

Agroecology as a choice of farming practice for women household members and restoration potentials; a case of Lake Chamo catchment, Southern Ethiopia

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Photo by Shibire Bekele, 2022, Geresse, Ethiopia

Introduction

- Homestead Agroforestry system (HAFs) is one of the agroecology practice known in southern Ethiopia.
- The practice integrates Trees, crops and vegetables in different stratum.



Photo: Shibire Bekele, 2023, Geresse, Ethiopia

- The practice of agroecology is the most preferred land use practice by women due to
 - Their full engagement in the management
 - Direct cash earning

Objective: explore how agroecology based HAFs provide financial equity for women and contribute to Forest landscape restoration

Methodology

- The study is conducted in Lake Chamo catchment, southern Ethiopia, in August 2022
- Quantitative data (228 smallholder farmers questionnaire)
- Qualitative data through Focus Group Discussion (FGD) (total of 32 participants (8 per FGD))

Results

- Cash earning from HAFs products are shared based on gender.

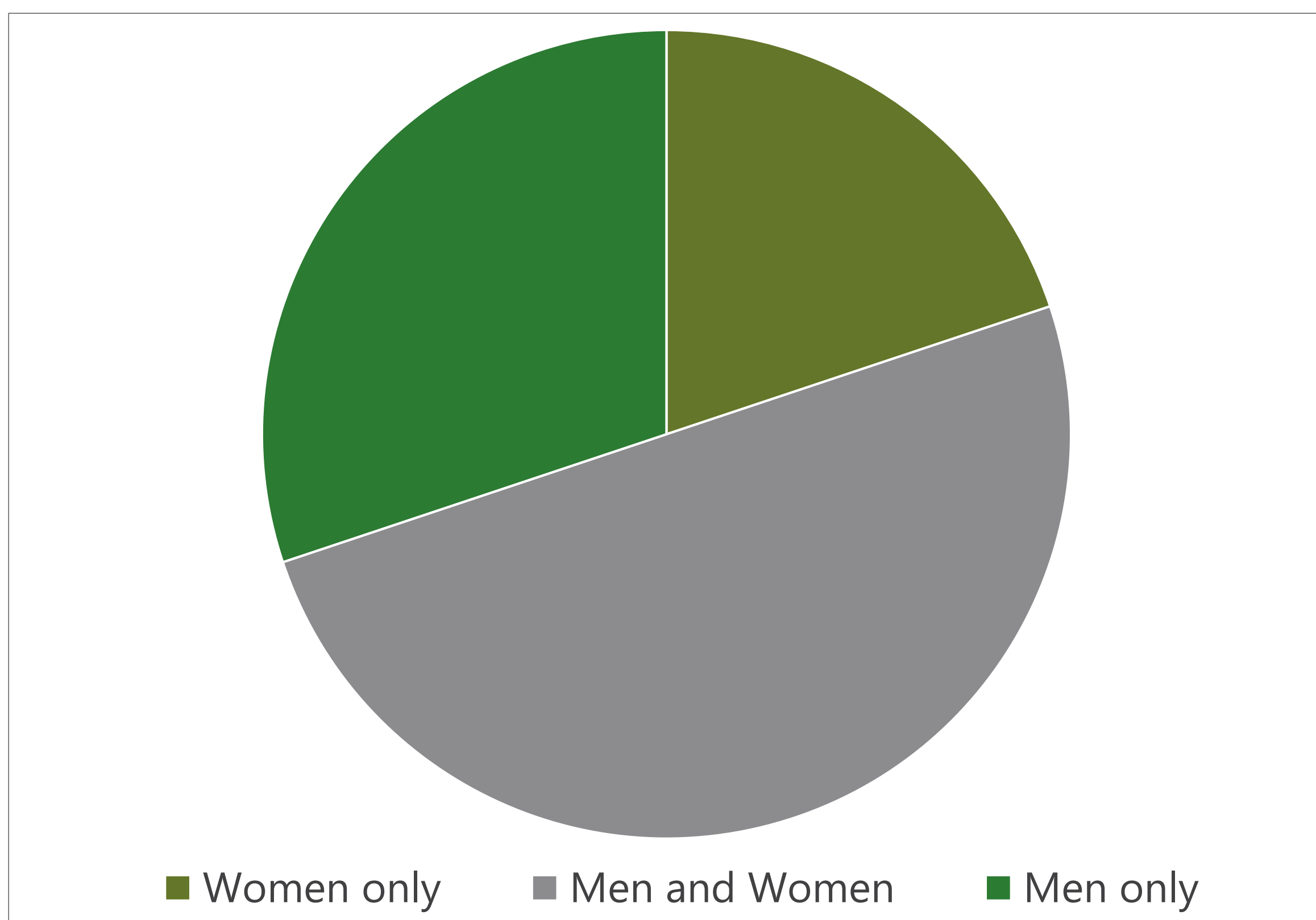


Figure : Authorization of selling HAFs products by gender, n=193

- From interviewed households, 193 of them own HAFs,
- Priority to sell products is culturally determined for women
- Women have almost the same amount of products that they are entitled to sell as men when it comes to HAFs products

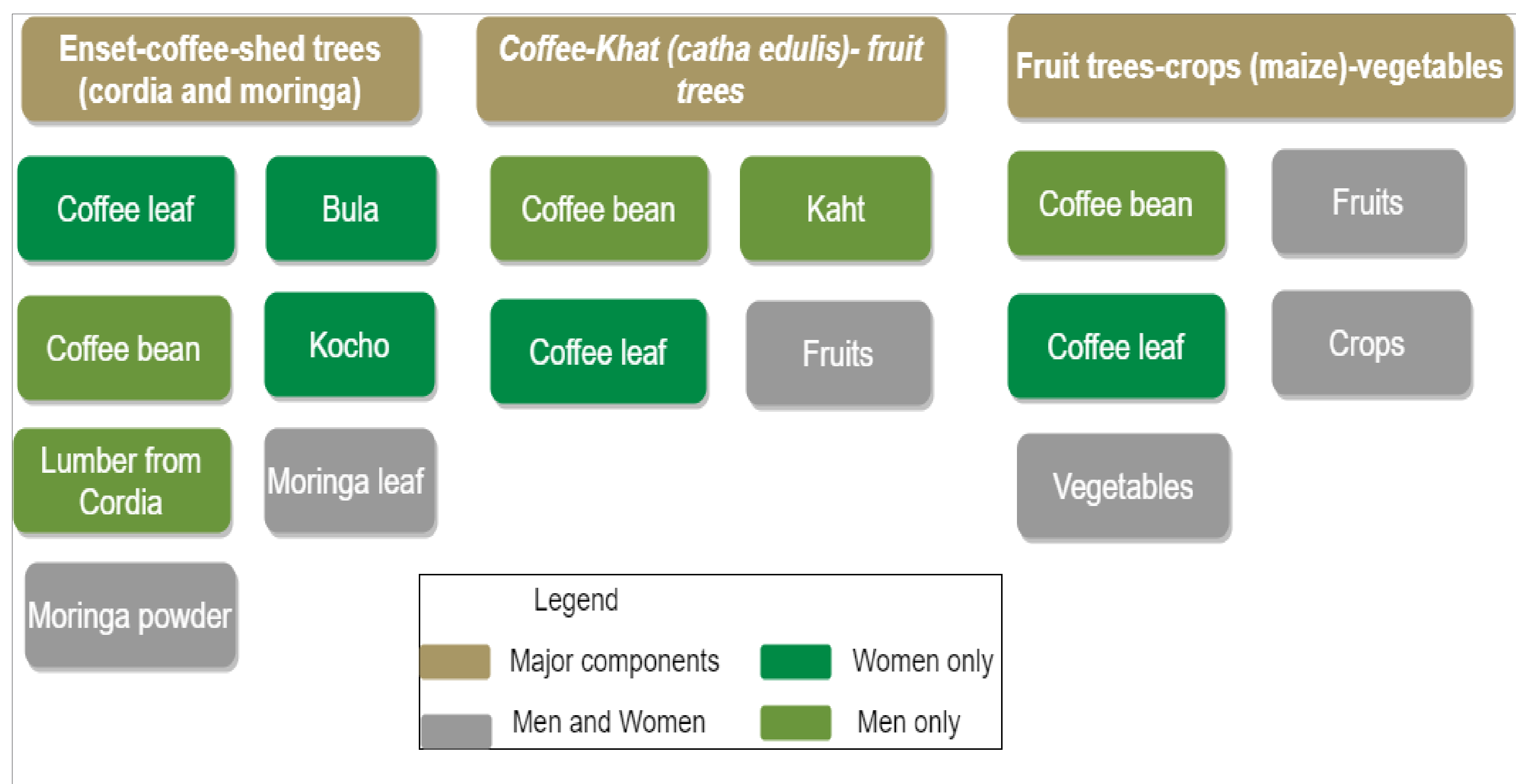


Figure : Products of HAFs and selling authorization by gender



Figure : Woman preparing kocho (on enset leaf) and bula (in the bucket) (left) and men producing lumber from cordia (right)

Photo by Shiire Bekele, 2023, Geresse Ethiopia

Conclusion and outlook

- Agroecology practice can potentially solve income inequality between women and men farmers
- This is not common for other products from cropland and plantation in the study area.
- Furthermore, it solves the trade-off between Forest landscape restoration using monocrop plantation and securing household food security.