COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS/ORGANISATIONS RESEARCH MODULE F

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This protocol follows on from WIDE 2 Module 2: Protocols 2 and 3 (see also Module 1 Protocol 4 and possibly Module 2 Protocols 1 on networks). You should therefore familiarise yourself with the data from WIDE 2 prior to the fieldwork.

Objectives:
1.   Mapping of the institutions/organisations (space, structure, organisation)
2.   Understanding organisational dynamics and change (over 2-3 generations)
3.   Understanding institutional/organisational exclusion and coping of the excluded

Methods
1.1.   Mapping of the institutions (space, structure, organisation)
Interviews with leaders of the community and of the institutions/organizations (total interviews 12, 4 days)

1.1. Current and former Kebele women officials	x 2
1.2. Religious -community leaders (Orthodox, Muslim, Protestant, traditional)	x 4
1.3. Current and former leaders of the institutions	x 6

1.2.   Understanding organisational dynamics and change
Interviews with long-time members, elderly members and founders of institutions/organizations (total 12 interviews, 4 days)

2.1. burial associations	x 5
2.2. religious associations	x 3
2.3. Credit associations	x 2
2.4. Dispute settlement	x 1
2.5. Other	x 1

1.3.   Understanding institutional exclusion and coping of excluded
Interviews about and with excluded marginalized individuals (total 12 interviews, 4 days)

1.2.leaders/former leaders (burial, religious credit)	x 3
1.3.Non members (burial, religious credit)	x 3
1.4.members who left (burial, religious credit)	x 3
1.5.Excluded members (burial, religious credit)	x 3

Focus
It is suggested that the focus should be in declining order of importance and time spent on
1) burial association, followed by
2) religious associations
3) credit associations,
4) dispute resolution institutions.
5) In urban areas migrants or delala associations may be interesting, and in rural areas NRM or labour organisations may be deserve a more limited enquiry.

Expected Outputs
1. Individual interviews on mapping
2. Mapping report for each type of organisation and comparing the different types
3. Individual interviews on dynamic
4. Overall dynamics report on organisations for each type and comparing different types
5. Individual interviews on exclusion
6. Overall exclusion report on organisations for each type and comparing different types

Protocol 1.   Mapping of the institutions/organisations

General questions
1.   What are the kinds of institutions/organisations (religious, burial, credit, migrants, NRM, labour, dispute resolution, delala, other).
2.   What are the local terms? What are the major functions of the institutions/organisations?
3.   What re the subsidiary functions of the institutions/organisations?
4.   How many of each are there in the community?
5.   What is their distribution over space?
6.   Do any include members outside the community?
7.   What are the criteria of membership? (sex, age, household status, household head, marital status, property status, wealth, livestock, religion, clan, ethnicity, other).

Specific questions
1.   What is the main purpose of the institution/organisation?
2.   What are the subsidiary purposes?
3.   Are their membership fees? If so how much to join? How much monthly?
4.   Does the organisation provide services? If yes which ones? (e.g. burial, loans)
5.   Does the organisation provide payments? If so on what basis to whom for what?
6.   How many members does it have?
7.   What are the membership criteria?
8.   What categories of people cannot become members?
9.   How often are the meetings?
10.   When was the last meeting?
11.   What is the leadership structure (positions)
12.   What are the criteria for becoming leaders? (inclusion, exclusion)
13.   How do people become leaders (self-appoint, starters, selected, elected etc)
14.   For how long are leaders in power?
15.   Since when have the current leaders been in office?
16.   How are decisions made, by whom, where and how often?
17.   Are there sub-committees? (if yes expand)
18.   What are the rules of the organisation?
19.   Are these formalised written?
20.   What are the rules for joining? What do you have to do to join?
21.   What are the fines for what offences?
22.   what are the rules for leaving? (exit procedures)
23.   what are the obligations?
24.   How does membership affect relations between members (mutual help, intermarriage, etc)
25.   what are the contributions, in cash, food, labour etc over what time (fortnight month, year)
26.   what forms of exemption are allowed for whom (prompt for examples).
27.   What are the different kinds of benefits?
28.   What does the organisation own?
29.   What does it do with what it owns?

Comparative issues within and between types of institutions/organisations

This section is for you to compile from your assessment of responses from interviewees. However, you might try to test out your ideas and assumptions on key informants who you know to be knowledgeable and with whom you have developed trust.

1. What is the prevalence of different types of institutions and what explains this?
2. What explains the numbers? (why more than 1 of each?)
3. What explains differential size within types of institutions and between types?
4. For each type are there sub-types relating to different membership criteria (e.g. men, women and youth iddir, iddir for different religions, ethnicities etc)
5. To what extent to people join more than one of the same kind and why?
6. For each type what is the minimum, number of members, maximum, average?
7. What explains the range? (e.g. mehaber should have 12 to host a feast once a month)
8. Is there functional overlap between different institutions/organisations?
9. What are the structural/organisational similarities and differences between the institutions organisations?
10. What the structural/organisational differences within the same type of institutions/organisations?
11. What are the membership similarities and differences between and within institutions/organisations?
12. What are the leadership similarities and differences between and within institutions/organisations?
13. Insofar as there are several of the same kind of institution (e.g. burial) what explains who joins which one (e.g. wealth)

Protocol 2. Understanding organisational dynamics and change

General Questions
1.   How have institutions in general changed since the beginning of the EPRDF period?
2.   How have specific institutions (iddir, religious, iqub, other) changed since the beginning of the EPRDF period?
3.   How have institutions in general and specific institutions changed during the Derg
4.   How have institutions in general and specific changed in the Haile Sellassie period?
5.   In what ways were institutions in general and specific different in the pre-Haile Sellassie period?
6.   When did the use of money come in, and in what ways?
7.   When did the use of writing come in and in what ways has it changed?
8.   When did changes in leadership (specialisation, mode of selection) change and how?
9.   How have institutions been affected by shocks (famine, HIV, conflict etc) and when?
10.   How have institutions in general and specific ones responded to changes from outside (economic, political, religious,?)
11.   Has there been splitting, merging, death, birth of institutions (examples?).

Specific Questions
1.   What is the story of how the institutions started?
2.   What is the evidence for when it started? (Ask for founders or oldest living member)
3.   Who or what kinds of individuals were involved in initiating it? How many?
4.   What were their (your) motivation(s)?
5.   Who were the earliest known leaders? How did they become leaders?
6.   Use of written records, since when? (check for membership lists, payment lists, meeting minutes, election records, verdict records, constitutions/bylaws, ask for local terms, if possible to see examples and record details)
7.   When was the use of monetary contributions introduced and how has that changed over recent time? (first payment when, increases when)
8.   What have the changes in leadership types and mode of becoming leaders (hereditary, self-appointed, chosen, selected, elected etc)
9.   What have been the changes in leadership structures and functional specialisation (single judge, committee, chair, deputy, secretary, finance officer etc, check for local terms, and when the differentiation emerged)
10.   What have been the changes in the rules over time and what prompted these changes.
11.   Is membership in the institution/organisation inherited? (gender?)
12.   Have the membership rules changed? Is so why, when and how?
13.   Has the organisation grown or declined in the past 10 years and in what ways?
14.   Have any members left in the past year? If yes prompt for details why how, who decided and what happened to them etc and if possible obtain names for follow up
15.   Have any new members joined in the past year? If yes prompt for details of why, on what terms, who decided on their being admitted and if possible obtain names
16.   Have the contributions changed? If so why, when and how?
17.   Has the organisation been affected by shocks (e.g. famine, HIV/AIDS, conflict)
18.   If yes in what ways and how has the organisation responded?
19.   Has the organisation been affected by changes in market forces (eg. prices?)
20.   Has the organisation been affected positively or adversely by the actions of other community organisations? If so in what ways?
21.   Has the organisation been affected by local, regional or national government action?
22.   has the organisation been affected by local, regional, national or international NGOs?
23.   Has the organisation been affected by religious change?

Comparative Issues

This section is for you to compile from your assessment of responses from interviewees. However, you might try to test out your ideas and assumptions on key informants who you know to be knowledgeable and with whom you have developed trust.

1. To what extent has there been an increase in types of institutions, since when?
2. To what extent has there been a splitting or branching out of institutions since when?
3. Extent of increase in the diversity of institutions, since when?
4. Increase in the functional specialisations of institutions, since when?
5. Increase in the formalisation of institutions, since when?
6. Increase in leadership specialisation, since when (explain gradual change)?
7. Increase in diversity of activities, since when (explain over time)?
8. Responses to shocks?
9. responses to political change?
10. Response to religious change?
11. Response to economic/market change?
12. Responses to other community organisations?
13. Responses to government intervention?
14. Responses to NGO intervention?
15. Splitting and merging of institutions and reasons why?
16. Birth of new institutions recently? When, why?
17. Death of institutions/organisations? Any evidence?

Protocol 3.   Understanding institutional exclusion and coping of excluded

General Questions (to leaders, former leaders)
1.   What categories of people cannot take part in the institution/organisation? (ask first without prompting then try to find out whether, gender (women), age (elderly), religion, occupation (craftworkers, servants, commercial sex workers) ethnicity, poverty, destitution (no house), household status, marital status (single) migrant status (not permanent dweller), health (illness/ HIV) etc result in exclusion or non inclusion, (please spend time on this and ask for examples of any such cases for possible follow up)
2.   Ask for any changes in this respect over the last two generations.
3.   Are there people who do not want to be members (e.g. wealthy different religions, migrants)
4.   Are there types of conditional membership? (e.g. contributions in labour or in kind rather than in cash)
5.   Are there different types of participation (full, partial, e.g. women not participating in certain aspects)
6.   Are there different roles allowed or required for different sectors of the population (e.g. women and food, craftworkers and grave-digging etc)
7.   What happens over sharing food and utensils in cases of organisations that include different religions, sexes, occupational outcastes?
8.   Are there restriction on involvement in leadership (by gender, age, occupation religion etc) If this is denied prompt for counter examples e.g. a woman leader as exclusions may be de facto not de jure).
9.   Are there people who asked to join but were refused. Ask for examples, who, why, when, where are they now for possible follow up
10.   Are there people who were once members but decided to leave? who, why, when, follow up
11.   What would be sufficient reasons for expelling someone?
12.   Are there people who have been sent out, excluded. Ask for examples for follow up, who, why, when, where are they now, have they joined rival institutions/organisations)
13.   Are there people who have not done what they should but remain members?
14.   How long can someone be a member without fulfilling obligations (e.g. regular payments)
15.   Are there any exceptions or special cases made (ask for examples)
16.   Are there people who were punished or fined (ask for details, when, who, why).
17.   What alternatives do people who are not members have to obtain the functions the organisation provides (e.g. burial, where does a Protestant or a craftworker get buried and by whom?, where does a poor person get credit?

Specific questions to excluded members

1.   When were you excluded?
2.   How long had you been a member before being excluded?
3.   Why were you excluded?
4.   Did you join or form alternative organisations?
5.   Would you like to join or form alternative organisations?
6.   Would you still like to rejoin the organisation which excluded you?
7.   What are the good things about the organisation?
8.   What are the bad things about the organisation?
9.   What benefits are you missing by being excluded?
10.   What problems are you avoiding by leaving being excluded?
11.   How do you cope with obtaining the services that the organisation was providing but which you do not or no longer have access to?
12.   Have you suffered from being excluded?
13.   Do you face social problems from not being a member?
14.   Are there cultural/religious reasons for your exclusion?
15.   Are there economic consequences of not being a member?
16.   Are there political consequences of not being a member?

Specific questions to former members who left

1.   When did you leave?
2.   How long had you been a member before leaving?
3.   Why did you leave?
4.   What did you do when you left?
5.   Did you join or form alternative organisations?
6.   Would you like to join or form alternative organisations?
7.   Would you still like to rejoin the organisation you left?
8.   What are the good things about the organisation?
9.   What are the bad things about the organisation?
10.   What benefits are you missing by leaving?
11.   What problems are you avoiding by leaving?
12.   How do you cope with obtaining the services that the organisation was providing but which you do not or no longer have access to?
13.   Have you suffered from not being a member?
14.   Do you face social problems from not being a member?
15.   Are there cultural/religious reasons for your leaving?
16.   Are there economic consequences of not being a member?
17.   Are there political consequences of not being a member?

Specific questions to non-members (categories of people not allowed to join),

1. Why do you not belong?
2. Are there specific reasons why you are not allowed to join?
3. Are you a member of alternative organisations?
4. What are the good things about the organisation?
5. What are the bad things about the organisation?
6. What benefits are you missing by not joining?
7. What problems are you avoiding by not joining?
8. How do you cope with obtaining the services that the organisation was providing but which you do not have access to?
9. Have you suffered from not being a member?
10. Do you face social problems from not being a member?
11. Are there cultural/religious reasons for your not being a member?
12. Are there economic consequences of not being a member?
13. Are there political consequences of not being a member?

Comparative issues

1. What are the main forms of social exclusion?
2. What are the main categories of the excluded?
3. What are the main reasons for social exclusion?
4. To what extent has social exclusion increased among institutions?
5. To what extent has social exclusion increased between institutions of the same type?
6. Have shocks led to social exclusion?
7. Have economic factors led to social exclusion?
8. Have political factors led to social exclusion?
9. Have social factors led to social exclusion?
10. Have cultural/religion factors led to social exclusion?
11. How do the excluded cope with the functions they had been getting from institutions?
12. To what extent and what kinds of people leave institutions voluntarily?
13. What are the reasons why different kinds of people leave institutions voluntarily?
14. What do people leaving organisations do? Do they form their own?
15. What do people who are not allowed to join institutions do?
16. How do people who cannot join organisations cope?