

## Integrated Seed Sector Development Project in Ethiopia ISSD Oromia South and West Program Unit

Lume Adama Farmers Cooperative Union conference hall, Modjo, August 16, 2019, Oromia; (ISSD-OSW) August 21, 2019 Finfine, Ethiopia):

Oromia South West ISSD Program Unit conducted one day training on August 16/2019 for the committee members of CIGs that has evolved to SPCs. In training event, management committee of SPCs, cooperative Development Agents (DAs) from different kebeles, Lume woreda BoA and CPA ISSD focal persons participated. A total of 29 trainees were involved in the training. The theme of the training were on functions of farmers organization and leadership, on quality seed production techniques and quality control mechanism, seed marketing and the role of gender in local seed business. Lume is one the six woredas where ISSD-OSW started to implement informal seed system through crowd sourcing and PVS approach in 2017. The four SPCs are those crowd sourcing farmer groups who transferred to formal SPC in 2019.

The unit program manager Obbo Abdo Woyema welcomed the participants and high lightens the experience ISSD have in supporting SPCs in Oromia. He emphasized that ISSD seriously supporting those SPCs who committed themselves for change in the seed sector. Obbo Tadesse Teshome, FO expert of the unit, emphasized in his training the role of leadership in farmer organization management and the linkage to be created horizontally with each other and vertically with unions. Obbo Zerihun Abebe, seed expert of the unit has delivered the training focusing on the techniques and procedures in quality seed production and in quality control mechanism. In addition Obbo MiressaTuli GRD expert focus on the role of gender in local seed business during the delivery of the training. Group works on drafting action plan of activities for each SPC and presentation have been under taken during the training to re-enforce the skill of the trainees on the seed business.



In the closing remark AtoTuri Waltaji, head of lume woreda cooperative promotion office, revealed that they are highly committed to support the newly established SPCs as they become source of seed for farmers in remote and inaccessible areas. He added that this opportunity reduce complaints of farmers from remote kebeles in accessing seed. He also appreciated the growth of SPCs in number from 8 to 12 in Lume woreda. Furthermore, he requested all the participants to work closely to strengthen the cooperatives and solve the difficulties of planting materials for the farmers in their area to easily access and get seed at their vicinity. Finally he extended his sincere gratitude to the project team and all the participants and wished safe journey home.

The vision of the ISSD programme in Ethiopia is to strengthen the development of a vibrant, market-oriented and pluralistic seed sector in the country, where quality seed of superior varieties is available and affordable for a larger number of farmers, thereby contributing to food security and economic development in Ethiopia.

For more information [www.issdethiopia.org](http://www.issdethiopia.org)