poor oversight of policies and directives by executive management and Board of Directors cooperative, ignoring with regularly discussing with members, poor communication of channels (formal and informal) means scrunched communication from top to bottom operating units. For proper implementation of the transforming structure and process of primary cooperatives, qualification and experience of senior management, ability of monitoring and control of intermediate organ, increasing awareness of members and accessibility of education opportunities to the members, improving communication among all business units of the cooperative has to prioritized and necessary performance measurement should be taken within a time to bearing transformational change in cooperatives.
- The principles of cooperatives is provision of education, training and information for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives but the study shows that the majority of participants could not read and write due to less provision of education to the members. Education accessibility is strength the members to effectively participate in their cooperatives and has positive impact on income growth of the cooperatives, therefore the cooperatives should focused on delivering education service with formal and informal to improve the human capital of rural women in cooperatives.

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