

# **ABSTRACT**

## **Vulnerability of Female-Headed Households in Achieving Household Food Security in Amhara Region: The Case of Libokemkem Woreda**

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The main intent of this research was to assess the major socio-cultural, political, and economic factors that make female-headed households more vulnerable to household food insecurity than jointly managed households; particularly Vulnerability of female-headed households in achieving household food security in Amhara Region: The Case of Libokemkem Woreda. In this regard, twenty female-headed households, twenty jointly managed (Husband and wife) households, and twenty head of workers and experts of the study Woreda, and sixteen interviewers totally seventy six respondents participated in the study. Data were gathered through observations, questionnaire and interviews. The finding revealed that there was a difference in the educational status and land appropriation between female-headed households and jointly managed households. Besides, it was found that the majority of female-headed households in the study areas did not have access to social capital such as relatives, friends, Iqub, or association that supports them during difficulties. Female-headed household were also found to be more vulnerable to household's food insecurity than jointly managed households. The participation of female-headed households in political, economical and social activities was low. From the obtained results, it was concluded that female-headed households have limited access to land, skilled labor force for farming, education, credit services, absence of best seeds, absence of fertilizers, poor soil fertility and these were the major factors that led female-headed households to household food insecurity. Based on the major findings of the study, recommendations such as provision of educational opportunity and loan that will help women to alleviate food insecurity problems were forwarded.