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**ASSESSMENT OF CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF VALUE ADDITION IN SIDAMA COFFEE VALUE CHAIN: THE CASE OF DALE DISTRICT, SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Coffee has a great social, cultural and livelihoods importance for the majority of Ethiopian population and to the national economy as well. This paper focuses on assessment of challenges and opportunities of value addition in sidama coffee value chain. Key Informant Interview (KII), Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and surveys were conduct to collect qualitative and quantitative data from key stakeholders in the coffee value chain. Qualitative data analysis methods and statistical analytic techniques were used to analyze the data. The survey result identified land, disease and climate change as the three major constraints for coffee value addition. In contrary, the three major opportunities identified were demand for coffee, extension services & government policy. These results were further complemented by findings of the FGD and KII which identified dependence on rain-fed agriculture, disease, and lack of expert in the coffee sector as the major constraints and availability of trainings, increase in the price of coffee, the availability of Awada research center as opportunities. Disease was identified as the major constraint in the process of value addition, which calls the focus of research centers on releasing new varieties and tackle the problem. In addition, the dissemination of modern input technologies should be focused to increase productivity. Effort should also be made to strengthen farmers' cooperative and encourage collective action of farmers to lower transaction costs to access inputs.*

**KEYWORDS**

coffee, value chain, value addition, sidama.

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

Coffee is the most important agricultural commodity in Ethiopia, both economically and socially. It is one of the most important export crops. (EEA, 2000). It is grown in many parts of Ethiopian. However, the major producing areas are Sidama, Kefa, Wallaga, Iluabbabora, and Hararghe which taken together account for more than 85 percent of national production. According to Mekonen (2009) the total area under coffee production is 0.6 million hectares; and more than 90% of the total production comes from small-scale subsistent farmers who have neither the capacity nor the access to use agricultural inputs. Coffee has a great social, cultural and livelihoods importance for the majority of Ethiopian population and to the national economy as well. Ethiopians drink nearly 50% of the coffee they produce, and it is tied to complex and strong socio-cultural settings. The country produces more than 30% of the total coffee production in Sub-Saharan Africa. Besides its cultural importance, coffee has been a significant source of export earning to the country. In the year 2012/13 it had 24.2% share in the total export revenue the country generated (NBE, 2014). About 25 % of the total population is dependent on production, processing, distribution and export of coffee (Mekonen, 2009). It also accounts for more than 25 % of GDP, about 40 % of the total export earnings, absorbs around 25% of employment opportunity for both rural and urban dwellers and 10% of the total government revenue (MOA 2008 as cited on Dessalegn, 2009). Coffee, being a leading cash crop in Ethiopia, has a high potential of enhancing the purchasing power of the small holding farmers.

In the country most of the produce is coming from smallholder producers however, they are not gaining much from value addition. Coffee value chain can be seen through three sectors each with different economic and competitive dynamics that are relevant for African policy makers. The first sector is green coffee production i.e. raw coffee beans are the seeds of the coffee cherry and with a varieties of Arabica or Robusta. The second sector is instant coffee production, it is capital intensive activity to manufacture powder or granules and the resulting high levels of minimum efficient scale and the high levels of investment marketing and branding of incumbent. The last one is roast and ground coffee production. In 2009 this sector is much larger than the instant coffee market at \$26 bn of value added (ACET, 2011).

Key opportunities to capture value for African countries are: increase the value of green coffee, increasing volume, exploiting high value niche markets and creation of a "coffee hub". Opportunities in processing are production of instant coffee, toll processing of roast and ground coffee, domestic demand creation and promoting coffee origins (ACET, 2011).

In regard to value addition certification and traceability have become major new requirements in the global food trade (Swinnen, 2007), with such certification schemes often implemented to add value to a product (Jena et al., 2012). By guaranteeing the product origin, fair prices to producers, ethical standards of production and processing, environmental sustainability in production, and safety and quality safeguards for a product, international buyers and consumers are often willing to pay extra for a product. Conversely, adhering to those new requirements can be costly. In the global coffee sector, it is estimated that around 16 percent of current coffee production is certified. This share should reach over 25 percent by 2015 (Panhuysen and Van Reenen, 2012 as stated by mintene, 2014).

### 1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Ethiopia is the world's 5<sup>th</sup> and Africa's leading producer of coffee. The country produces 480 thousand tons or 5.6% of world production. It is also the world's 10<sup>th</sup> coffee exporting country, exporting 198,706 metric ton in 2012/13. Coffee is the leading commodity in generating foreign exchange for the country i.e. 24.2% in 2012/13 (Alemseged and Yeabsira, 2014).

In addition to contributing for foreign exchange coffee sub sector has been characterized by a bunch of opportunities and constraints. Opportunities of coffee industry include favorable policy environment, unique character of coffee quality, birth place of coffee and strong local coffee culture & availability of different varieties of coffee and potential for volume and quality expansion. Besides these most of the cooperatives are getting accesses to different certification schemes. According to Grote et al., 2009 and Wissel et al., 2010 certification is a means to add value to a product. Despite the above opportunities mentioned and others there are a number of challenges related to coffee business. Some of the challenges are inconsistency in quality supply, weak logistic services, weak public private partnership, and weak market information system (Alemseged and Yeabsira, 2014).

Having the above mentioned challenges the participation of smallholder coffee farmers and cooperatives in coffee value addition activities has been limited. Commonly smallholder coffee farmers and cooperatives perform activities like coffee harvesting, sorting, washing, and drying tasks. Besides, the whole chain is facing bottlenecks in using quality inputs and technologies, adulteration, awareness on quality of coffee, and breakups in maintaining trust & commitment among cooperative members. These all contributes negatively for value addition.

The existing opportunities related to value addition of coffee should be identified and the smallholder producers, processors and other value chain actors should capitalize on them. Even though coffee is contributing a lot for income generation of the farmers there are different constraints which prevent the smallholders' farmers from adding value to their product and benefit from participating in the international market. Therefore, this study is designed to deal with the existing information gap on opportunities and constraints of coffee value addition.

### 1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Who are the actors, what roles do they play & what type of linkages exist among actors in the coffee value chain?
2. What are the opportunities in value addition for smallholder producers & processors?
3. What are the challenges in value addition for smallholder producers & processors?

### 1.4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

#### GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The general objective of this study is to investigate the challenges and opportunities related with value addition in coffee value chain.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of this study are:

1. To assess opportunities in value addition for small holder producers & processors
2. To assess challenges in value addition for small holder producers & processors

### 1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The output of this study will be very important for both policy makers and individual implementers who involve in coffee value chain in the study area for planning purpose and other policy issues. On top of this, it can be used as a base for researchers to further study the bottlenecks in value addition in Ethiopian coffee value chain.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in coffee production potential area, Dale District Sidama Zone, Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Regional State.

The study was undertaken on coffee producers and processors in Dale district. Key-informant interviews and focus group discussions were held with representatives of major stallholders in the value chain. Most quantitative data were collected directly from producers and processors through survey.

Cross sectional survey was made and two stage sampling procedure was followed. Accordingly, three kebeles were selected from 36 kebeles found in the district purposively based on their coffee production capacity and agro-ecological representation. In the second stage 182 producer households were selected proportional to the size of total population. The size of Sample was determined by using the formulas provided by Cochran (1967) and adjusted for finite population proportion as indicated by Glenn (2013).

Since coffee producer in the three kebeles were assumed to have homogenous attributes in coffee production the variability were assumed to be 15% and sample size was calculated to 196 household ( $N_0 = (1.96)^2(0.85 \times 0.15) / (0.05)^2 = 196$ ) accordingly 182 adjusted sample size estimated by applying finite population correction using 2,486 total population of three kebeles and proportionately samples were taken from each kebeles. ( $n = 196 / 1 + (196 - 1) / 2,487 = 182$ ). The individual coffee producer household were selected using systematic random sampling technique from the list of producers provided by each kebele. In the case of processors 10% was taken and individuals were selected randomly using systematic random sampling method.

Primary data was collected by interviewing techniques using pretested questioner. Collected data was analyzed by using descriptive statistics, econometric analysis and financial ratios.

**Descriptive & Inferential statistics:** In this study, descriptive and inferential statistics will be found to be important, for the purpose of discussion and comparison of some important variables of the sample. The descriptive analysis will be made by using mean, minimum, and maximum values of sample units while the inferential statistics was made by using chi-square and F-test.

#### VALUE CHAIN MAPPING

The value chain mapping was used to review distinct value adding functions, which link the production of a commodity (coffee in our case) to its final destination. These ranges of activities include input supply, coffee production, trading, and processing and exporting. For each function, service & facilitation in the chain there are actors who undertake the respective roles. The study was separately identify specific activities/ functions of value addition and the responsible actors undertaking them. The inter-relationships within their segment and with other actors; the value they add to the product; and the constraints and opportunities in the sector in general and the actors face in particular will be analyzed.

For a variety of reasons, a more streamlined and/or participatory form of value chain analysis is preferred, whereby use focus groups and key informant interviews with value chain representatives is emphasized. Focus group discussions with value chain representatives are a cost effective means of sharing experiences and ideas among different kinds of enterprises and institutions operating within the same value chain.

A value chain map presenting all the major actors in the coffee value chain was developed in pictorial form. It comprises information on the different supply channels that transform the product and the different markets or market segments to which products were sold.

**SWOT analysis:** The SWOT analysis was made to identify constraints and opportunities value chain actors face during value addition. It was done using structured interview guides, focus group discussion and key informant interview with value chain actors.

**Narration and triangulation:** were used to analyze qualitative data to support the descriptive and SWOT analysis. The qualitative data includes focus group discussion and key-informant interview.

**3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

This section describes the major findings of the study.

**3.1. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

As it can be verified from the table, 95 % of the sample households were male. With regard to marital status, 89% of total sample respondents are married.

**TABLE A: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTIC OF SAMPLE COFFEE PRODUCERS**

	Kebele						Total Mean and N%	χ <sup>2</sup> /F-value
	QaliteSimita		Chume		BeraTedicho			
	Mean	N %	Mean	N %	Mean	N %		
Age of the Producer	40		47		42		43	4.501***
Sex of the Producer	Female	1.1%		4.5%		5.0%	10.5%	4.120*
	Male	29.6%		29.6%		30.2%	89.5%	
Marital Status of the Producer	Married	30.0%		28.3%		30.6%	89.0%	10.143*
	Single	0.0%		0.6%		1.1%	1.6%	
	Divorced	0.6%		0.0%		0.0%	0.5%	
	Widowed	0.6%		5.0%		3.3%	8.8%	
Formal level of Education of the Producer	6		6		7		6	1.640
Family size of the producer	5		5		5		5	0.729
Coffee farming Experience	12.69		14.18		23.5		17	26.628***

Source: Own survey result, 2016

N=sample size, \*\*\* and \* significant at less than 1% and 10% significance level, respectively

The educational background of the sample household heads is believed to be an important feature that determines the readiness of household heads to accept new ideas and innovations. The mean age of the sample households was 42. The one-way ANOVA, F test, revealed that there is difference at 1% level of significance on mean age of farmers among KAs. The data indicates that average family size in each household is 5 members.

The average years of farming experience in coffee production for total sampled household were 17 years. The years of experience show a statistically significant difference at 1% level among the study KAs.

**3.2. VALUE CHAIN MAPPING**

The actors in value chain can be classified in to three levels based on the roles they play in the value chain (KIT and IIRR, 2010). Accordingly a comprehensive description of each actor in the coffee value chain is presented below.

**3.2.1. Value Chain Main Actors**

These are the chain actors who directly deal with the products. In our case includes input suppliers, smallholder coffee farmers, local traders coffee farmers cooperative, private coffee processors and share company, coffee union, local and international coffee buyers.

**INPUT SUPPLIERS**

These are the first actors in the coffee value chain. They play a great role in supplying inputs for smallholder coffee producing farmers. The input suppliers in the woreda includes agriculture office, model farmers, Jimma Agricultural Research Center - Awada sub- center, smallholder farmers, cooperatives and Sidama Coffee Farmers cooperatives union.

In the woreda smallholder coffee producers’ use different types of inputs for coffee production, harvesting and processing. These include improved coffee seeds, seedlings, organic fertilizer, coffee shade tree seedlings, small farm tools, alcohol and cotton.

**SMALLHOLDER COFFEE FARMERS**

In Dale woreda there are 36,236 smallholder coffee farmers, out of which 34,149 are male farmers. The average coffee productivity per hectare in the woreda is 11.62 quintal (Agriculture office, 2016). Their main activity is coffee production and selling coffee bean, seed and seedling to cooperatives, share companies and private processors.

**COFFEE FARMERS’ COOPERATIVES**

There are 18 coffee farmers cooperatives in the woreda out of which 13 are functional. The main activity of the cooperatives include buying coffee from farmers, washing, hulling the coffee, drying, coffee quality controlling like moisture testing, packing, transportation, supplying washed coffee to union, paying premium price and dividends for producers. They used to participate in development work like construction of road, electricity, school (Agriculture office, 2016).

**PRIVATE PROCESSORS**

They are among the traders of coffee in the woreda and there are 15 licensed private coffee processors in the woreda out of which only 5 are functional. Their main role in the coffee value chain include collecting coffee beans from farmers and perform value adding activities of washing, hulling, drying, storing, and transport to regional coffee grading center.

**SHARE COMPANIES**

These are enterprises owned by more than one individual shareholders which are established and licensed to perform coffee processing and marketing business activities. There are 18 share company’s out of which 11 are functional. They are also engaged in similar value adding activities like private processors.

**SIDAMA COFFEE FARMERS COOPERATIVES UNION**

Sidama Coffee Farmers Cooperatives Union (SCFCU) was established in 2001 and when the data for this study was collected it has 51 member Coffee Farmers Cooperatives, which have over 87,000 smallholder coffee farmers. The 18 coffee cooperatives found in the study area also perform their activities under this union. The union provides credit service for cooperatives, play market facilitation role, promotion, transportation and storage. In addition it checks whether it meets the certification given for the cooperatives.

**3.2.2. Value Chain Supporters**

**WOREDA AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

The Woreda Agriculture and Natural resource development (WANRDO) office plays a great role in supporting and creating enabling environment for coffee value chain actors. It provides different services like extension service, material supply and capacity building to coffee growers. Their stakeholders are coffee producers, private traders, cooperatives, research centers and consumers.

According to the data from the office the total area covered by coffee tree in the woreda is 14,327.71 ha, out of which 12,468.21ha was productive while 1859.5ha was non productive. In 2016 the total red cherry production of the woreda was 22,489,000kg and average productivity was 11.62 quintal per hectare (KII, 2016).

**WORDA MARKETING AND COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

It is primarily mandated to lead and support the establishment of different primary and secondary level producer and marketing cooperatives, including coffee farmers cooperatives. It is also responsible to provide capacity building services to cooperatives.

**TRADE AND INDUSTRY OFFICE**

It is responsible for licensing eligible private traders, renewing licenses, issuing certificate letter indicating the amount of coffee traded legally and other trade regulation activities and controlling illegal coffee trade.

**JIMMA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER -AWADA SUB CENTER (JRC)**

JRC primarily focuses on conducting research activities on coffee and releases improved coffee varieties. JRC has been the main supplier of improved coffee seeds and seedlings at national level for many since its establishment. It is also established to further extend these activities in Sidama area. In this sub center so far four new coffee varieties were introduced and now it is working to introduce additional eleven new varieties. Besides these, it is also provides technical and awareness creation activities to local producers on coffee production method, including coffee management like shading for coffee, breeding and selecting coffee variety in collaboration with the WANRDO.

**3.2.3. Value Chain Influencers**

**GOVERNMENT ENTITIES**

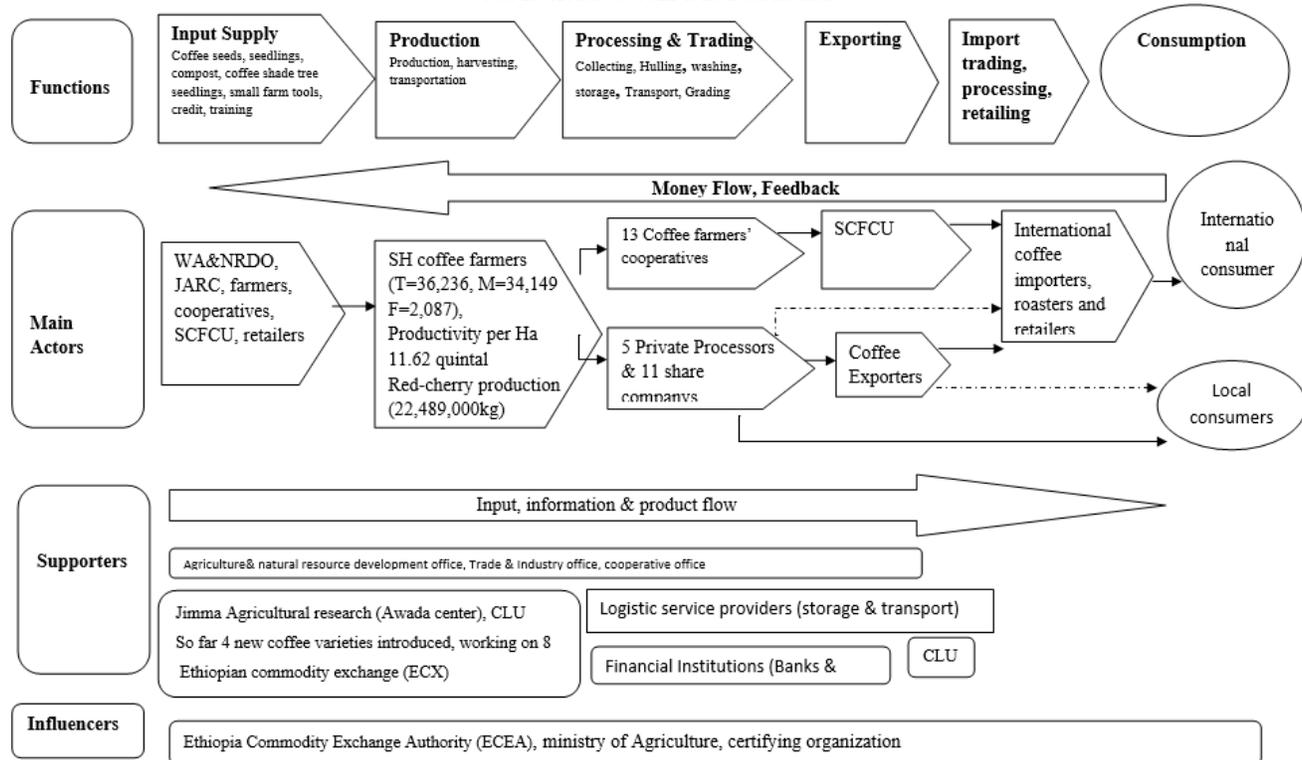
Coffee plays a significant socio-economic role for the country and thus it has been closely controlled by the state through various institutional reforms. The Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resource Development is one of the higher level state organizations which has a power to determine the places and conditions of coffee transaction and quality control, inspect and grant certificate of quality, and issue certificate of competency to persons engaged in coffee export business (Coffee Quality Control and Marketing Proclamation No. 602/2008). The Ethiopia Commodity Exchange Authority (ECEA) is another regulatory body involved in the marketing system and oversees the implementation of the ECX rules, extend licenses to its members and audit its performance.

**INTERNATIONAL THIRD PART CERTIFICATION BODIES**

International third part certification bodies on the other side also constitute the coffee value chain context. In the Ethiopian context, and particularly in the case of cooperatives of Sidama area the certification bodies are, Fair-trade Labeling Organization, UTZ Kapeh Foundation, Rainforest Alliance, Starbucks, and Germany based BCS OKO-GARANTIE GMBH. Though each certification body has its own protocols, procedures and requirements, generally they undertaking compliance assessment and certification of producer organization guaranteeing other international buyer that a coffee from these certified producer organizations is produced as per some set standards and certification attributes.

**COFFEE VALUE CHAIN MAPPING**

**FIG. 1: SIDAMA COFFEE VALUE CHAIN MAP**



The cooperatives purchase coffee as it is primarily produced and sold by most of the coffee producers in the study area. The duration of their purchasing ranges from October to May. In 2012/3, 53% of the sampled coffee producers marketed coffee through the cooperatives. This figure increased to 58.3% in 2013/4. The study identifies that, 66.7% of the total respondents' sale coffee through the cooperatives. Among users of the cooperatives, 27% of the respondents use cooperatives to sale their coffee by assuming that cooperatives provide them genuine measurement (no cheating in the weight) of the coffee. Other users, 33.2% of the respondents use cooperatives due to imagining an advantage of patronage refund from cooperatives. Both genuine measurement and patronage refund considered as essential arguments to use cooperatives by 37.7% of the respondents. Genuine measurement and introduction of desirable competition were pointed out by 16% of the respondents. The consistent numbers for patronage refund and introduction of desirable competition were 3.7% and 8.4% respectively. Cooperatives provide other services to the farmers besides supplying farm inputs, purchasing farm produces and extending credit. In the study areas, coffee marketing cooperatives gave coffee washing machine, sacks, and other services. As indicated in Table 2, 46.2% of the sample respondents were beneficiary from these cooperatives services. From the users of cooperatives to sale their coffee 70% of the respondents' get different service provided by the cooperatives, while 24.6 % of the non-users of the cooperatives as marketing agent get different cooperative services. There is statistically significant difference between cooperative users and non-users in getting these services. The significant  $\chi^2$  test indicates that more of the sample farmers who used the cooperative as their marketing agents were beneficiary from the services.

3.3. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES COFFEE VALUE CHAIN ACTORS

3.3.1. Major challenges of coffee value chain actors

SMALLHOLDER COFFEE PRODUCERS

According to focus group discussion result, coffee production is difficult and costly business because it needs intensive labor. In the area, a laborer should be paid 3 birr/hole in order to dig one hole for coffee seedling plantation. Whereas the selling price of coffee is low even it is not possible to cover cost of production and compensate the producers. Because of this, some farmers are replacing coffee tree by different crops like *Khat*.

The coffee production in the area is completely follows rain-feed agriculture. Therefore, when there is irregularity on the rainfall pattern like that of 2007 EC the production used to fall down. Disease and theft is also the other constraint for producers, which cause a huge loss on the harvest. The common prevailing diseases include CBD, Wolt and new disease outbreak. In addition, cheating in weight machine at cooperative market center is also another problem.

The extension service at kebele level is undertaken by one development agent working on all crops. As it is reported by representative from ANRDO, 2016 the ratio of extension agents to producers is 1:500. Because of this agronomic practice are not properly followed. Additionally, coffee producers do not have enough access for some of the required inputs like scissors, cotton, and alcohol. However, these things are very important for proper coffee tree management.

TABLE 1: CONSTRAINTS OF COFFEE PRODUCERS

Constraint	Frequency(n)	Percentage
Disease	180	100
Theft	180	100
HR	29	16
Land	99	54.4
Certification	16	8.8
Price	49	27.1
Capital	72	39.8
Transport	85	47
Infrastructure	119	66.1
Brokers	152	84
Climate	158	87.3
Brand	33	18.3

Source: Authors' own computation (2016)

The major constraints that were raised by the sampled households were disease, climate, theft, and capital. The entire sampled respondents reported that disease and theft are constraints in the study area. When the respondents asked to rank the constraints land was found to be the first followed by climate, disease and theft as shown in the table below.

TABLE 2: CONSTRAINTS OF COFFEE PRODUCERS RANKED

Constraint	Frequency(n)	Percentage Rank
Land	48	27 1 <sup>st</sup>
Climate	45	25.3 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Disease	37	16 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Theft	23	12.9 4 <sup>th</sup>
Capital	17	9.3 5 <sup>th</sup>
Infrastructure	4	2.2 6 <sup>th</sup>
Broker	2	1.1 7 <sup>th</sup>
Training	1	0.6 8 <sup>th</sup>
Human resource	1	0.6 8 <sup>th</sup>

Source: Authors' own computation (2016)

3.3.2. Coffee Processors

The major coffee processors in the study area were primary coffee cooperatives, private processors and share company. The major challenges faced by traders according to (FGD, 2016) were discussed below.

The quality of coffee that is supplied by the cooperative members has different problems. This includes mixing coffee with foreign material, with coffee that stayed more than 24hours after harvesting and mixing coffee coming from other districts. The processing operations is also continue to be hampered by infrastructure constraints, especially with regard to access to clean water and good transportation system. The quality of coffee depends on the water used for fermenting and washing. Coffee processors have different market centers that are near to consumers in the village however when it is raining, it is difficult for the truck to bring the collected coffee to the processing site on time.

Absence of coffee quality expert in each coffee processing site is among the constraints. There is only one coffee quality expert for 39 kebeles (51 hulling machine) Because of lack of quality expert they are using market linkage expert after short training about quality of coffee but the result is not sufficient. In reality they are a key player in determining the quality of coffee since they are responsible for measuring moisture, loading packing and the like.

Poor infrastructure facility that makes transportation difficult and thus quality of coffee beans is deteriorating. The profit for producers is low because of high cost of labor, transportation and the system of exporting. Transportation cost is becoming very high because the truck used to stay a number of days waiting for a queue. Some of the reasons for the truck to stay at ECX for a long are absence of electric power, waiting for grading etc, The payment for a truck per day is 1000birr because of this rather than transporting coffee to ECX the trucks prefer to transport wood to Nazeret. But ECX is reporting that they can serve 60 trucks per day but in reality, only 15-20 trucks were served. The price of Sidama coffee is falling down among the other reasons one is electric power fluctuation.

Poor farming practice of the producers is becoming one of the challenges in the district. Those producers who use the proper agronomic practice package are producing 157-160 kg per ha and those who fail to use are producing 30 to 40 kg per ha. Some producers are planting coffee with *khat* and it takes all the minerals from the soil and results floating beans.

On the side of processing firms, the sites were not studied before planting the coffee processing machine. Waste materials */legage/* is entering to the water and the rivers are polluted. It is becoming difficult to find clear water for livestock and domestic use. If it is possible to bring technology to control pollution from coffee washing, it will be best.

The capacities of the machineries are very limited because they are very obsolete. If one cooperative purchase 50,000 kg then for processing it takes one or two days. At those times, the sites must announce for producers not to harvest coffee beans since it will be difficult for them to process it. Therefore; those who have already harvested will fail to sell or they will sell it another time by mixing it with the new one and this will reduce the quality of coffee (FGD, 2016).

All the sampled processors reported that disease, theft and brokers are the major challenge they were facing. Disease ranked first followed by brokers.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The major challenges according to FGD & KII were discussed below:-

Poor access to transportation services for extension agents. They do not have enough transportation facilities for providing technical support for producers. They reported that the ratio of extension agents to Motorbike is one to thirteen ration (1:13). In addition, there is also lack of human power especially related to the sector that specializes in coffee quality management. The crop experts are responsible for any technical advice related to coffee tree. Even there is only one coffee quality expert for all coffee processors.

Shortage of budget to supply different inputs for producers is also another challenge for the office. Each year the office has a limited budget to buy and supply different inputs like scissors, cotton, and alcohol for coffee growers.

There is no incentive for producers based on quality supplied; brokers are used to cheat producers, ownership of coffee i.e. Coffee is under the control of the male household so the wife and children used to steal and sell coffee, this contributes for the expansion of illegal coffee trade and the size of the land holding is also small.

**3.2.4 Awada Research center**

According to key informant interview, the followings are the major constraints:-

The nature of the crop: For other crops like *chat*, it is possible to harvest three times per year but because of perennial nature of coffee tree the harvesting time is once per year. The other is by its nature coffee tree needs more care.

Production and productivity in Sidama zone is decreasing because of management problem. In the study area, most of producers are not willing to remove old trees which are less productive and replace them by the new once. There are different challenging diseases like CBD, Welt and new disease outbreak which are causing a huge loss to the producers.

There is no incentive for those who are producing quality coffee beans; the price is equal for all producers who are supplying different quality coffee beans. These discourage producers from producing high quality coffee.

**3.3.3. Major opportunities of coffee value addition**

**AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

The major opportunities of Sidama coffee as it is reported by the office of agriculture during interview and focus group discussion, 2016 are: The agro climate of the area is very convenient to coffee production. Coffee is cash crops in the area because of these producers are committed in producing coffee. The economy of the district is highly dependent on coffee. Therefore, at the time of harvest and processing everyone is alert and busy to support the sector. The other opportunity is the increased in demand of coffee especially starting from last three years the demand for coffee is increasing in local market. Availability of market centers of processors in each kebeles that simplify transportation of producers.

**COFFEE PRODUCERS**

Coffee producers describe different opportunities and the major once are: Availability of different training for producers, the price of coffee is increasing, the availability of Awada research center (FGD, 2016)

The survey result showed Demand for coffee, extension services, training and government policy was reported as an opportunity by the entire sampled households. Certification, human resource and brand were reported by 91.2%, 84% and 81.7% households respectively.

**TABLE 3: OPPORTUNITIES OF COFFEE PRODUCERS**

Opportunity	n	Percentage
Training	180	100
Demand for coffee	180	100
Extension service	180	100
Government policy	180	100
HR	152	84
Land	82	45.3
Certification	165	91.2
Price	132	72.9
Capital	109	60.2
Transport	96	53
Infrastructure	61	33.9
Brokers	29	16
Climate	23	12.7
Brand	147	81.7
Training	180	100

Source: Authors' own computation (2016)

When the respondents asked to rank the opportunities demand for coffee was found to be the first followed by extension service and government policy as shown in the table below.

**TABLE 4: OPPORTUNITIES OF COFFEE PRODUCERS RANKED**

Opportunity	n	Percentage Ranked
Demand for coffee	48	27 1 <sup>st</sup>
Extension service	38	21 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Government policy	38	21 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Human resource	20	11 4 <sup>th</sup>
Climate	16	9 5 <sup>th</sup>
Coffee price	6	3.3 6 <sup>th</sup>
Infrastructure	6	3.3 6 <sup>th</sup>
Training	4	2.2 7 <sup>th</sup>
Capital	4	2.2 7 <sup>th</sup>

Source: Authors' own computation (2016)

**4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**4.1 CONCLUSION**

The finding of this study shows the major challenges for coffee value addition were disease, climate, theft, and capital, thus research centers should focus on releasing new varieties, which resist the prevailing disease. Agriculture office should assign quality control expert to improve the quality of coffee and get better price.

A respective government institution has to work on the production of input facilities and harvesting technologies so that the export standards are met. Different stockholders should participate on the provision of farm tools like scissor and Quality expert to support extension agents and cooperatives

The major opportunities are availability of genetic diversity, convenient agro-climatic zone, indigenous knowledge, and known coffee brand at both local and international market.

**4.2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

On the basis of the results of this study, the following policy implications are drawn so as to suggest for the future intervention strategies aimed at the promotion of coffee production and marketing in the study area in particular and in the country in general.

- Effort should also be made to strengthen farmers' cooperative and encourage collective action of farmers to lower transaction costs to access inputs. Cooperatives can be very successful in dealing with both information asymmetry and in attaining competitive edge. They do this through collective action, pooling resources and lowering the unit cost of transaction.
- Providing an enabling environment for micro finance organizations is critical for delivering financial services to the producers and processors who are in need of cash.
- A respective government institution has to work on the production of input facilities and harvesting technologies so that the export standards are met.

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In this age of Commerce, Economics, Computer, I.T. & Management and cut throat competition, a group of intellectuals felt the need to have some platform, where young and budding managers and academicians could express their views and discuss the problems among their peers. This journal was conceived with this noble intention in view. This journal has been introduced to give an opportunity for expressing refined and innovative ideas in this field. It is our humble endeavour to provide a springboard to the upcoming specialists and give a chance to know about the latest in the sphere of research and knowledge. We have taken a small step and we hope that with the active co-operation of like-minded scholars, we shall be able to serve the society with our humble efforts.

### *Our Other Journals*

