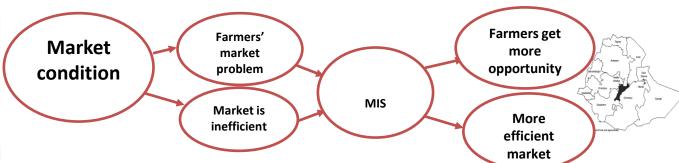
## Mobile Phones are Just More than Phones in the Hands of Farmers

Tekalign Gutu, Yitayal Abebe, Merga Muleta, Belay Deressa, Kiyoshi Shiratori, Dawit Alemu



Introduction: Why intervention was important?



# 3 Methodology

- L. Group formation
- 2. Training
- 3. Developed group by laws
- 4. Set mechanism of info. disseminations
- 5. M and E

# 2 Objectives

To establish a mobile phone based market information system which is managed by small scale farmers. To identify the impact of farmers' access to market information on their production and marketing strategy.

### Impact of the access to on-time market info



changed
Farmers have increased their

**Decision pattern** 

Marketing costs has been reduced

income

- Power and involvement of middle men reduced
  - New and short market channel
  - Farmers started pooling the commodity and selling in group

### 5 Changes in marketing strategy

#### Before intervention

- Decision is based on the recalled information
- source of information are few or limited

#### After intervention

- Marketing decisions are based on up-dateinformation
- Information of more market places is used for decision making

Conclusions: Mobile phones can be an important low cost intervention in areas with limited infrastructure in terms of communication