Gender aspects of *Prosopis juliflora* spread perceptions, impacts and coping strategies



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Regional Conference on Managing *Prosopis Juliflora* for better (agro-)pastoral Livelihoods in the horn of Africa 01st and 02nd of April

Outline



2

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Key Findings
 - a. Perceptions
 - b. Impacts
 - c. Coping Strategies
- 3. Conclusions
- 4. Recommendations

Introduction



- Gender relations influence the use and management of the environment
- Women play an important role as social actors
- Strict gender roles in a pastoralist society
 - Work tasks and work load
 - Power relations
 - Decision making
 - Access to resources
- Focus of the case study → Gender sensitive perceptions, impacts and coping strategies

Study site



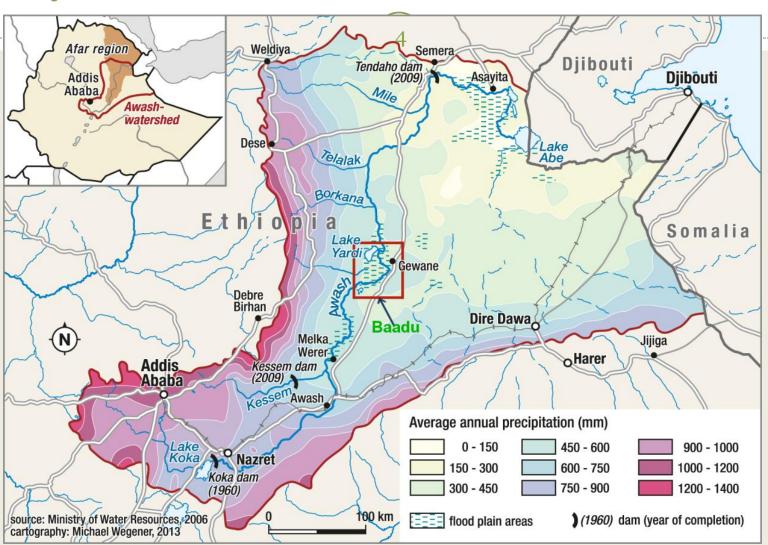


Figure 1: Location of Baadu case study site (AYANUW ET AL.)

Key Findings – Perceptions





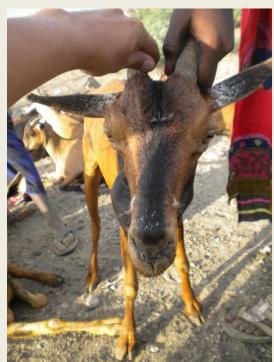
- Curse of Allah
- P. juliflora responsible for decreasing herd sizes
- Problem ranking differs between men, women, and areas
- "Tiredness" of talking about P. juliflora invasion
- "The black gold"
- Perceived as threat to livestock and food security

Key Findings – Impacts





- "Woyane Hara doesn't discriminate!"
- Decreasing dry season grazing areas → less livestock → food insecurity
- Men focus on livestock,
 women include dimension of household needs
- Mobility patterns are influenced
- Pastoralists particular vulnerable



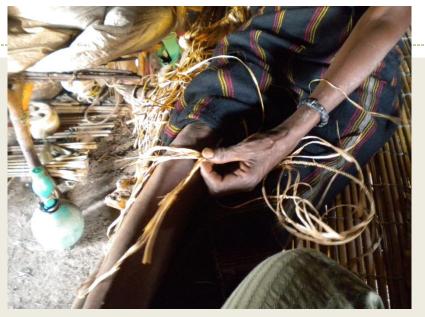
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Conclusions



9

- Men and women perceive invasion mainly in the same way
- "Woyane Hara doesn't discriminate." (local perception) →
 from a research perspective impact on women and men differs
- Distinction needs to be made between rural and more urban areas
- Coping strategies \rightarrow threat *and* potential for women \rightarrow increased vulnerability vs. changing power relations
- Women cannot be seen as one homogeneous group

Recommendations





- Administrative responsibilities need to be clarified →
 women representatives need to be included
- Learn from experiences of others → e.g. Rohi Wadu
- Land use plan → identify sites that can be used for clearing
- Focus on pastoralists → pastoralist women especially vulnerable

