



GENDER EQUALITY, YOUTH & SOCIAL INCLUSION

Gender responsive community conversations to transform animal health management

Community conversation at Yabello, Oromia region of Ethiopia, discussing animal health issues, photo Mamusha\ILRI.

Context

- Animal health management requires collective community engagement and action
- Restrictive gender norms and practices constrain women's engagement and empowerment
- Addressing underlying gender norms requires community dialogues to change attitudes and behaviour
- Facilitated community conversations increase men and women's engagement through creating community awareness leading to actions

Our innovative approach

- Experiential, collaborative learning and action process
- Strong reflective, social learning and influencing process
- Builds on community assets and strengths
- Uses context specific, interactive learning tools and processes

- Animal health management requires collective engagement of women and men community members
- Transforming restrictive gender relations is possible through community dialogues that lead to changes in community awareness and behaviour change



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Outcomes

- Increased community awareness and knowledge leading to community actions
- Stronger voice of women in community discussions
- Changes in intrahousehold relations and decision-making around animal health
- Increased access of information and influence by women community members
- Improved collaboration and connection among community members and local service providers

Future steps

- Monitor and document changes
- Strengthen learning facilitation and scaling capacity of partners through implementation support
- Incorporate community conversations into the extension system
- Extend scope of community conversations to other livestock relevant topics

Partners

Regional agricultural research centers
Zonal and district development partners



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