

Impact Evaluation of Land Rental Research Project 2024, Baseline Survey

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report_generated_on: May 11, 2026

visit_data_catalog_at: <https://catalog.ihsn.org/>

Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER

ETH_2024_LRRPIE-BL_v01_M

TITLE

Impact Evaluation of Land Rental Research Project 2024, Baseline Survey

ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM

LRRPIE-BL 2024

COUNTRY

Name	Country code
Ethiopia	ETH

STUDY TYPE

Other Household Survey [hh/oth]

SERIES INFORMATION

This study evaluates the impact of light-touch interventions delivered through Land Rental Service Providers (LRSPs) on formal land rental market participation and household welfare in rural Ethiopia. To this end, a baseline survey was carried out between January and February, 2024 to serve as benchmark for impact evaluation (IE) of this intervention.

ABSTRACT

Rural land markets in Ethiopia remain constrained by high transaction costs and information asymmetries, limiting the ability of households — particularly women — to participate in formal land rental markets and improve their welfare. This study evaluates the impact of light-touch interventions delivered through Land Rental Service Providers (LRSPs) on formal land rental market participation and household welfare in rural Ethiopia.

The World Bank Africa Gender Innovation Lab and its partners are conducting a rigorous impact evaluation of key interventions under the Climate Action through Landscape Management (CALM) project and the Rural Land and Livelihood Project (RLLP) trust fund, implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture's Rural Land Administration and Use Directorate (LAUD). The intervention deploys LRSPs in eleven woredas across the Sidama, Central Ethiopia, and South Ethiopia regions to provide market information including awareness creation and land availability/price data and facilitate formal land rental transactions between land lords and tenants (Treatment arm — T). A control group receives no intervention. The study uses a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) design at the kebele (cluster) level, with vouchers distributed to eligible households in treatment kebeles.

These data represent the first round of data collection (baseline) for the impact evaluation. The sample comprises 6,278 households living across eleven woredas in the Sidama, Central Ethiopia, and South Ethiopia regions.

The information gathered from the survey may aid decision makers in the formulation of economic and social policies to:

- Increase participation in land rental markets, particularly among women-headed households and smallholder farmers.
- Reduce transaction costs and information barriers in rural land markets.
- Improve household welfare, food security, and women's economic empowerment through better land access and use.

The survey can be an important source of information for planners on how to improve land governance and rural livelihoods, in particular for women and smallholder farmers. The Ministry of Agriculture's Rural Land Administration and Use Directorate (LAUD) and other public organizations working on land governance and rural development in Ethiopia would benefit from the data of this survey. District Authorities, Research Institutions, Non-Governmental Organizations, and the general public will also benefit from the survey data.

KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Households

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION

Version 01: Edited, anonymous dataset for public distribution

Scope

NOTES

The study covers the following topics:

- Household Roster
- Education
- Time Use [Ask for all HH members of Age >=15]
- Household Characteristics
- Household Assets
- Savings and Debt
- Loans and gifts to/from other households, Remittances (Formal and informal financial institution loans not be counted)
- Household Expenditure and Consumption
- Food Security
- Legal awareness on ownership and rental rights
- Crop Production
- Sustainable Land Management Practices (SLMP)
- Livestock
- Social Trust and Altruism
- Perceived Stress Scale
- Aspirations
- Gender Attitudes in the household
- Non-Farm Enterprise (NFE)
- Livelihoods Diversification & Connection to Value Chains (LDCVC)

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Eleven woredas across three regions of Ethiopia: Sidama, Central Ethiopia, and South Ethiopia

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
Girum Abebe Tefera	The World Bank
Adiam Hagos Hailemicheal	The World Bank
Niklas Buehren	The World Bank
Lorenzo Casaburi	University of Zurich

OTHER IDENTIFICATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Name
Africa Gender Innovation Lab
Ministry of Agriculture — Rural Land Administration and Use Directorate (LAUD)
CALM (Climate Action through Landscape Management) Project
RLLP (Rural Land and Livelihood Project) Trust Fund

Sampling

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

A total target sample of 6,278 households was selected across the CALM woredas, each comprising an average of 21 kebeles. An average of 27 households per kebele was selected to the sample. Prior to sampling, a comprehensive listing of households in each kebele was done to elicit interest in formal land rental market participation and identify eligible households to make up the sampling frame. The listing exercise was based on administrative data containing the list of all rural residents who have second level land certification (SLLC) for their parcels and information on the number of parcels they own. Accordingly, a total of 14545 parcel owners were listed in 3 regions, 11 woredas and 235 kebeles.

Depending on the size of the sampling frame and the study's requirements, households were either randomly selected from the list or all households on the list were surveyed. The resulting pool constitutes the study sample to whom the baseline survey was administered.

Data collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End	Cycle
2024-01	2024-02	Baseline

DATA COLLECTION MODE

Computer Assisted Personal Interview [capi]

DATA COLLECTION NOTES

The main mode of data collection was the use of a structured questionnaire. The respondent was provided with coded answers from which to choose. This questionnaire was administered by enumerators who visited the homes of the participating households at a time convenient for the respondents.

DATA COLLECTORS

Name	Abbreviation
Frontieri Consult PLC	FCP

questionnaires

QUESTIONNAIRES

The data consists of responses from households to questions pertaining to:

- Household Roster (Section B): This section collects basic demographic information for all individuals living in the household, defined as those who eat together and have slept in the dwelling for at least four nights a week. It captures names, relationships to the head of household, sex, age, marital status, and their primary productive activities over the last 12 months.
- Education (Section C): This part of the survey is directed at household members aged 5 and older. It assesses literacy, school attendance history, the highest grade level completed, and current enrollment status.
- Time Use (Section J): Administered to household members aged 15 and older, this section tracks the time spent on primary and secondary productive activities, including months per year, days per month, and hours per day, along with the associated income. It also records the hours spent in the last seven days on various other activities such as domestic chores, fetching water and firewood, childcare, religious activities, leisure, and tending to livestock.
- Household Characteristics (Section D): This section gathers data on the physical dwelling, including the duration of residence, ownership status, rent paid (if applicable), number of rooms, and construction materials for the walls, roof, and floor. It also covers access to basic utilities like drinking water, light, and electricity.
- Household Assets (Section E): This part of the survey inventories the household's land holdings and use rights, the potential of their agricultural land, and their history with renting or sharecropping. It also includes a detailed list of consumer durables (such as furniture, appliances, and electronics) and productive agricultural assets (like tools, plows, and pumps), recording the quantities and market values of these items.
- Savings and Debt (Section F): This section explores the household's financial situation, including bank accounts, informal savings mechanisms (like Ekub or Iddir), total savings amounts, loan history, and the household's perceived ability to borrow

money for emergencies or business purposes.

- Loans and gifts to/from other households, Remittances (Section G): This section focuses on the household's social and financial networks. It tracks significant transfers of money or goods received from or sent to other households, the nature of those relationships, the wealth of the connected individuals, and whether the transfers were loans or gifts.
- Household Expenditure and Consumption (Section H): This part of the survey records household spending over the last 30 days on items like food, utilities, health, and transport, as well as spending over the last 12 months on education, clothing, and home maintenance. It also estimates the value of home-produced food and food received as gifts.
- Food Security (Section I): This section assesses the quality and diversity of the household's diet and uses a scale to measure coping strategies employed during food shortages, such as skipping meals or limiting portion sizes. It also identifies major shocks that affected the household in the last year, including deaths, disasters, and significant price changes.
- Legal awareness on ownership and rental rights (Section K): This section tests the respondent's knowledge of land laws, including maximum lease durations, registration requirements, inheritance rights, and women's rights during a divorce. It also asks about their awareness of government formalization programs and their experience with land disputes.
- Crop Production (Section L): This is a comprehensive section that details the number and size of land parcels owned, rented in, or rented out by the household. It covers land use types (such as fallow, forest, and pasture), the types of crops cultivated, harvesting outcomes, causes of crop damage, and the use of agricultural inputs like fertilizer, seeds, and irrigation.
- Sustainable Land Management Practices (SLMP) (Section M): This section inquires about investments in land protection, such as constructing or repairing soil conservation structures (like terraces and bunds), planting trees, using manure or compost, and practicing crop rotation or pest control.
- Livestock (Section N): This part of the survey inventories the types and quantities of animals owned by the household (such as cattle, goats, and poultry), their market value, revenue from sales, consumption of animal products, and expenses related to animal feed, medicine, and labor.
- Social Trust and Altruism (Section O): This section uses a Likert scale to measure the respondent's level of trust in their neighbors, the community, and local government and land administration offices.
- Perceived Stress Scale (Section P): This section measures the respondent's psychological stress over the last 30 days, focusing on their perceived ability to control important life events and manage personal problems.
- Aspirations (Section Q): This part of the survey collects data on the respondent's financial outlook, including their perception of the maximum and average income levels in their Kebele (the smallest administrative unit in Ethiopia) and the income levels they hope to achieve personally in the future.
- Gender Attitudes in the household (Section R): This section examines opinions on gender roles, such as decision-making, domestic work, and education. It also identifies who in the household has the primary say over assets, family planning, and household spending.
- Non-Farm Enterprise (NFE) (Section S): This section tracks any non-agricultural businesses owned by the household. It covers the type of activity, its operational status, location, start-up capital, number of employees, operating costs, and monthly profits.
- Livelihoods Diversification & Connection to Value Chains (LDCVC) (Section T): This final section evaluates the household's participation in LDCVC programs, the type of support received (whether financial, advisory, or in-kind), how any resulting income is spent, and the perceived benefits to the household and the community.

The household questionnaire was administered to the head of the household or to an authorized person capable of answering questions about the household and members of the household. The questionnaire was written in English and translated into Amharic. It was programmed on tablets both in in English and Amharic using the CAPI program.

data_processing

METHODOLOGY NOTES

Data was anonymized through decoding and local suppression.

Access policy

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Tefera, Girum A., Hailemicheal, Adiam H., Buehren, N., Casaburi, L. (2024). Impact Evaluation of Land Rental Research Project 2024, Baseline Survey [Data set].

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DISCLAIMER

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Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_ETH_2024_LRRPIE-BL_v01_M

PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Development Data Group	DECDG	World Bank Group	Documentation of the survey

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 01 (April 2026)

data_dictionary

Data file	Cases	variables
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study_resources