

**THE ROLE OF HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN
PEACE BUILDING, POST CONFLICT RECOVERY AND
RECONSTRUCTION ENGAGEMENTS IN GUJI GEDEO
COMMUNITIES: THE CASE OF WORLD VISION**

MA THESIS

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HAWASSA UNIVERSITY, HAWASSA, ETHIOPIA

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**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES OF
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MAY, 2024

HAWASSA, ETHIOPIA

DECLARATION

I hereby certify that this master's thesis is entirely original with no submission for credit toward a degree to any other university and that all references utilized in the thesis have been properly cited.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BOFED	Bureau of Financing Economic Development
CBO	Community- Based Organizations
CBPCs	Community Based Peace Committees
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CSA	Central Statistically Agency
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EMOP	Ethiopian Ministry of Peace
EPRDF	Ethiopian people’s Revolutionary Front
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
HRW	Human Rights Watch
ICG	International Crisis Group
ICRM	Indigenous Conflict Resolution Mechanism
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NFIs	Non-Food Items
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NURC	National Unity Reconciliation Committee
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
U.S	United States

UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization
UNICEF	United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
USA	United State of America
USAID	United State Agency for International Development
WASH	Water Sanitation Hygiene
WB	World Bank
WVE	World Vision Ethiopia

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to explore the role played by humanitarian organizations, with a focus on the role of the World Vision peace building among Guji Gedeo communities. The research employs a mixed-methods approach, combining both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis techniques. Descriptive survey design was used in the study, and Data was gathered through surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions. The survey questionnaire was designed to collect information regarding household perceptions of World Vision's programs, specifically focusing on assessing the concrete results of their interventions. A total of 178 households were selected from four Woreda (districts) in the West Guji and Gedeo Zone, specifically Dilla Zuria, Abaya, Gedeb, and Galena. The results of the research indicated that the stability of social relationships and the maintenance of peace and harmony in the study area are significantly influenced by the effectiveness of humanitarian organizations. The root causes of the 2018 conflict between the Guji and Gedeo communities were historical grievances. These competition over resources, political marginalization, and ethnic tensions are some of the factors contributing to the conflict. World Vision's major interventions have been the implementation of community-based peace committees, which aim to facilitate dialogue between conflicting parties and promote reconciliation. It helped reduce violent conflicts by 50% in areas where they were established. The study recommends that Sustainable Dialogue Platforms, providing conflict sensitivity, engaging youth from both communities and conducting regular monitoring and evaluation, World Vision can further contribute to sustainable peace in the region.

Key words: Peace Building; Indigenous Methods; Social Cohesion; Non-Governmental Organizations; World Vision

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Conflict resolution and peace building play crucial roles in humanitarian efforts, especially in areas impacted by violence, warfare, and civil unrest. Humanitarian organizations are increasingly acknowledging the significance of not only addressing the immediate needs of affected communities but also tackling the underlying causes of conflicts to foster lasting stability and peace. This review of the literature offers a comprehensive examination of key themes and research findings in the realm of conflict resolution and peacebuilding within the humanitarian organization (Irrera, 2014).

In Africa, the challenges to achieving peace stem from conflicts, injustices, and inappropriate development objectives. These critical issues significantly impede the attainment of peace on the continent. Alarming, violent conflicts have been rampant across Africa. In regions affected by such conflicts, like Rwanda and Burundi, the social fabric has been destabilized. Additionally, countries such as Sierra Leone and Liberia have experienced hindered economic growth due to these conflicts. Moreover, in nations like Nigeria, there is an increased risk of disintegration, while humanitarian crises have emerged in various other areas. (Joseph & Segun , 2014).

Ethiopia's communities are facing an increasing number of simultaneous challenges, including prolonged and ongoing violence, leading to a continuous escalation in humanitarian needs. Despite the country's notable advancements in political and economic spheres in recent years, there remains a significant amount of work to be done to ensure lasting peace and stability. Humanitarian assistance plays a crucial role in achieving this objective by addressing the urgent needs of affected populations and fostering initiatives for peace-building.

The current ethnic federal arrangement was established to eliminate the remnants of ethnic dominance and oppression while simultaneously creating a constitutional and legal structure for managing and resolving ethnic conflicts. However, ethnicity and ethnic identities have been manipulated as rallying points for mass mobilization in intergroup conflicts. Many of these conflicts are instigated by local elites or individuals known as ethnic entrepreneurs seeking to gain political influence by emphasizing ethnic differences. Consequently, these disputes often escalate into violent confrontations (Abbink, 2007).

Conflicts, mostly centered on ethnic and boundary disputes, are the primary cause of a substantial fraction of these displacements. Despite the emergence of new conflicts, enduring tensions such as the ongoing dispute over the Oromia-Somali regional border, which first flared up in 2017, persist. The conflict between the Gedeo and Guji Oromo ethnic groups in West Guji escalated into a violent confrontation driven by a deep-rooted competition for resources and land between April and June 2018. By August 2018, an estimated 748,499 internally displaced individuals (IDPs) were forced to flee their homes due to the Gedeo-West Guji conflict alone (IOM, 2021). The escalation of the conflict has drawn the attention of humanitarian organizations, including World Vision, which has initiated interventions to mediate the conflict, foster peace, and promote social cohesion between the Guji and Gedeo communities. The historical context and ongoing conflict between these communities underline the complexity of ethnic relations and resource competition in Ethiopia, which has necessitated comprehensive efforts to address grievances and promote lasting peace and reconciliation (World Vision & CRS, 2018).

Established in 1974, World Vision has been actively working in Ethiopia to address conflict and promote peace in the Guji-Gedeo communities. Its initiatives focus on economic development, peace building, health, and education. Addressing socioeconomic inequality, unequal resource distribution, and social injustices, World Vision has contributed to the communities' growth and stability (World Vision 2020). World Vision's intervention in the Guji-Gedeo communities has demonstrated the critical role that humanitarian organizations can play in promoting peace-building and addressing the humanitarian crisis in conflict-affected communities. The comprehensive approach adopted by the organization, encompassing conflict resolution, economic empowerment, education, health and nutrition, and child protection, significantly improves the livelihoods of community members (OCHA, 2022).

Studying the role of humanitarian organizations in promoting peace is crucial, especially in areas with violence and conflict. Intercommunal conflicts have long plagued the communities of Guji and Gedeo, resulting in property destruction, deaths, and displacement. Future initiatives and policies must consider the role humanitarian organizations, such as World Vision, play in building peace within these communities.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The relationship dynamics between the Gedeo and Guji ethnic groups in Ethiopia have displayed a mix of collaboration and conflict. These two communities have a complex history of relationships, influenced by various factors such as land disputes, political dynamics, economic competition, and cultural differences (Kinfemichael, 2014).

A combination of historical, political, and socio-economic factors triggered the April 2018 outbreak of violence. Historical context, political dynamics, socio-economic disparities, and external influences all contributed to the escalation of violence. Historical grievances, territorial disputes, and historical animosities were the primary factors. Political dynamics, such as power struggles and governance issues, exacerbated the situation. Socio-economic disparities, unequal resource distribution, and social injustices further fuelled the conflict. External influences, such as regional power dynamics and international interventions, also significantly escalated the violence (Emilie, 2020).

Beyond this, administrative hierarchies in the Guji and Gedeo areas respond to conflicts reactively, ignoring underlying issues and implementing sustainable peace-building measures. This reactive approach perpetuates violence and instability, making it difficult to achieve lasting peace. The ad-hoc nature of conflict management structures limits effectiveness and fails to address the root causes of tensions (Kinfemichael, 2014). However, humanitarian organizations such as World Vision play a critical role in addressing affected populations' immediate needs during inter-communal conflicts and crises. This includes providing food aid, shelter, healthcare, and protection services. However, their role extends beyond immediate relief efforts to encompass long-term peace-building initiatives (OCHA, 2022). World Vision's commitment to peace-building among the Guji and Gedeo communities reflects its dedication to fostering sustainable development through addressing root causes of conflict and promoting reconciliation. NGOs in the region are actively involved in various activities related to natural resource management, community capacity building, and humanitarian responses under the guise of development initiatives. However, their participation in peace-building efforts, such as hosting conferences meetings, and facilitating peace agreements, has dwindled since the enactment of what is commonly known as civil society legislation (Proclamation 621/2009). Consequently, NGOs previously engaged in direct peace-building activities have shifted their focus and interventions towards development endeavour (Solomon, 2015).

Kinfemichael (2014), Solomon (2015), and Emilie (2020) in their study indicated that the Guji-Gedeo conflict has been fueled by long-standing competition over resources, historical grievances, political marginalization, and other underlying factors. This has resulted in widespread violence, displacement of the population, loss of lives, and destruction of property. Stein J. (2010) and Asebe (2007) state That various stakeholders, including government authorities, international organizations, and local community leaders, are making efforts to address the root causes of these conflicts and work towards sustainable peacebuilding initiatives—programs aimed at fostering understanding and cooperation among the Guji-Gedeo communities. However, a detailed study of the role of humanitarian organizations in peacebuilding among the Guji and Gedeo communities needs further study. Overall, the complexity of this conflict necessitates a comprehensive approach that involves various stakeholders, including humanitarian organizations. Thus, the researcher identified both empirical and knowledge research gaps.

The overall gaps this study aims to address include the following. Firstly, the role of humanitarian organizations in peacebuilding during the Guji-Gedeo community conflict tends to have a limited focus on community-driven approaches to reconciliation and peacebuilding. While humanitarian organizations often engage in mediation and dialogue facilitation at the macro level, there is a need for greater emphasis on empowering local communities to drive their peace-building processes at the local level. This entails building local capacity for conflict resolution, fostering inter-community dialogue, and supporting grassroots initiatives for sustainable peace. Another gap lies in the integration of gender-sensitive approaches within peace-building efforts. Women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflicts, yet their meaningful participation in peace-building processes is often overlooked. Humanitarian organizations need to prioritize gender mainstreaming and ensure that women are actively engaged, including involvement in decision-making related to peace-building initiatives. Furthermore, there is a need for enhanced coordination and collaboration among humanitarian organizations operating in the areas affected by the Guji-Gedeo conflict. Improved coordination can help avoid duplication of efforts, maximize resources, and ensure a more coherent approach to peace building.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

The study has the following objectives:

1.3.1. General objective

The General objective of this study was to examine the role of Humanitarian Organizations in Peace-building efforts in the Guji and Gedeo communities in the case of World Vision.

1.3.2. Specific objectives

- 1) To describe the conflict and its impact among Guji Gedeo communities;
- 2) To assess the effectiveness of World Vision initiatives in conflict resolution and peace building, the study area
- 3) To analyze the role of World Vision in sustainable peace and integration in the study area
- 4) To examine the challenges and barriers to the Peace-building process in the Guji Gedeo communities.

1.4. Research Questions

The study aimed to address the following research questions:

- 1) How does described the conflict and its impact among Guji Gedeo communities?
- 2) Are conflict resolution and peace-building initiatives of World Vision on the Guji and Gedieo conflict effective?
- 3) What is the role of World Vision in sustainable peace and integration in the study area?
- 4) What are the challenges and barriers to World Vision's peace-building process in the Guji Gedieo community?

1.5. Significance of the Study

The study has several benefits. Firstly, it can provide insights into which approaches work best, leading to more successful peace-building efforts in other conflict-affected regions of the country. Secondly, the study contributes to understanding how humanitarian organizations like World Vision plays a critical role in conflict resolution and peace building in ethnically divided regions. Thirdly, the study can provide valuable insights into practical strategies and best practices that can be replicated in similar contexts worldwide. Fourthly, the study can show how humanitarian organizations can build positive and constructive relationships with local communities. Examining the experiences of the Guji and Gedieo communities it can offer guidance on how to gain community trust and effectively engage with residents in conflict-prone areas. Fifthly, the study can highlight the significance of involving local communities in designing and implementing peace-building initiatives. Sexily, the study can provide feedback and lessons for humanitarian organizations like World Vision and others in Ethiopia. This can

lead to improved strategies, better resource allocation, and enhanced outcomes in their efforts to promote peace and social cohesion. Seventhly, the study lies in its potential to contribute to the broader field of peace building, humanitarian work, and conflict resolution to improve the lives and well-being of communities facing longstanding conflicts. It can offer valuable lessons and insights that can be applied to various contexts and help foster a more peaceful and cohesive society. Finally, the result obtained during this study will be used as a source of knowledge for non-governmental organizations, specifically World Vision and other relevant humanitarian organizations, civil society and public services, to own benchmark information and for the researchers who are interested in studying the roles of world vision in peacebuilding for west Guji and Gedieo communities.

1.6. Scope of the Study

Thematic scope: the study primarily focused on the role of humanitarian organizations in peace-building and social cohesion

Geographical Scope: The study is delimited to the Guji and Gedieo communities in Ethiopia because these are the communities directly impacted by World Vision's initiatives and the organization focusing on the conflict of Guji Gedeo since 2018.

Methodological Scope: The study utilized a descriptive research design incorporating both quantitative and qualitative research methods. Data collection methods included surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions. Quantitative data was analyzed descriptively, while qualitative data underwent thematic analysis.

Time Frame: the study was conducted based on data collected from April 13 - 26, 2024 GC.

1.7. Limitations of the Study

The findings from the study conducted among the Guji and Gedieo communities in Ethiopia may not be generalizable to conflicts in other communities due to the distinct contextual differences between conflict situations. The study mainly focused only on the effectiveness of peace programs and initiatives of World Vision; as a result, the study does not consider the effectiveness of peace programs and initiatives of other humanitarian organizations other than World Vision. The study was mainly done on data collected from different stakeholders like victims, civil servants, and World Vision staff, and it did not include the sayings of experts in peacebuilding. Finally, the study was done only using descriptive statistics and did not use inferential analysis; as a result, it is difficult to generalize the findings even to the study population.

1.8. Definition of key Terms

- **Conflict:** a condition of disagreement in an interaction process and usually occurs because of a clash of interests between the parties involved (Imobighe 2003).
- **Conflict management:** Conflict management refers to the process of handling conflicts effectively to prevent escalation and reach a resolution that satisfies all parties involved: Rahim, M. A. (2002).
- **Peace;** Peace is a state of harmony characterized by the absence of violent conflict Galtung, J. (1964).
- **Peace building;** It focuses on fostering reconciliation, promoting social cohesion, strengthening institutions, and supporting economic development to build lasting peace. Literacy, J. P. (1997)
- **Humanitarian Organizations;** A humanitarian organization is an entity dedicated to preventing and alleviating human suffering in armed conflicts, natural disasters, and other crises (<https://www.icrc.org/en/what-we-do>).

1.9. Organization of the Study

The initial chapter of this study encompassed the introduction, problem statement, study objectives, research inquiries, significance, scope, limitations, key term definitions, and overall organization of the research. Chapter two the second chapter delved into a comprehensive review of the literature covering concepts and definitions, theoretical underpinnings, empirical studies, and the conceptual framework that guided the study. In chapter three, the research methodology was expounded upon. This section details the study area description, research design, approach, target population, sampling procedures, data collection instruments, data validity and reliability measures, data collection process, and the analysis and interpretation methods. Chapter four of the study encompassed the presentation, analysis, and interpretation of data. This section involved the use of tabular presentations and narrative discussions to delve into the data. Chapter five, on the other hand, focused on summarizing the findings, drawing conclusions, and providing recommendations based on the data analysis conducted in Chapter Four.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter deals with concepts and definitions, theoretical reviews, empirical reviews and conceptual frame work of the study.

2.1. Concepts and Definitions

2.1.1. Definitions of Conflict

Conflict is a struggle between two sides resulting from a difference in goals, motivations, ideals, etc. Man against nature, man against society, or even man against themselves can be the conflict instead of always being man against man (Quincy Wright, 1990). The word "conflict" has no one definition. This is because it seems to be a fundamental element of human performance in living activities. Various academics have made the same attempts to define the concept.

Conflict, according to Wright (Ibid: 19), is opposition between social entities that independently strive for goals for which there are insufficient resources to meet everyone's needs. Conflict arises among individuals in various human relationships and social contexts. The way in which conflict is managed determines whether it leads to positive outcomes or negative consequences (Deutsch & Coleman, 2000).

According to NURC (2008), conflict refers to a disagreement or opposing views between two or more individuals, groups, regions, or even nations stemming from differing perspectives and interests. Imobighe (2003) defines conflict as a state of disagreement within an interaction process, often arising due to conflicting interests among the involved parties. This clash of interests may occur when parties are pursuing incompatible goals or objectives. Conflict can also be viewed as a situation where two or more parties engage in a confrontation or struggle towards incompatible or competitive means or ends (University for Peace, 2005). Similar to the above ideas, conflict is a situation in which two or more parties try hard to acquire the same scarce resources at the same time (Mikael & Swanstrom, 2005).

Nathan (2007) defined conflict as a consequence of significant transformations driven by popular pressure in pursuit of essential political or economic change (Nathan, 2007). Meanwhile, Spangler (2003) identified that conflicts tend to emerge over non-negotiable issues, which include fundamental human needs, intolerable moral differences, and high-stakes distributional disputes regarding essential resources such as water and land (Spangler, 2003). These perspectives highlight the role of societal pressures and the importance of basic needs and resources in fueling conflicts.

2.1.2. Causes of Conflict

The shifting relationships between various factors, including technologies, psychology, society, and intellect, can lead to conflict. There is not only one thing that leads to conflict. Human civilizations have disputes because jealousy, envy, and war are universal feelings among individuals. However, we can confidently say that in the previous several centuries, peace has been the more "normal" state, and war has been the more abnormal conduct. The reasons behind conflict can be anything from material ones, such as the desire to conquer land or natural resources (Jeong, 1995).

Conflicts arising from disputes between individuals or groups over the allocation of limited resources, values, or access to power are both unavoidable and essential. They are inevitable due to the interdependent nature of human beings and the inherent impossibility of satisfying all needs and desires simultaneously. The types of conflicts vary across different domains and are influenced by the economic, sociocultural, and political dynamics within a society.

2.1.2.1 Economic Factors

Economic Cause One fundamental and enduring cause of conflict is economic disparity. Factors such as debt burdens, inadequate capital inflows from foreign sources, and ineffective aid programs often contribute to conflicts (Adeleye, 2012). Frances (2002) outlines four economic theories that explain conflict based on factors like collective or group motivations and private interests(Adeleye, 2012).

Economic determinists argue that beneath the facade of political power struggles lies a fundamental battle for economic resources. According to this perspective, individuals who attain political power inevitably leverage it to secure economic benefits for themselves and their supporters, often at the expense of their competitors. Those who articulate their grievances through political channels are essentially voicing concerns about their disadvantaged economic circumstances.

In Africa, economic factors are recognized as significant catalysts for ethnic conflicts. Within multiethnic societies such as South Africa, different ethnic groups engage in violent competition over limited resources (Cocodia, 2008). The continent's history is rife with examples that support this notion, including the brutal conflicts over diamonds in Sierra Leone and the ethnic clashes in Nigeria driven by the desire to control the nation's abundant oil reserves (Wolf, 2006). In the realm of interethnic conflict, a state's approach to its cultural groups plays a significant role in either mitigating or exacerbating tensions. Policies that discriminate against or oppress

indigenous groups can fuel interethnic animosities. Henderson (2010) highlights that repressive measures aimed at indigenous populations often serve to escalate interethnic tensions. Moreover, cultural domination and political suppression are identified as primary catalysts for clashes between different ethnic groups (Dagne, 2009). When ethnic distinctions are based on language, conflicts frequently revolve around language usage, particularly in official government settings and educational institutions. On the other hand, when ethnic divisions are rooted in religion, disputes commonly arise concerning the place of religion in society and the impact of religious beliefs on public policies (Kaufman, 2011).

The presence of intra-state conflicts is characterized by clashes between different groups driven by their respective interests, resentments, and ambitions. These factors serve as motivations for conflict within societies. Divisions within societies can occur along various lines, such as cultural, religious, topographical, or class-based. Grievances stemming from these group differences often lead to disparities and inequalities, which can escalate into significant sources of conflict. These group disparities manifest in multiple dimensions, including economic, political, and social aspects (ibid).

Moreover, privileged groups within a society may also be incentivized to engage in conflict to safeguard their advantages against challenges posed by less privileged groups (Stewart, 2002).

Private interest or motivation suggests that individual costs and benefits play a crucial role in motivating individuals to participate in conflicts. When individuals face limited opportunities due to factors like low incomes and inadequate employment prospects, the likelihood and intensity of wars tend to increase (Adeleye, 2012).

2.1.2.2 Political Factors

Control of territory is the most basic and essential political issue that can lead to ethnic conflicts. The status of the territory often lies at the core of many ethnic disputes. Furthermore, in certain cases, a particular ethnic group may have seized control of governmental institutions and utilized this power to favor its members. Ethnic communities that perceive unequal treatment of their members are likely to demand fair representation in the political system (Abbink, 2007). Additionally, some scholars view democratization as a political factor capable of sparking ethnic conflicts. Three key aspects of democratization play a significant role in the emergence of such conflicts. Firstly, it provides an opportunity for previously marginalized or oppressed groups to mobilize and organize their ethnic constituents, potentially leading to conflict. Secondly, political

competition can create both winners and losers due to a direct outcome of the political arena's openness. Third, the growing diversity of actors creates rivalry for resources and constituencies, and lastly, the series of democratic processes (Vorrath et al., 2007)

Impact of Political Corruption: Political malpractice serves as a fundamental trigger for numerous global conflicts, particularly prevalent in developing nations. This issue arises when politicians exploit national resources for personal gain, exacerbating poverty levels within society. Consequently, such corrupt behavior contributes to severe deficiencies in meeting basic needs, obstructing the formation of effective governance structures and robust financial institutions crucial for societal stability and advancement (Arthur, 2009).

2.1.2.3 Social factors

To elucidate the causes of ethnic conflict, various scholars utilized different methods in their endeavor of explanation. The factors for conflict can differ from case to case in different times and places. They represent a complex combination of political, economic and socio-cultural factors.

Breakdown of the Social Contract: The concept posits that social order and harmony are established through an implicit agreement between the populace and the governing body. Citizens consent to the authority of the state in exchange for essential services and favorable economic circumstances. When there is a lack of economic progress or a failure in service provision by the government, this social contract is breached, leading to potential unrest and violence (Stewart, 2002).

Language Barriers: In many nations, diverse populations exist with a variety of languages spoken. This linguistic diversity often leads to challenges in communication due to the inability to use all languages equally.

Ethnicity: Another significant factor contributing to conflicts is ethnicity. Following independence, the rapid formation of new states prompted urgent calls for nation-building by emerging leaders, particularly in Africa. Various movements advocating for self-rule emerged, such as the Katanga ethnic group in Zaire, the Biafra ethnic group in Nigeria, and ethnic groups in Sudan and Somalia (Adeleye, 2012). The deployment of foreign troops to address such conflicts can worsen human rights abuses against civilian populations, as these troops may not identify with the people they are sent to govern. Ethnic fragmentation further intensifies conflict risks as different ethnic groups compete for a nation's limited and underdeveloped resources.

In a similar vein, Arthur (2009) elucidated that artificial political boundaries and colonial discrimination have laid the groundwork for ethnic tensions in many developing nations. The exacerbation of these issues is often attributed to poor governance. When a sense of national identity is lacking, individuals tend to gravitate towards identifying with their ethnic groups. This phenomenon is particularly prevalent when governments neglect critical issues such as security, property rights, poverty, and famine.

Power: Jacob et al. (2015) define power as the capability or authority to execute actions or influence and control others. It plays a pivotal role in determining who holds decision-making authority and the nature of those decisions. Disproportionate power dynamics between politicians and the populace they govern, as well as those who work for them or purchase their goods and services, can lead to societal unrest and disorder. The concept of 'powerlessness' emerges when individuals perceive themselves as lacking power, fail to utilize their power effectively, or are not acknowledged by others as possessing power.

2.1.3 Concept of Peace

Plenty of resources are invested in explaining the concept of peace. The concept does not merely connote the absence of war or violent conflict stemming from ethnic, cultural, religious, or political differences but the simultaneous presence of social justice, harmony, and equity (Oshewolo & Fashagba, 2014). While the former represents negative peace, the latter implies positive peace.

Peace, a contested concept with no fixed meaning, is the framework within which conflicts unfold non-violently and creatively into positive change. It is also seen as concord, or harmony and tranquility; it is defined as 'a political condition that ensures justice and social stability through formal and informal institutions, practices and norms.' It is defined as a state of law or civil government, justice or goodness or balance or equilibrium of powers. Peace occurs in contexts where people are free to make their own choices and able to settle their differences in a non-violent manner (Lund, 1996).

Galtung (1996) develops the core concepts that are critical for understanding the term "peace building." These are the concepts of negative and positive peace. According to Galtung, negative peace can be achieved by ceasing or ending conflict behaviors that lead to direct or physical violence. Positive peace can be maintained by transforming structural injustices that are prevalent in socio-cultural, socio-economic, and socio-political structures and institutions and

may lead to structural and cultural violence. According to Galtung's points of view, peacebuilding is the outcome of addressing and removing the root causes of structural and cultural violence, which helps to manage the situations that may lead to direct violence. Peace is the consideration of values and norms related to gender, human rights, and justice and conflict transformation.

Björkdahl (2012) posited that the border concept of peace building encompasses processes related to democracy and state-building, along with the mitigation of sources of inequality and injustice rooted in factors such as ethnicity, religion, gender, and class. The notion of peace has evolved in alignment with international norms and strategies concerning peace and conflict management. This evolution has transitioned from a primary focus on conflict prevention to a more pronounced emphasis on what is now recognized as peace building (Diehl, 2006; Mason et al., 2006). Peace building has emerged as a significant contemporary concern among nations since the 1990s, eliciting varied definitions from scholars and stakeholders. Former UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali defines peacebuilding as the strategic implementation of actions to strengthen existing structures and prevent conflict from escalating into violence. This multifaceted approach addresses fundamental causes of conflicts, advocating for social and economic equity, establishing robust governance frameworks, and ensuring the rule of law. Peace building encompasses initiatives to foster peaceful coexistence and eradicate violence, focusing on three dimensions: addressing structural contradictions, improving inter-party relations, and transforming individual mindsets and behaviors. These efforts collectively contribute to sustainable peace and stability.

Enhancing individual capacities for peace, dismantling stereotypes, empowering historically marginalized groups, and addressing the psychological scars of conflict are essential components of fostering peace Lund (2001)

2.1.5 The Concept of Peace Building

Negative peace denotes a state where peace is merely the absence of violence. In contrast, positive peace signifies a state that actively promotes reconciliation and coexistence based on principles of human rights, social equity, and political justice. In this framework, Lund posits that peace building involves activities aimed at enhancing societies' abilities to cultivate positive peace. Peace building is a multifaceted concept that encompasses and supports a wide array of processes, methodologies, and tactics necessary for shifting conflicts towards more enduring and harmonious relationships (Lederach, 1996).

Peace building, as defined by Cohn (2013), is a comprehensive process that involves activities conducted both before and after peace negotiations. It extends beyond singular events and necessitates sustained involvement, encompassing all endeavors directed towards eradicating structural violence and establishing frameworks for peace. This multifaceted approach includes proactive, preventative, managerial, and relationship-building actions that transcend the scope of peace talks. It incorporates strategies such as early warning systems, prompt responses to potential conflicts, and mediation efforts to de-escalate tensions before they erupt into violence. Peace building is an enduring endeavor that mandates nations to devise internally driven policies and inclusive strategies tailored to address local requirements and aspirations, thereby offering a sustainable roadmap for development.

In order to achieve the objective, it is crucial to involve women's representatives and civil society at all levels. Zartman (2000) highlights that peace building focuses on utilizing an endogenous approach to reconnect individuals, families, and communities with the aim of reconstructing social harmony. Elradi (2018) defines peace building as the process of implementing programs that target the root causes of conflict and historical grievances while promoting long-term stability and justice. Peace building primarily addresses the underlying factors and attitudes that contribute to violence, such as inequality, discrimination, social injustice, exclusion, prejudices, stereotypes, mistrust, fear, and hostility among different groups. It serves as a transformative process for instigating positive social and political changes by addressing the fundamental causes of conflict.

2.1.6 Conflict transformation Approaches

Conflict transformation (CT) first surfaced as an alternative to conflict resolution in the 1990s. It seeks to put an end to destructive disputes and create desirable societies. CT functions on a local, national, regional and international scale while considering how linked all conflicts are. Offering the tools, resources, and assistance required empowers those impacted by conflict and the communities around them. Elite decision-makers, like politicians and policymakers, are also involved in swaying outcomes in favor of more inclusive, just, and sustainable. With a focus on both immediate causes and underlying structural problems, CT considers both short and long-term perspectives on conflict. In order to treat wounds, restore trust, and encourage reconciliation, the entire course of a conflict, from pre-violence to post-violence, must be taken into account (Maies, 2003).

According to Lederach (2015), the transformation process has several facets and entails many adjustments at various stages. Contextual transformations, structural transformation, actor transformation, issue transformation, and personal transformations are the five basic categories of transformation recognized in conflict resolution and peace building. A conflict's global or local context can be changed to advance democracy, human rights, social justice, and sustainable development. In order to develop more inclusive and equitable structures, structural transformations concentrate on altering state- or society-level mechanisms that fuel conflict.

In order to encourage peaceful coexistence and collaboration, actor transformations involve altering the attitudes, behaviors, and connections between conflict parties and elites. Issue transformations concentrate on altering the character of disagreements, locating shared interests, and developing original solutions. Personal transformations involve acquiring the knowledge, abilities, and attitudes necessary for resolving disputes amicably. In general, transformation tries to deal with the underlying issues that lead to disputes and turn hostile energy into constructive social and political change.

2.1.7 Stakeholders of Conflict Resolution

Any conflict participants or those impacted by conflict processes are considered actors in conflict resolution. Various stakeholders are involved in conflict resolution, and each has varied objectives, interests, roles, and abilities (Norwegian Church Aid, 2012 and cited in Kebede 2020). As a result, both internal and external players can play a role in conflict resolution in various ways and means.

Several parties are involved in the dispute resolution process using conflict resolution tools. According to Alula and Getachew (2008), lineage is involved in dispute settlement in various Ethiopian regions. The majority of Ethiopia's mechanisms for settling conflicts are accessible to anyone interested. Three sorts of actors can be distinguished among those who participate in conflict resolution. They are the disputing parties (plaintiff and defendant), the elders who settle disputes, and the mass of affected people. Everyone who is interested or who supports the disputants makes up the crowd. These participants in the dispute resolution process each have a duty and a right (Mellers 2008; Daniel 2016, Ambaye 2008)

2.2. Theoretical review

2.2.1. Peace Building Theory

Building peace is a challenging endeavor that depends on several assumptions. These include the following: an integrated strategy, long-term commitment, local ownership and engagement,

conflict transformation, and conflict sensitivity. Conflict transformation aims to turn confrontations into positive events that result in long-lasting peace and constructive societal change. Local engagement and ownership are essential since they go against the top-down strategy that is frequently connected to outside interventions. A thorough approach tackles how political, social, economic, and cultural elements are intertwined and contribute to the continuation of conflicts. All parties involved must maintain their commitment to promoting trust, peacemaking, and inclusive governance frameworks to achieve sustainable peace (Hentuang, 2020).

World Vision and other humanitarian organizations are vital to peace building because they offer necessities, foster social harmony, and facilitate communication between parties involved in the conflict. Their strategy includes encouraging economic empowerment, facilitating intergroup communication, and endorsing dispute resolution procedures. For their peace-building initiatives to be effective, they must constantly monitor and assess their progress, looking at metrics like fewer acts of violence, stronger social cohesiveness, easier access to essential services, and better prospects for employment. Sustainable practices ought to be included in the World. Peace-building World Vision's programs must incorporate sustainability considerations to guarantee continued peace-building efforts. Humanitarian organizations can make a substantial contribution to the establishment of long-lasting peace in areas affected by violence by coordinating their activities with peace-building principles and interacting with various stakeholders (World Vision & CRS, 2018).

2.2.2. Conflict Resolution Theory

The conflict resolution theory is one well-known idea that directs the work of humanitarian groups in promoting peace. This theory emphasizes the importance of addressing grievances and resolving disputes through dialogue, mediation, and negotiation. Humanitarian organizations employ conflict resolution strategies to mitigate tensions and promote peaceful coexistence among the Guji Gedeo communities. The conflict resolution theory plays a crucial role in guiding humanitarian organizations in peace-building efforts. This theory emphasizes addressing underlying grievances and resolving disputes through dialogue, mediation, and negotiation. Humanitarian organizations apply conflict resolution strategies to mitigate tensions and promote peaceful coexistence among communities facing conflicts (UNSC, 2018).

In the context of the Guji Gedeo communities, the conflict resolution theory can be instrumental in facilitating reconciliation and sustainable peace. By understanding the root cause of the

conflict and engaging in constructive dialogue, humanitarian organizations can work towards fostering understanding and cooperation between the conflicting parties. Moreover, conflict resolution theory encourages identifying common interests and the development of mutually beneficial solutions, which can contribute to long-term stability and harmony within the community. By employing conflict resolution approaches such as mediation and negotiation, humanitarian organizations can create platforms for conflicting parties to express their grievances, explore potential solutions, and ultimately reach agreements that address their concerns. Additionally, conflict resolution theory underscores the importance of building trust and fostering relationships between different groups, which are essential elements for sustainable peace-building efforts (World Vision & CRS, 2018). With the basic definitions of different approaches together with the clear intervention modalities of the organization, the study is leaning towards employing the three approaches.

2.3. Empirical review

2.3.1. The 2018 Guji Gedeo conflict

When analyzing the internal displacements brought on by the 2018 conflicts closely, we see that approximately one million people were displaced (DTM, 2019). Put another way, the Guji-Gedeo war accounted for almost half of Ethiopia's internally displaced people in 2018. The seriousness of the situation and the imperative for further investigation into the conflict itself are underscored by this. Moreover, it elevated the conflict to be the primary catalyst for internal displacement in Ethiopia during that particular year. Regrettably, there is a scarcity of information available regarding the conflict, both concerning the events that transpired and the underlying causes. Scholarly research on the subject appears to be lacking, with our current knowledge primarily derived from news articles and reports issued by humanitarian organizations.

In contemporary Ethiopia, many conflicts categorized as ethnic revolve around disputes over boundaries between ethnic groups with defined territories. Struggles over identity are being fought to delineate the borders of districts and zones, with the 'identity' professed by local populations serving as a pivotal factor. The government frequently asserts that clashes between groups occur 'spontaneously,' such as in the tragic Guji-Gedeo conflict of 1998-99; however, this narrative obscures the complex dynamics that generate conflict behavior in rural settings (Abbink, 2007).

A common solution to recurring boundary issues in Southern Ethiopia has been the division of administrative units, often referred to as 'secession' on a smaller scale. The Southern Regional State has experienced a significant increase in the number of administrative zones over the years. Initially starting with nine zones in 1993, it now comprises thirteen zones and an additional eight 'special woredas' designated for specific ethnic groups like Alaba, Dirashe, Konso, and Burji. These special woredas are typically established following repeated conflicts. However, more complex challenges arise from disputes over power dynamics and access to limited resources within shared territories, as illustrated by three specific cases discussed further below (Yusuf, 2019). This proliferation of administrative units and the underlying conflicts highlight the profound issues facing Ethiopians, particularly violent inter-group conflicts that pose a substantial threat to the security of individuals residing in conflict-affected regions and the nation as a whole. An example of such violence occurred in 2018 when clashes erupted between the Guji and Gedieo ethnic groups after two decades of relative peace (Abnik, 2007).

Gardner (2019) argues that the government's rapid efforts to resolve the conflict caused people to flee to their homes just to be uprooted once more, which is why there were repeated waves of displacement. To try to resolve the dispute, the government was also involved in the execution of the Gondoro rite. After the first attempt at the Gondoro's execution failed, it was claimed that the second attempt was premature and that the ceremony's validity was undermined when the government, not the Gaadda leaders, ordered it. The Gondoro was executed twice throughout the fight. Three categories could be made out of the displaced people: those who were displaced within the zones, those who were displaced from Gedieo to Guji, and those who were displaced from Guji to Gedieo.

Researchers have determined that various other variables, rather than ethnic differences, were the root cause of the clashes in 1995 and 1998. Some academics have argued that resource rivalry was a significant factor (Hussein, 2002; Tefari, 2012). Other scholars have challenged this idea, arguing that it is far too simplistic to dismiss the Guji and Gedeo war as a conventional resource competition (Dagne, 2013; Asebe, 2007).

To judge from the sheer number of deaths and displacements, both conflicts were much more severe than any previous resource-related conflicts had been. According to research, the conflicts are mainly concerned with social, political, and cultural issues. Apart from that, the academic community generally accepts the causes and contributing aspects of the conflicts in 1995 and 1998. First of all, research indicates that the 1990s deployment of the ethnic federalist system

turned the long-standing resource struggle between the two groups into a border conflict. That is the conclusion drawn by Ethiopian researcher Kinfemichael, who focused on conflict resolution when studying the Guji-Gedeo disputes (Kinfemichael, 2014, p. 63).

Regassa's (2007) study focused on the relationships between Guji and Gedeo communities in Ethiopia, providing a detailed analysis of their interactions and disputes in the early 1990s. The study's findings shed light on the nuanced dynamics between these two groups during that period. Regassa's research delves into the complexities of the relationships between the Guji and Gedeo communities, offering insights into their historical interactions, social dynamics, and conflicts. The study provides a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing their relationships and sheds light on the shifting dynamics that characterized their interactions during the early 1990s.

The findings of Regassa's study are further supported by Kinfemichaels and Dagne's arguments, adding depth and credibility to the research. By examining the intricate details of the disputes and relationships between the Guji and Gedeo ethnic groups, Regassa's study contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of Ethiopian communities' social and historical dynamics.

2.3.2. Causes of the Guji-Gedeo Conflict

Proximate Causes: Proximate causes can be classified based on whether they are instigated by elite-level or mass-level factors and whether internal or external developments trigger them. According to Brown (2001), there are four primary types of proximate causes of internal conflict: Bad Domestic Problems (Internal, Mass-Level Factor): These issues stem from internal mass-level factors like rapid economic growth, modernization, instances of political or economic discrimination, and internal migration such as urbanization. Additionally, the influx of refugees or fighters from neighboring nations often brings violence and unrest across borders. Bad Neighborhoods (External, Mass-Level Factor): Radicalized politics can result in contagion diffusion and spillover effects, leading to the creation of "bad neighborhoods" caused by external mass-level factors. Bad Leaders (Internal, Elite Level Factor): Internal elite-level factors like poor leadership can contribute significantly to the escalation of conflicts within a nation. Bad Neighbors (External, Elite Level Factor): External elite-level factors involving hostile relationships with neighboring countries can also play a crucial role in fostering internal conflicts. For instance, the Hutu refugee camps in Zaire became prime recruitment zones for rebel forces (Emilie, 2020).

2.3.3. Stakeholders and Peace building Efforts in the Guji Gedee Conflict of 2018

The concept is that for a peace agreement to be effective and enduring, all sectors of society, including government bodies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), businesses, educational institutions, media outlets, religious groups, funding organizations, activists, and private citizens, must actively participate in the broader endeavor of peace-building. This approach is known as multitask diplomacy, which extends beyond the traditional first two tracks of diplomacy (Miall et al., 2011). The involvement of multiple stakeholders characterized the Guji-Gedee conflict. The conflict primarily revolved around disputes between the Guji Oromo and Gedee communities concerning land ownership, access to resources, and political influence. Below are the key stakeholders and their respective roles in the initiatives aimed at fostering peace.

The Government of Ethiopia: the government played a significant role in resolving the conflict through mediation efforts. The Ethiopian Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed, personally intervened in addressing the conflict and established a committee to resolve the issue. The government also provided security forces to maintain law and order in the affected areas.

Oromo and Gedee Communities: The two communities were the main stakeholders in the conflict, and their leaders played a crucial role in the peace-building efforts. The Oromo and Gedee elders, religious leaders, and community representatives worked together to resolve the conflict through traditional conflict resolution mechanisms (Emilie, 2020).

Traditional Leaders: Traditional leaders, such as the Oromo and Gedee kings, played a significant role in promoting peace and reconciliation. These leaders reached out to their communities and mobilized them to support the peace process (Kinfemichael, 2014).

Civil Society Organizations: Civil society organizations, such as the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and the International Crisis Group, played an essential role in promoting dialogue and peaceful resolution. These organizations provided technical support and facilitated communication between the parties. The literature has an ongoing debate about the tension between humanitarian principles (neutrality, impartiality, and independence) and peace-building objectives. Researchers and practitioners grapple with the extent to which humanitarian organizations should engage in peace-building activities while adhering to these principles. This debate reflects the challenge of balancing humanitarian action with the broader goals of conflict resolution and peace (Slim, 2017).

International Community: The international community, including the United Nations, European Union, and African Union, played a critical role in supporting peace-building efforts. The

international community provided financial and technical assistance to the government and civil society organizations to support the peace process.

2.3.4. The Role of Humanitarian Organizations in Peacebuilding.

The analysis of conflict resolution often focuses on the elite level, neglecting the attention given to communities from which these elite political actors derive their authority (Cochrane, 2000). It is crucial to note that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) do not have uniform missions across all regions; their institutional structures vary depending on their operational areas. A large variation in expertise, funding, staffing, organization, and management characterizes the NGO community. NGOs can be categorized into humanitarian NGOs, human rights NGOs, and conflict resolution NGOs. Conflict resolution NGOs, as defined by Aall (2000), are entities that serve as intermediaries in active conflicts. They engage in preventive actions to forestall crises and undertake initiatives to initiate and facilitate dialogue between conflicting parties.

NGOs play a crucial role in conflict resolution, influenced by social movements, alternative conflict management mechanisms, foreign policymakers, and experienced negotiators. They provide logistical support, expertise, and resources to facilitate these processes. Foreign policymakers and negotiators can bring resources, expertise, and legitimacy to NGOs. They may also perform roles outside their area of activity, such as during civil wars or emergencies. Human welfare promotion is another critical aspect of NGOs' work, providing essential services like food aid, medical assistance, education, and shelter to affected populations.

In terms of their primary actions during a crisis, Aall (2000) delineates four key roles that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) undertake: human rights monitoring, early warning systems, mediation and reconciliation efforts, as well as relief and rehabilitation functions. NGOs employ policy work as a significant strategy to address conflicts by delving into the underlying causes of the conflict and devising strategies for reconstructing social institutions to prevent its recurrence. Drawing on their direct field experience and deep understanding of conflicts gained through interactions with affected populations during crises, NGOs are able to offer invaluable expert advice to policymakers and raise awareness about political issues before governments (MacFarlane, 1998, as cited in Stewart, 2004). This specific function has elevated the significance of NGOs in conflict resolution by enhancing their influence and capabilities, positioning them at the core of the international response to conflicts.

Significant Functions of NGOs in Conflict Resolution: Early warning and conflict resolution functions, such as mediation and reconciliation, are pivotal roles played by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The essence of their involvement in early warning stems from preventive diplomacy, enabling the international community to anticipate potential conflicts through the network of NGOs with local communities (Aall, 2000). To effectively engage in early warning mechanisms, peacemakers must possess a profound understanding of the social, political, and economic dynamics surrounding existing conflicts before embarking on intervention efforts. It is crucial for them to critically assess whether conflict prevention is a viable and desirable goal (Bakker, 2001).

Non-governmental organization (NGO) workers are engaged in development and relief efforts, enabling them to proactively identify conditions that could lead to potential conflicts. This proactive approach facilitates more effective prevention strategies. Operational NGOs conduct fact-finding missions that require formal approaches through peacemaking and peacekeeping operations. The effectiveness of these operations is closely tied to the NGOs' understanding of complex emergencies and the specific issues they address (Aall, 2000). NGOs also play a crucial role as advocates with governments, influencing the political will necessary for allocating resources to address crisis needs and respond to early warning signals. According to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC, 2000), NGOs can support governments and international organizations in early warning and prevention efforts by enhancing access to conflicting parties, facilitating information flow, improving response comprehensiveness and enhancing the effectiveness of peace strategies through that their networking and promoting opportunities for significant power involvement in broader preventive and rescue operations. The increased participation of the global community in conflicts within nations and among ethnic groups, even within the borders of war-torn societies, has led to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) assuming a more central role in third-party interventions (Cochrane, 2000).

Consequently, NGOs must innovate new conflict resolution approaches to align their efforts with contemporary challenges. These novel strategies should incorporate methods closely tied to sustainable development and enduring humanitarian aid initiatives to achieve lasting outcomes in the future. This entails establishing a fresh framework that encompasses endeavors aimed at fostering sustained and comprehensive reconciliation among conflicting factions over an extended timeframe (Aall, 2000). Enhancing the infrastructure would lead to improving conditions and addressing the root causes of conflicts. This is accomplished through peace-

building endeavors that heavily depend on external support. Recognizing the value of internal resources is crucial for sustainable outcomes in conflict resolution and management. Local resources, originating from the efforts of indigenous communities to foster peace within their regions, play a vital role. Additionally, leveraging cultural assets underscores the significance of nurturing positive relationships. Securing resources can be challenging, leaving non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at times without the means to carry out their initiatives (Stein, 2001)

NGOs play a significant role in dispute resolution by stepping in where official entities lack access. They fulfil various functions in conflict management. However, challenges arise from the lack of coordination between NGOs and governments due to the different ways of thinking and functions. Governments typically view themselves as primarily responsible for facilitating agreements between conflicting parties and focusing on long-term macro issues. On the other hand, NGOs prioritize social concerns, assess the impact of the accords on human rights, and advocate for equitable terms. This disparity in objectives can hinder effective collaboration between NGOs and governments in crisis resolution. NGOs play a crucial role in conflict resolution, influenced by social movements, alternative conflict management mechanisms, foreign policymakers, and experienced negotiators. They provide logistical support, expertise, and resources to facilitate these processes. Foreign policymakers and negotiators can bring resources, expertise, and legitimacy to NGOs. They may also perform roles outside their area of activity, such as during civil wars or emergencies. Human welfare promotion is another critical aspect of NGOs' work, providing essential services like food aid, medical assistance, education, and shelter to affected populations (Roht-Arriaza, 2019).

The literature has an ongoing debate about the tension between humanitarian principles (neutrality, impartiality, and independence) and peace-building objectives. Researchers and practitioners grapple with the extent to which humanitarian organizations should engage in peace-building activities while adhering to these principles. This debate reflects the challenge of balancing humanitarian action with the broader goals of conflict resolution and peace (Slim, 2017).

The protection of civilians is a central concern in humanitarian contexts. Researchers examine how peace-building efforts can contribute to the safety and well-being of vulnerable populations, particularly in conflict zones. Humanitarian actors are expected to prioritize the security and dignity of civilians affected by conflict (Hilhorst, 2021). The literature underscores the

importance of gender-sensitive approaches and inclusivity in peace-building efforts. Ensuring the active participation of women and marginalized groups in the peace process is considered essential for long-term stability and social cohesion. Gender-sensitive initiatives aim to address the unique needs and vulnerabilities of different segments of the population (Nordås, 2020).

2.4. Conceptual framework of the study

Dependent variable & Independent variable

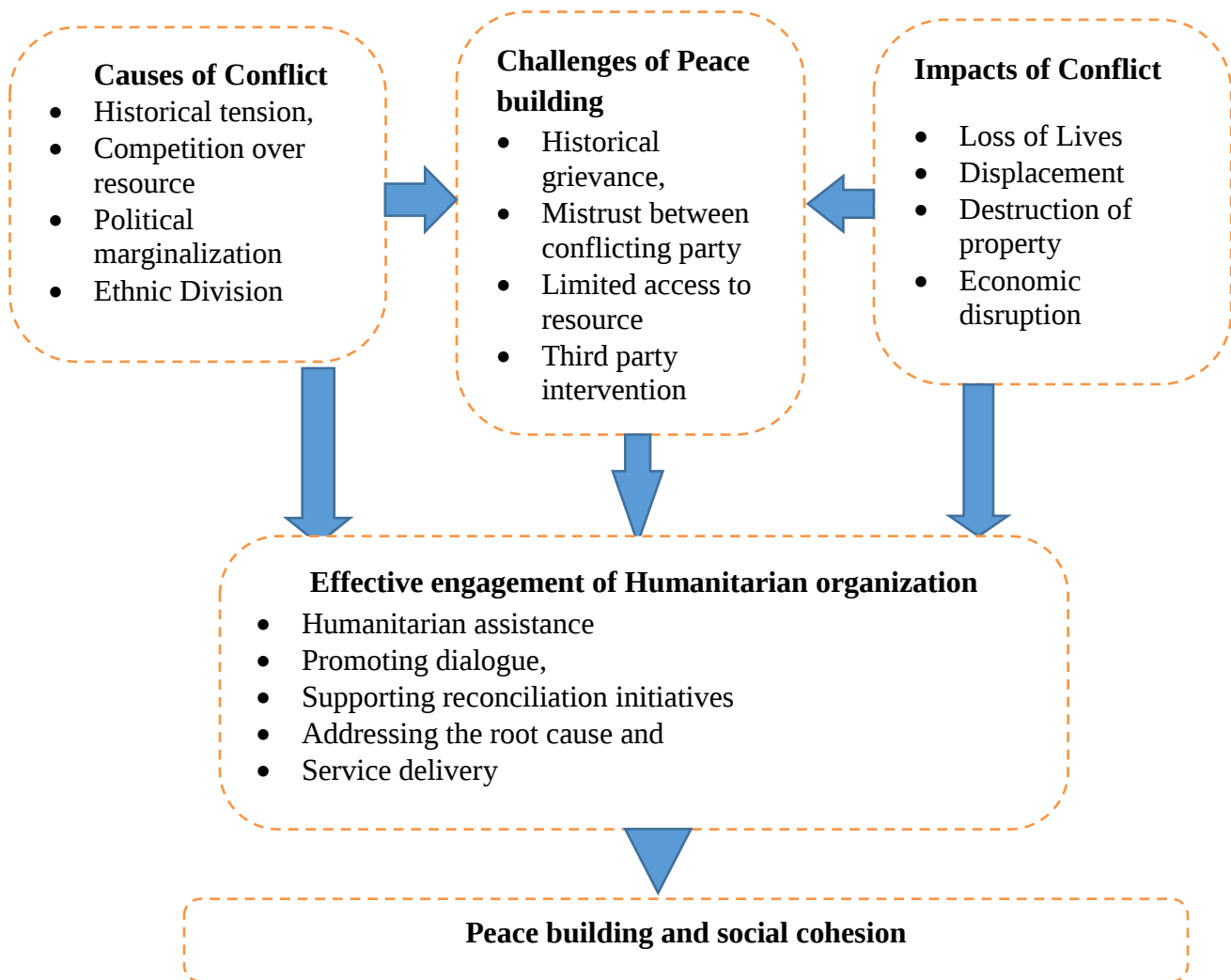


Figure 2.1 Source: Researcher's Own Sketch based on Review of Literature, 2024

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this chapter, various aspects related to the research methodology have been addressed. These include providing an overview of the study area, outlining the chosen research design, detailing the research approach adopted for the study, and specifying the types and sources of data utilized in the research process. Furthermore, it delves into defining the population under study and explaining the sampling procedure employed to select participants or subjects for the study. The chapter also elaborates on the instruments used for data collection and describes the procedures followed during data collection. Additionally, it elucidates the methods employed for analyzing the gathered data and highlights ethical considerations that were taken into account throughout the research process.

3.1. Description of the Study Area

Gedeo is a zone located within the South Ethiopia Regional State (SERS) in Ethiopia. The Oromia Region borders it to the east, south, and west, while its northern boundary meets the Sidama Region. The administrative center of Gedeo is Dilla, along with other significant towns such as Wonago, Yirgachefe, Kochere, and Gedeb. According to the 2007 Census conducted by the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia, Gedeo has a total population of 847,434 residents. Of this population, 424,742 are men and 422,692 are women. With an area spanning 1,210.89 square kilometres, Gedeo boasts a population density of 699.84 individuals per square kilometre. Urban inhabitants in this zone amount to 107,781 people, or 12.72% of the total population. The predominant ethnic groups in Gedeo based on the census data were the Gedeo at 86.14%, followed by the Oromo at 4.71%, the Amhara at 3.37%, and the Gurage at 1.55%. All other ethnic groups collectively constituted 4.23% of the population.

West Guji, situated in the southern part of the Oromia Region in Ethiopia, is a zone bordered by Borena to the south, the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region to the west, the Gedeo Zone of Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region and Sidama Region to the north, and the Guji Zone to the east. The administrative center of West Guji is Bule Hora. According to the 2007 Census conducted by the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia, this zone has a total population of 1,424,267 individuals, with 105,443 residing in urban areas.

3.1.1 Location

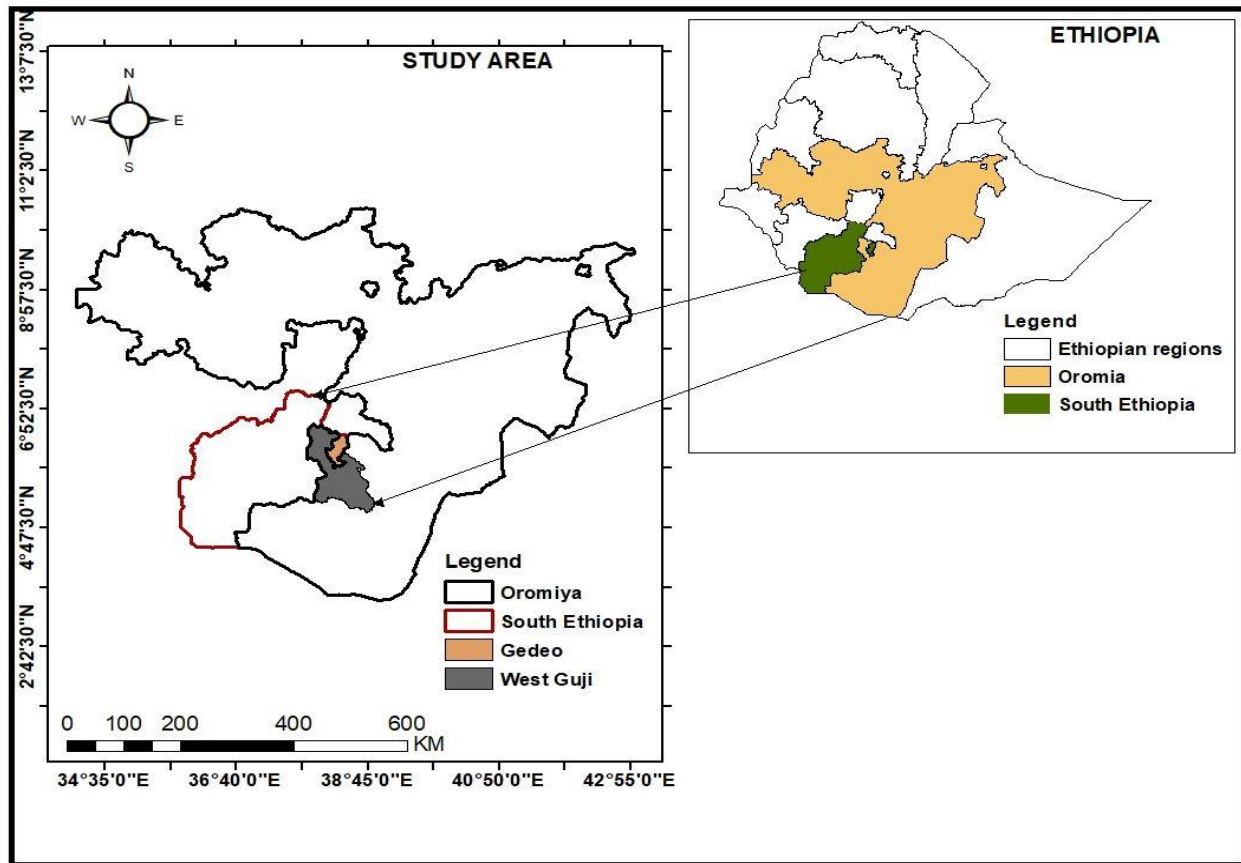


Figure 3.1: Gedeo -West Guji Zone Base Map. Source, GIS 2024

3.2. Research Design

This study utilized a descriptive survey design. Yalew (2005:12) affirmed that employing a descriptive survey aids in portraying the current state of the presence or absence of the subject under investigation. Furthermore, as per Babbie (2008), descriptive research design serves as the framework within which research is carried out; it acts as the plan for data collection, measurement, and analysis. The study also incorporated a cross-sectional survey design. A cross-sectional study involves gathering observations from a sample, or a cross-section, of a population or phenomenon at a single point in time (Babbie, 2016).

3.3. Research Methods

This study employed a mixed method approach, which collects, analyses, and discusses data collected through qualitative and quantitative research methods. A mixed method is a research approach popular in social, behavioral, and health sciences. Researchers collect, analyze, and

integrate both quantitative and qualitative data in a single study or in a sustained long-term program of inquiry to address their research questions (Plano et al., 2008). A mixed methods study involves the collection or analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data in a single study in which the data are collected concurrently or sequentially, are given a priority, and involve the integration of the data at one or more stages in the process of research (Plano et al., 2008).

Mixed methods research is a method that combines qualitative and quantitative data in a single study or program. It is commonly used in social, behavioral, and health sciences to address complex research questions. The priority of each type of data may vary depending on the research question and design. Integration can occur during the design, analysis, and reporting phases. It offers advantages over traditional mono-method approaches, such as a more nuanced understanding of complex phenomena, increased validity and reliability, and generalizability by exploring how findings apply across different populations or settings. It allows researchers to triangulate findings from different sources of data (Kumar 2011).

Comparing the outcomes of World Vision's interventions with other similar programs or regions can offer a broader perspective on their effectiveness. This comparative analysis can highlight best practices, challenges faced, and lessons learned that can inform future conflict resolution and peace-building efforts. Engaging with various stakeholders such as community members, local leaders, government officials, and World Vision staff can provide diverse viewpoints on the initiatives' impact. Understanding different stakeholders' perspectives is crucial for a comprehensive assessment of effectiveness.

3.4. Study Population, Sample Size, and Sampling Techniques

3.4.1. Target Population

The target population refers to the specific group of individuals or households that the research aims to investigate. In this case, the study focuses on the households of the Guji and Gedieo communities, which consist of elders, civil servants, displaced individuals, and youths. According to Babbie (2008), a population is defined as the aggregation of elements in a study that is theoretically specified.

3.5. Sampling Technique and Sample Size Determination

3.5.1. Sample Size Determination

Sample Size Determination: To calculate the sample sizes required for the study, Yamane's 1960 formula will be used. The formula is as follows: $n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$, where n represents the desired sample size, N denotes the target population size of the study, e is the margin of error percentage, and Ne^2 is the sampling error. In this instance, the confidence level is 93% and a margin of error of 0.07. The total number of households from four Woredas forms part of the target population N. Therefore, we can calculate n using this formula $n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$ $n = \frac{1400}{1+1400(0.07)^2} = 178.11 \approx 178$

From the total sample size, it was further proportionality for each community member of Guji and community members of Gedieo such as Galena Woreda, = 51, Abaya Woreda =45, Gedeb woreda= 44, and Dilla Zuria = 38 by using the following formula $n_{kn} = \frac{kn}{N} * n$ concerning the total number of households in each woreda 400,350,350, and 300 respectively.

$$n_{kn} = \frac{kn}{N} * n = n_{k1} = \frac{400}{1400} * 178 = 51 \quad n_{k2} = \frac{350}{1400} * 178 = 45$$

$$n_{k3} = \frac{350}{1400} * 178 = 44 \quad n_{k4} = \frac{300}{1400} * 178 = 38$$

3.5.2. Sampling Procedure

This study was conducted in 13 Guji and Gedieo conflict-stricken woredas. To make the study manageable, the researcher selected four woredas from a total of 13 woredas using simple random sampling. These woredas are selected randomly based on the researcher's vicinity and the availability of peace-building initiatives. Accordingly, Galena, Abaya, Gedeb, and Dilla Zuria Woreda were selected as samples for this study. The selection of four woredas out of the total 13 was done through simple random sampling, which is a method where each member of the population has an equal chance of being selected. This approach helps in reducing bias and ensuring that the sample is reflective of the entire population. Nonprobability sampling refers to the selection of samples in a manner that deviates from the principles of probability theory. This can involve methods such as using available subjects, purposive (judgmental), quota, and snowball sampling. In contrast, probability sampling involves employing random sampling techniques that enable researchers to draw conclusions from a limited number of observations

and apply those findings to a larger population. Purposive sampling is utilized to select interviewees and focus group participants from residents within the study area, while simple random sampling is employed to acquire representative samples from the entire population (Babbie, 2016); Rubin & Babbie (2011).

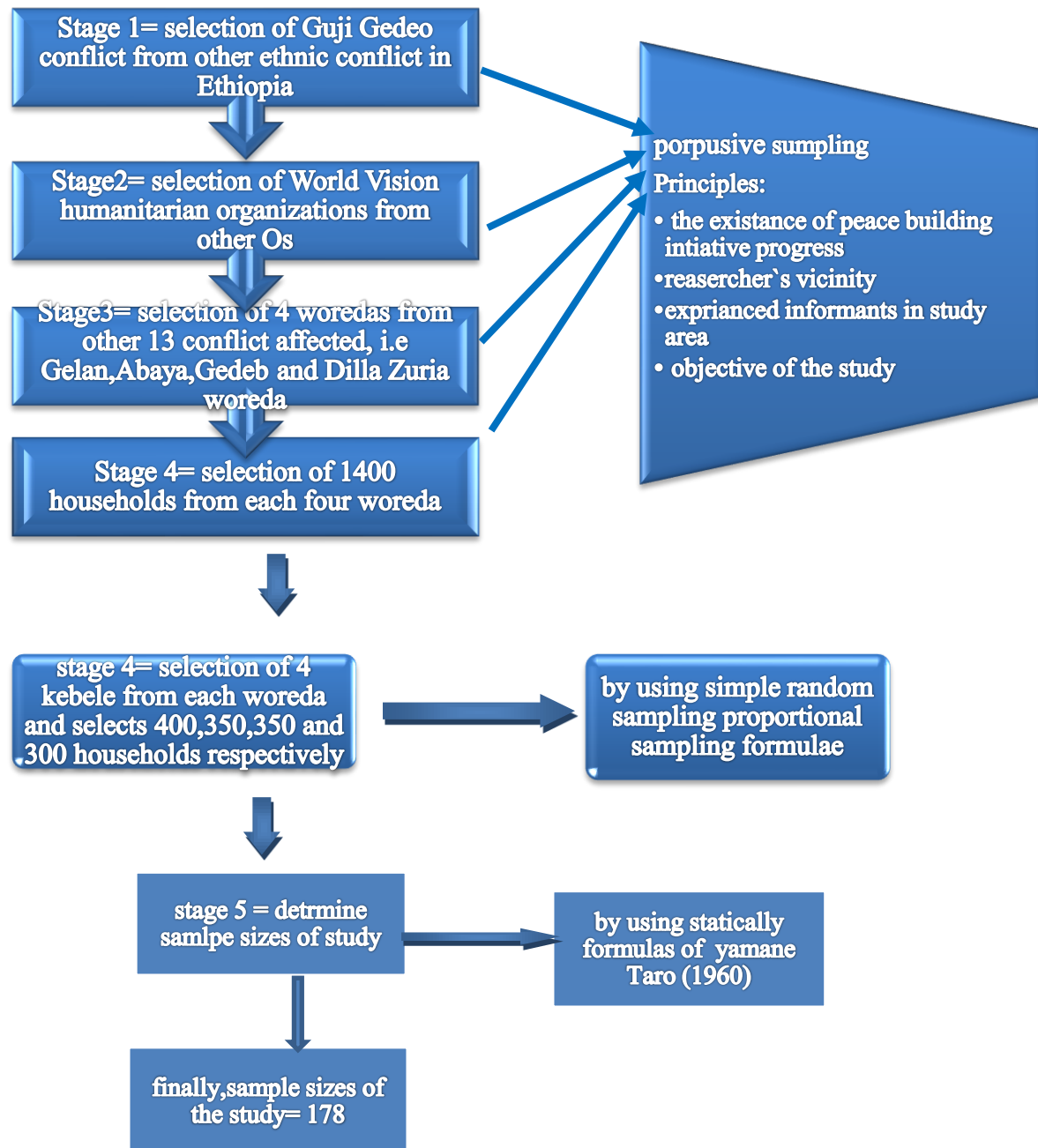


Diagram 3.1: Summary of Target Population and procedure Sample Size

3.6. Sources of Data

To obtain accurate and trustworthy data, the researcher consulted the right sources of information. Thus, a large number of primary and secondary data sources are used in this study. Participants in the Guji-Gedieo conflict of 2018 and those involved in the process of fostering peace between the Guji and Gedieo communities provide first-hand knowledge, which is obtained through primary data sources. Semi-structured key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and closed- and open-ended questionnaires are used to gather primary data. In addition to primary data, the researcher also reviews secondary sources such as published materials like journal articles and books. By utilizing both primary and secondary sources, the researcher can gather a comprehensive set of data that is analyzed to draw meaningful conclusions.

3.7. Data Collection Tools

The study gathers pertinent data on intercommoned conflicts, interventions for conflict resolution, and the part played by humanitarian organizations like World Vision in peace building efforts using a variety of data collection methods. The survey, key informant interviews, and focus group discussion guides are used as primary data collection tools.

3.7.1. Focus Group Discussion (FGDs)

A focus group discussion is a qualitative research technique involving a small group of individuals brought together to discuss a specific topic or issue (Bernard 2011). To gather comprehensive information on the historical interaction between the Guji and Gedieo communities and their influence on the dynamics of conflict and social cohesion in the region, the researcher conducts four focus group discussions (FGDs). Each FGD session is conducted at a different place, with the Guji and Gedieo communities, which include the most influential community members and religious groups with group sizes of 6, 8, 7, and 6 participants, respectively.

In addition to that, FGD was employed to assess the role of community engagement and participation in the success/effectiveness of World Vision's initiatives in the study area. Therefore, a focus group discussion was conducted to cross-check interview data. The discussion lasts up to 1:00 hour each. The researcher chose focus group discussions as a data collection tool in this study because it allows for open and unrestricted discussions among participants, enabling them to share their ideas, clarify impressions, and express their opinions.

3.7.2. Key Informant Interview.

Key informant interviews are a qualitative research method involving in-depth interviews with individuals with specialized knowledge or expertise on a particular topic or community (Creswell, 2009), which helps to deal with issues related to the effectiveness of World Vision's

peace-building strategies in reducing conflict and promoting social cohesion between the Guji and Gedieo communities. For this study, twelve key informants are purposively selected from NGO directors and stakeholder experts to gather data through open-ended face-to-face interviews, with an equal distribution from each category. Thus, a semi-structured interview was employed to collect detailed information from NGO directors and World Vision organization staff.

Since the primary purpose of the critical informant interview was to get additional information from the stakeholders of the peace-building process, focal persons, and responsible bodies, semi-structured interview question guides were prepared and administered to supplement the questionnaire's response. Thus, the researcher comprehensively recorded information from an interview through written notes on what the interviewee said. A total of twenty in-depth interviews were personally conducted. Out of these, five interviewees were selected from World Vision staff to analyze the effectiveness of World Vision initiatives in peace building among the Guji Gedieo community; five interviewees were also selected from each Woreda government official. On the other hand, five key interviewees (informants) were selected from local community leaders and subordinated bodies, and five key interviewees were informants from youth and women from each woreda.

3.7.3. Questionnaire

A questionnaire is a tool used in research that comprises a series of inquiries intended to collect information or data from individuals or groups. It is a form containing questions and other elements aimed at obtaining information suitable for analysis. Questionnaires are primarily employed in survey research, as well as experiments, field studies, and various observation methods (Babbie, 2016). The researcher developed a questionnaire distributed to 178 participants to gather primary data. This questionnaire includes a combination of open-ended and closed-ended questions.

Interview-administered questionnaires containing open and closed-ended questions will be prepared in English and translated into local languages both in Amharic and Oromiffa to obtain detailed information on the issues under consideration. To help the participants understand the questionnaires, the study used an oriented questionnaire. The questions are carefully designed to address the specific research objectives and cover relevant issues.

3.8. Data Collection Procedure

The researcher obtained approval from relevant authorities for data collection through various methods, including questionnaires, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and surveys. To ensure effective communication and gather accurate information from the Guji and Gedieo communities, both closed-ended and open-ended questionnaires were prepared in English and translated into the local language. The researcher and an enumerator personally

collected the completed questionnaires following assessments on the role of humanitarian organizations in peacebuilding within these communities using World Vision as a case study.

3.9. Methods of Data Analysis and Presentations

Using World Vision as a case study, this research examines the role that humanitarian groups play in fostering peace between the Guji and Gedeo communities. The collected data would be interpreted using techniques for both quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Grounded theory analysis was used to examine the qualitative information gathered from open-ended questionnaires, focus groups, and key informant interviews. Grounded theory observations, according to Rubin & Babbie (2011), are a qualitative process for creating theories from data by starting with observations and searching for common categories, themes, or patterns.

The quantitative data collected from the questionnaires was processed, inputted, and analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 24 software. Initially, the data was organized into tables. Subsequently, percentages and frequencies were utilized to analyze the data obtained through the questionnaires. The outcomes of the data analysis were then categorized, summarized, discussed, and presented accordingly. Finally, the findings were interpreted and communicated through narratives, tables, and charts to derive meaningful conclusions and recommendations.

3.10. Ethical Considerations

Before data collection, researchers must obtain approvals and adhere to ethical guidelines. They obtain an introductory letter from Hawassa University, a permit from the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, maintain confidentiality of respondents' identities, explain the study's purpose, and distribute questionnaires voluntarily. Confidentiality protects respondents' rights and prevents harm. The Researcher explained the purpose of the study and asked for voluntary participation. Questionnaires are distributed only after consent, excluding personal identification information, ensuring participant privacy while allowing valuable data collection for academic purposes.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

4.1. Introduction

This section delves into an examination and discussion of the primary research discoveries derived from data collected through focus group dialogues, interviews, and surveys within the study region. It focuses on the dynamics within the Gujji-Gedio community, the factors contributing to conflicts among its members, the involvement of organizations in peace-building endeavors, their efficacy, and their impact on the community. The insights obtained from participants were assessed and analyzed. Additionally, it explores World Vision's role in fostering peace between these two communities, outlining its goals and approaches in peace-building initiatives, as well as the economic and livelihood aspects of World Vision's initiatives. Moreover, it addresses the obstacles and hindrances encountered by World Vision in its peace-building efforts within the Guji Gedio community.

4.1.1 Response Rate of Quantitative Data

The study achieved a 100% response rate to all 178 questionnaires distributed to respondents in Woredas, indicating strong engagement and commitment. This rate is ideal for research studies as it ensures comprehensive data and representativeness of the target population. The questionnaire design and distribution process were effective, and factors like timing, communication, and incentives contributed to the high response rate. A 100% response rate eliminates non-response bias, enhancing the reliability and validity of findings. However, potential limitations or biases, such as external pressure, should be considered when interpreting data.

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondent

In fact, several demographic characteristics affect the role of humanitarian organizations in peacebuilding due to various initiatives focused on different populations. This section of the study concentrates on analyzing, presenting, and discussing key demographic features relevant to the title. In the subsequent subsections, the researcher focused on analyzing and presenting demographic variables such as gender, age, marital status, education levels, and religious categories of the sample respondents.

Table 4.2: Sex Composition of Respondents

Sex	frequency	Percentage
Male	99	55.6
Female	79	44.4
Total	178	100.0

Source: own survey (2024).

In the results presented in Table 4.1, the majority of respondents, 99 (55.6%), are male, while the remaining 79 (44.4%) are female. These results suggest that factors such as socioeconomic marginalization, limited access to education and career opportunities, and cultural norms that prioritize masculinity contribute to less involvement of females in conflict and a greater focus on peace-building among males. Lwamba et al. (2022:104) argue that numerous barriers limit female involvement in conflict resolution and peace-building efforts, but increasing women's participation is crucial for sustainable peace. Addressing socioeconomic marginalization, restricted access to education and career prospects, cultural norms, gender stereotypes, and lack of representation can help societies create more inclusive and effective mechanisms for resolving conflicts peacefully.

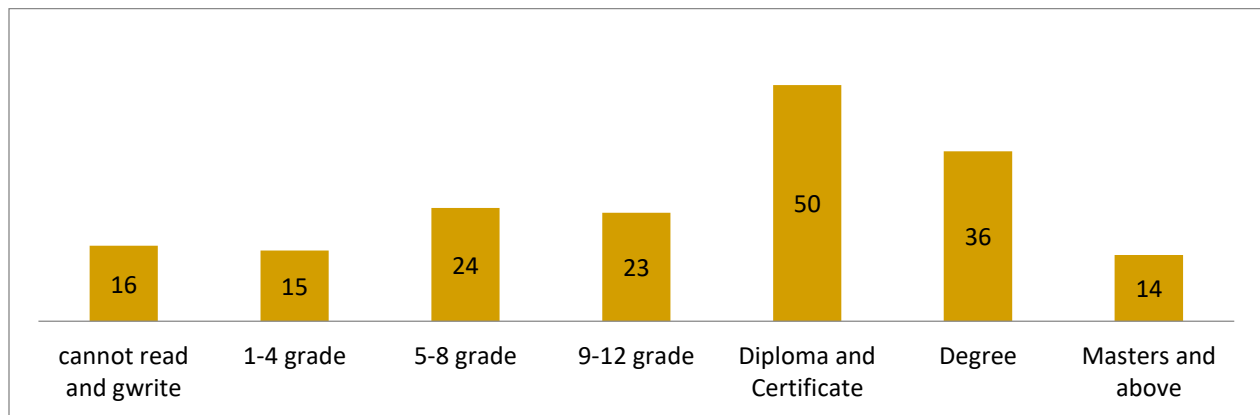
Table 4.3 Age Group of Respondents

Age group	frequency	present
18-25	25	14.0
26-33	33	18.5
34-41	56	31.5
42-49	32	18.0
50 and above	32	18.0
Total	178	100.0

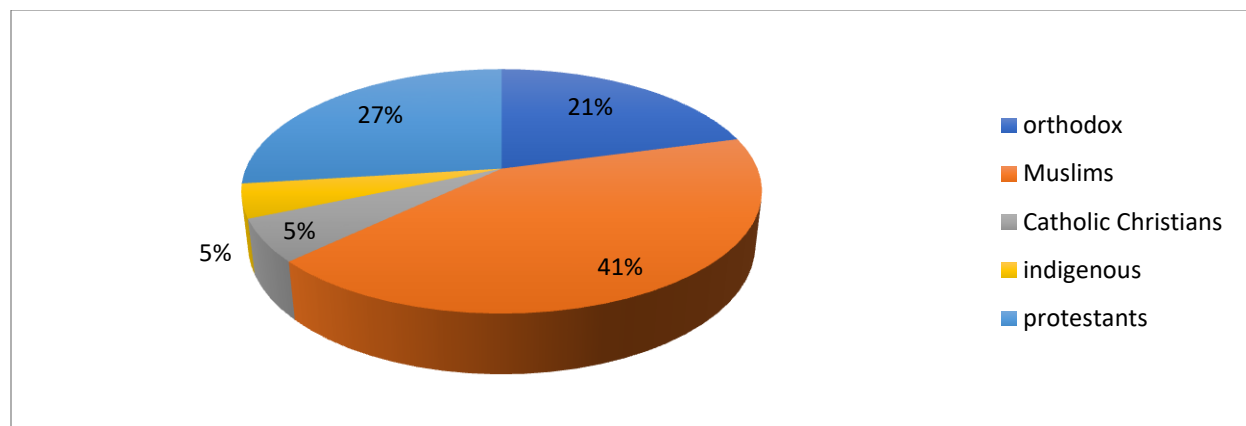
Source: Own survey (2024)

Regarding the age group, 25 (14.0%) of the respondents were found between the ages of 18 and 25. The age group from 26 to 33 constituted 33 (18.5%), while those between 34 and 41 made up 56 (31.5%). Additionally, 32 (18.0%) were found between the ages of 42-49, and another 32

(18.0%) were above 50 years. Since the sample selection was both purposive and random, the researcher considered that the involvement of peace-building was more concentrated on the age between 25 and 40.



As indicated in bar **chart 4.1**, 16 (9.0%) of the respondents cannot read and write, 15 (8.4%) can read and write, 24 (13.5%) of the household heads attended grades 5-8, 23 (12.9%) learned in grades 9-12, 50 (28.1%) obtained a diploma or certificate, 36 (20.2%) had acquired a first degree, and 14 (7.9%) had acquired a master's degree or higher. This clearly shows that the majority of the respondents have attended secondary education.



Pie Chart 4.1 describes 75 (41.0%) of the respondents were Muslims, 48 (27.0%) were followers of the Protestant religion, 37 (21.0%) were Orthodox Christians, 10 (5.6%) belonged to the Catholic faith, and the remaining 8 (4.4%) were identified as pagans (indigenous). Tamirat & Lemi (2023:54) state that religion significantly influences peace-building and conflict-resolution processes due to people's beliefs, ethical standards, and social norms, which provide a framework for interpreting the world and setting moral guidelines. Religious acceptability in conflict resolution refers to the compatibility of dispute resolution methods with a community's religious beliefs and values.

Table 4.5 Family type of the respondents

Family type	frequency	percent
Male headed	112	62.9
Female-headed	48	27.0
Undetermined, single	18	10.1
Total	178	100.0

Own source (2024)

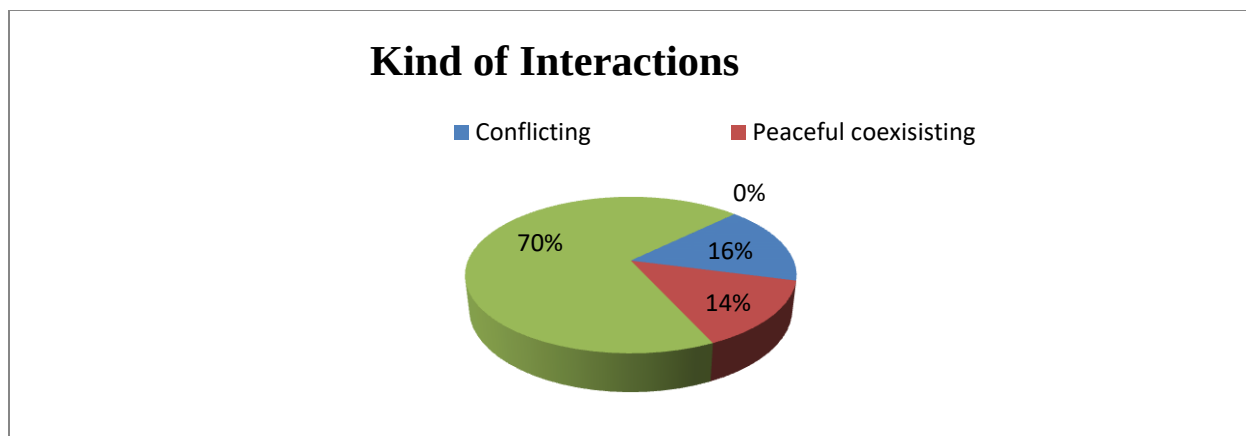
Table 4.5 indicates that 112 (62.9%) of the household respondents were headed by men, while 48 (27.0%) were headed by women. The remaining 18 (10.1%) respondents did not determine their status and stated they were single instead of providing their family's status. The table also shows that the majority of respondents in this study were male, with men heading 62.9% of households compared to the 27.0% headed by women. The gender distribution among household heads offers valuable insights into the demographics and dynamics of the studied population. Understanding these distributions is crucial for fields like sociology, economics, and public policy because it can affect decision-making processes and resource allocation strategies.

4.3 The description of Guji Gedeo Conflict and its Impacts

KII argues that, to understand the dynamics of the conflict between the Guji and Gedeo communities, it is essential to delve into the historical, social, economic, and political factors that have contributed to tensions between these groups. Factors such as land disputes, resource scarcity, ethnic rivalries, and political marginalization may have fuelled the conflict over time.

The historical relationship between the Guji and Gedeo communities' dates back to pre-colonial times when they coexisted in the region. Both groups have distinct cultural practices, languages, and traditions that have contributed to their unique identities. Their dynamic relationship has been shaped over time by a variety of events, including trade, intermarriages, disputes, alliances, and migrations. There have been instances of both collaboration and conflict in the interactions between the Gedeo and Guji communities. Despite a lengthy history of cordial relations, there have also been violent disputes since 1991. The conversation that follows covers each of the exchanges that take place between these communities (Kinfemikael, 2014:74).

How do you express the interaction between Guji and the Gedeo Community?



Pie Chart 4.2 shows that the majority of respondents, 124 (70%), describe the interaction between the Guji and Gedeo communities as a combination of both conflict and peaceful coexistence. Key Informant Interviews (KII) suggest that these two communities have experienced a complex relationship characterized by periods of both conflict and cooperation. Despite periods of conflict, the Guji and Gedeo communities have also engaged in cultural exchange, sharing traditions, practices, and ceremonies. This cultural intermingling has fostered bonds of understanding and cooperation between the two groups. Interactions at the individual level through intermarriage and social integration have played a role in promoting peaceful coexistence between the Guji and Gedeo communities. These personal connections help bridge divides and promote mutual respect. Over time, both communities have developed mechanisms for conflict resolution and reconciliation. Traditional elders, community leaders, and local authorities often play a crucial role in mediating disputes and maintaining peace between the Guji and Gedeo people.

The interaction between the Guji and Gedeo communities is a complex phenomenon that cannot be easily categorized as solely conflicting or peacefully coexisting. Different writers offer diverse perspectives on this relationship based on their interpretations of historical events, social dynamics, cultural interactions, and current realities in the region.

4.3.1 Economical interaction

The Guji and Gedeo peoples had historically engaged in deep-rooted economic interdependence and trade, without which the tribes' continued survival would be in danger. Guji and Gedeo became estranged from their neighbors as a result of their tense connection with them. For instance, women were the only means of trading between Gedeo and Sidama during periods of conflict Asebe (2012:58). FGDs discuss that Economic activities have been a crucial aspect of the interaction between the Guji and Gedeo communities. Historically, trade routes passing

through their territories facilitated economic exchanges, including the barter of goods and services. Additionally, both groups have engaged in agriculture as a primary livelihood strategy, leading to shared experiences related to land use and resource management. KII argues that the Guji and Gedeo communities have been connected through trade routes that passed through their respective territories. These trade routes served as conduits for the exchange of various goods and services between the two groups. The interactions along these trade routes not only facilitated economic transactions but also fostered cultural exchanges and social ties between the Guji and Gedeo people.

According to Dagne (2011:78), historically, the Guji people were primarily pastoralists, while the Gedeo community focused on crop production. This led to a mutually beneficial relationship between the two groups. Due to a shortage of livestock, most Gedeo farmers do not rely on their own animals for meat, milk, and dairy products. Instead, they maintain positive interactions with the Guji community, who serve as vital sources of livestock and related goods. In return, the Guji-Oromo community depends on the Gedeo people for enset (false banana) and coffee, which they acquire through trade involving livestock and livestock products.

4.3.2 Political Interaction

According to KII, Conflicting Interactions have been instances where the Guji and Gedeo communities have engaged in conflicts, and these conflicts often arise due to competing claims over resources, historical grievances, and power struggles. Peaceful Coexistence also occurs when the Guji and Gedeo communities cooperate and live together harmoniously. Many members of our communities view each other as part of the same family or having blood relationships. Emile (2020:57) argues that the interaction between the Guji and Gedeo communities in Ethiopia has been characterized by a complex history marked by both conflict and peaceful coexistence. These two ethnic groups have coexisted in close proximity for centuries, sharing cultural, economic, and social ties. FGD1 reveals that political relations between the Guji and Gedeo communities have been characterized by periods of cooperation as well as tensions. Historical power struggles over land ownership, political representation, resource allocation, and ethnic identity have shaped interactions within the broader Ethiopian political landscape.

4.3.3 Socio-Cultural Interaction

KII argues that Social dynamics between the Guji and Gedeo communities have been influenced by factors such as kinship ties, religious practices, governance structures, and social norms.

Interactions at social gatherings, ceremonies, festivals, and marketplaces have provided opportunities for cultural exchange and mutual understanding. Beyond this, the Guji and Gedeo communities have enriched their respective traditions through shared practices in music, dance, folklore and rituals. This cultural interchange has contributed to a sense of interconnectedness despite occasional conflicts or misunderstandings. FGD3 discusses how interactions at the individual level, such as intermarriage and social integration, have played a crucial role in strengthening the relationship between the Guji and Gedeo communities. These personal connections have helped break down barriers and stereotypes, fostering empathy and mutual respect among community members.

4.3.4 Causes of Conflict in the Study Area

In 2018, inter-group conflict erupted between the Guji communities in the Oromia region and the neighboring Gedeo communities in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNNPR). This was fueled by long-standing tensions related to land, resources, and governance. The causes of conflict can vary from one disputant to another and from one location to another. Data gathered from household respondents, Key Informant Interviews (KII), and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) reveal that there are different causes for conflict in the study area. Overall, this part of the study indicates the immediate causes of conflict in the area.

4.3.4.1 Immediate Causes of Conflict in the Study Area

Table 4.5 Immediate Causes of Conflict in the Study Area

		Frequency	Percentage
What are the Immediate causes of Conflict in your area?	Resource Competition	77	43
	Religious affiliation	19	11
	Historical Grievance	48	27
	Political representation	34	19
Total		178	100

Source: own survey (2024).

As indicated in Table 4.5, among the suggested immediate causes of the Gujji Gedeo conflict in the study area, respondents have concentrated on four main factors. Accordingly, 77 (43%) respondents identified Resource Competition as the cause of conflict; 48 (27%) indicated that Historical Grievance issues were the immediate causes; 34 (19%) pointed to Political Representation issues; and 19 (11%) respondents, Religious Affiliation was also an immediate

cause of the conflict. Conflict over resources emanates from the scarcity and underutilization of resources, which in turn leads to a need to control these scarce resources. Competition over scarce resources, such as water, grazing lands, and agricultural areas, has fueled conflicts between the two communities. This competition often escalates into violence as both groups seek to secure their livelihoods. However, considering the historical and political backdrop of the time, it is clear that neither the Guji nor the Gedeo people were entitled to rule over these resources. Both groups were feudal tenants who lacked land ownership. Informants from both groups agree that neither had any right over the land, as it was the exclusive property of the naftagnas. However, this does not imply that there was no pressure and implicit competition over resources. What was absent was overt competition and conflict to control resource bases (Asebe 2012:60).

As is commonly known, the reason for conflict in Gedeo society is the scarcity of land. With a growing population and increased interest in land, they have sought to settle in West Guji territory and claim it as a special zone. The primary cause of conflict is land scarcity; in Gedeo, where the population is high, and interest in land is great, this has led to disputes between the two groups (Emile 2020:61).

4.3.4.2 Basic Causes of Conflict in the Study Area

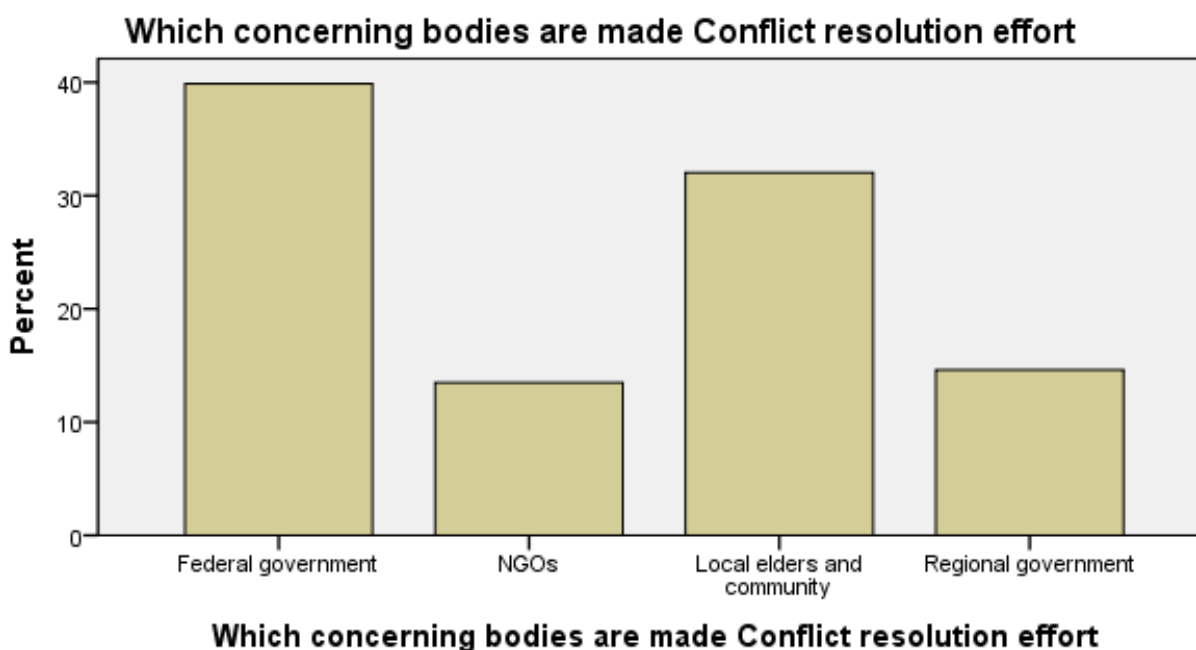
Table 4.6 Basic Causes of Conflict in the Study Area

		Frequency	percentages
What are the Basic causes of Conflict in your area?	Political Dynamics	92	52
	Cultural difference	36	20
	Political Marginalization	26	15
	Other specific	24	13
Totally		178	100

As indicated in **Table 4.5**, among the suggested causes, all respondents have focused on four primary causes of conflict in the study area. Accordingly, political dynamics were identified as the basic cause of conflict by 92 (52%) of respondents; cultural differences were cited by 36 (20%); political marginalization by 26 (15%); and other specifics by 24 (13%). Based on the respondents' feedback, issues related to political dynamics and political marginalization are the major causes of conflicts in the study area. KII argues that, with regard to resource competition, it is very clear that the Gedeo have been living on very small lands, and their settlements are very

dense. As a result of this factor, they moved to some areas of West Guji and started competitions for resources for their livestock. One of the primary sources of conflict between the Guji and Gedeo communities has been land disputes. Both groups have competing claims over certain territories, leading to tensions and occasional violent clashes. Political representation also factors into conflicts between the two groups, as the Gedeos living in Guji lands were not legitimately entitled to equal power distribution and seemed systematically excluded from political representation. They are unfairly denied access to many structures that favor the Guji community, which remains an important source of contention

4.4.4 The Stakeholders of Conflict Resolution Efforts in the Study Area



As indicated in bar chart 4.3, among the suggested issues, all respondents have concentrated on five bodies concerning peace-building. Accordingly, the federal government was the body that made the most efforts for conflict resolution between the two communities. Of the 72 respondents (40%), 57 (32%) responded that local elders and community leaders made conflict-resolution efforts between the two communities; 26 (15%) responded that regional governments made conflict-resolution efforts between the two communities; and 23 (13%) also responded that NGOs made conflict resolution efforts in the study area. Based on the respondents' ideas, the two concerned bodies, the Federal government and community leaders, have made conflict resolution efforts in the study area. FGDs discussed that the federal government typically holds significant authority and resources to intervene in conflicts at a national level. It can deploy security forces

to maintain peace, implement policies to address the root causes of conflicts and engage in diplomatic efforts to mediate between conflicting parties.

Additionally, the federal government can establish peace-building initiatives, allocate funding for reconstruction projects, and enforce laws that promote reconciliation. Regional governments also often have a deep understanding of local dynamics and can play a critical role in peace-building efforts. They are closer to the conflict-affected areas and communities, allowing for tailored interventions that address specific grievances or tensions. Regional governments can collaborate with local authorities, NGOs, and international organizations to implement peace-building programs, provide essential services, and support community-led initiatives for reconciliation. However, the peace-building process must address the root causes of the conflict, rather than merely enforcing resolutions. Key Informant Interviews (KII) reveal the specific conflict resolution strategies employed by World Vision in addressing the tensions between the Guji and Gedeo communities. This could involve mediation efforts, dialogue facilitation, or community engagement activities designed to foster understanding and reconciliation.

4.4.5 The Consequences of the Guji Gedeo Conflict

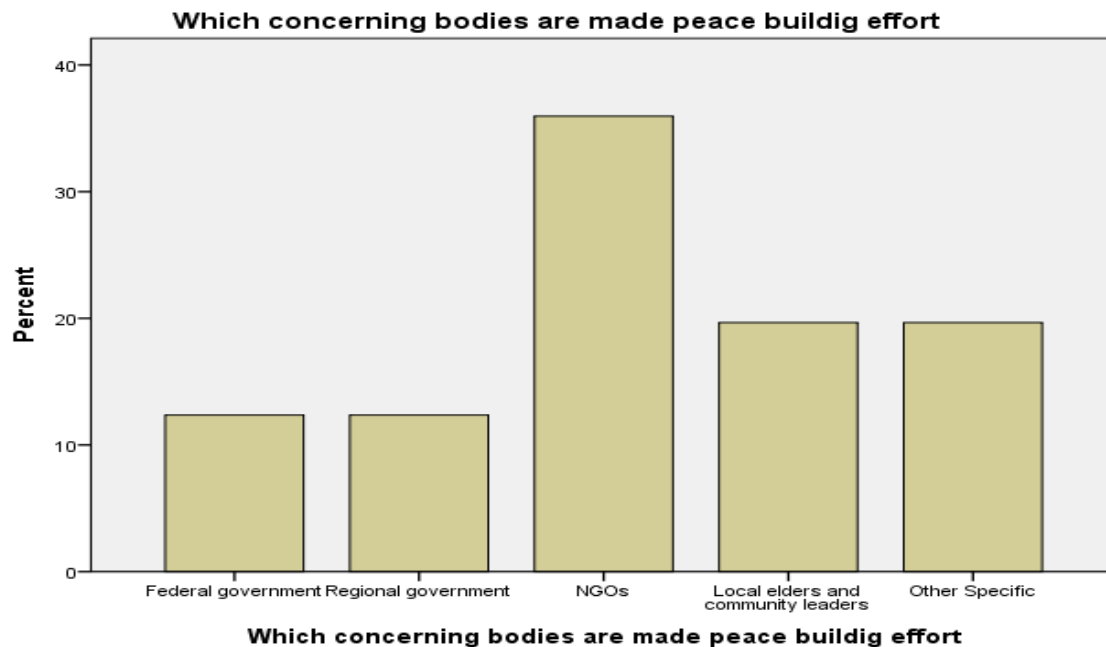
The conflict has resulted in the displacement of nearly 1 million people, according to estimates from the IOM. While many have since returned to their homes, violence remains common, with deadly attacks targeting communal leaders from Guji and Amaro zones in early March 2021. Despite an increasingly strong security apparatus, the potential for renewed conflict remains due to political motivations surrounding elections and power struggles (IOM, 2019).

The consequences of the Guji-Gedeo conflict are far-reaching and devastating for civilians. In addition to displacement, there have been numerous reports of human rights abuses, including killings, rapes, and looting. The conflict has also had severe economic consequences for communities, disrupting livelihoods and creating food insecurity. According to a report from ReliefWeb (2019), approximately 70% of displaced people reported food shortages as a primary concern. Furthermore, access to education and healthcare services has been significantly impacted due to the violence and displacement caused by the conflict.

4.4.6 The Stakeholders of peace-building Efforts in the Study Area

The federal defense forces intervened between the two conflicting parties, the Gedeo and the Guji, to assist regional law enforcement agencies in maintaining law and order through the use of suitable actions that are proportionate to the situation. However, they were not very successful. In 1995, the defense forces were encircled by infuriated local people in areas such as Kercha

Kebele and could not stop the fighting. The fact that the Guji became angry with the federal defense forces and began shooting at them, suspecting that the military sided with the Gedeo, further complicated the situation (WV&CRS, 2019).



As indicated in Bar chart 4.4, among the suggested issues, all respondents focused on five concerned bodies of peace-building. Accordingly, NGOs were identified by 64 (36%) respondents as the bodies that exerted the most effort for peace-building within the community; 35 (20%) responded that local elders and community leaders; another 35 (20%) replied that specific bodies like religious institutions made peace-building efforts among the two communities; 22 (12%) responded that federal bodies in the study area; and another 22 (12%) replied that regional government bodies made peace-building efforts in the study area. Based on the respondents' ideas, the two bodies, NGOs and the federal and regional governments, have made peace-building efforts in the study area. Irrera (2014:12) reveals that NGOs have been instrumental in various aspects of peace-building efforts. They have facilitated dialogue between community members, provided essential resources for conflict resolution, and supported initiatives aimed at promoting reconciliation and social cohesion. A substantial portion of the respondents recognized NGOs' role, which underscores their importance in addressing inter-communicative tensions and fostering lasting peace. According to the data, NGOs were highlighted as the most active body in peace-building efforts between the two communities. Out of 178 respondents, 64, which accounts for 36%, recognized NGOs as playing a significant role

in resolving conflicts and fostering peace. Local elders and community leaders were the second most mentioned in the survey responses. Thirty-five respondents, representing 20% of the total, acknowledged the efforts of these individuals in promoting peace and harmony between communities.

4.4.5 The Intervention of World Vision Organization in the Guji Gedeo Community

World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization, has been working in Ethiopia since 1977 and began its peace-building efforts in Guji Gedeo in 2003. The organization focuses on community development projects such as education, healthcare, water and sanitation, and economic development. The intervention targeted the displacement crisis in the Gedeo Guji zones and aimed to assist the affected population through a range of interventions tailored to their specific needs. Rapid assessments were conducted in collaboration with stakeholders to identify the most pressing requirements and design appropriate responses. The projects were designed to benefit a total of 1,096,170 community members, including 565,942 children, who were among the most vulnerable groups impacted by the crisis (World Vision, 2021) KII raising the issues World Vision's initiatives in conflict resolution and peace-building likely involve a multi-faceted approach that combines community engagement, dialogue facilitation, capacity building, advocacy efforts, livelihood support, trauma healing programs, and reconciliation processes. These strategies are designed to address root causes of conflict and promote sustainable peace.

4.4.5.1 Intervention in Conflict Resolution

Conflict resolution strategies were employed by World Vision to address the tensions between the Guji and Gedeo communities. The level of intervention of humanitarian organizations, exemplified by World Vision in the conflict resolution and peace-building efforts between the Guji and Gedeo communities, has been pivotal. Through their interventions, such as providing essential services, fostering dialogue, promoting reconciliation, and supporting community development initiatives, World Vision has played a significant role in mitigating conflicts and building sustainable peace between these two communities. By addressing the root causes of tensions, promoting understanding, and facilitating cooperation, humanitarian organizations like World Vision contribute immensely to fostering peaceful coexistence and harmony among diverse communities.

World Vision and other organizations suggest that these conflict-resolving initiatives have some positive impact on reducing conflict incidents between the Guji and Gedeo communities. For

instance, a study published in the Journal of Peace-building and Development found that CBPCs played a crucial role in resolving disputes related to land use and resource sharing between the two groups (Abebe & Gebre Hiwot, 2017). Another study by World Vision Ethiopia reported that CBPCs helped reduce violent conflicts by 50% in areas where they established community-based peace-building and prioritized the indigenous methods of conflict resolution (World Vision Ethiopia, 2019).

Table 4.7: World Vision`s level of intervention in the study area

Statement	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
World Vision`s Intervention in Facilitating Dialogue	Very Strong	73	41
	Medium	45	25.3
	strong	60	33.7
	Total	178	100
World Vision`s Intervention in Promoting peace and reconciliation	Very Strong	84	47.2
	Medium	25	14
	Strong	91	51.1
	Total	178	100

As indicated in table 4.7, statement 1 indicates that the level of World Vision`s Intervention through facilitating dialogue out of 178, 73(41%) responded with “Very Strong” intervention”, 60 (33.7%) responded that “Strong” intervention and 45(25.3%) responses that “Medium” From this breakdown, it is clear that a significant portion of respondents viewed World Vision`s role in facilitating dialogue as very strong, with a substantial number also acknowledging it as strong. This suggests that World Vision`s initiatives have been effective in fostering communication and understanding among different parties.

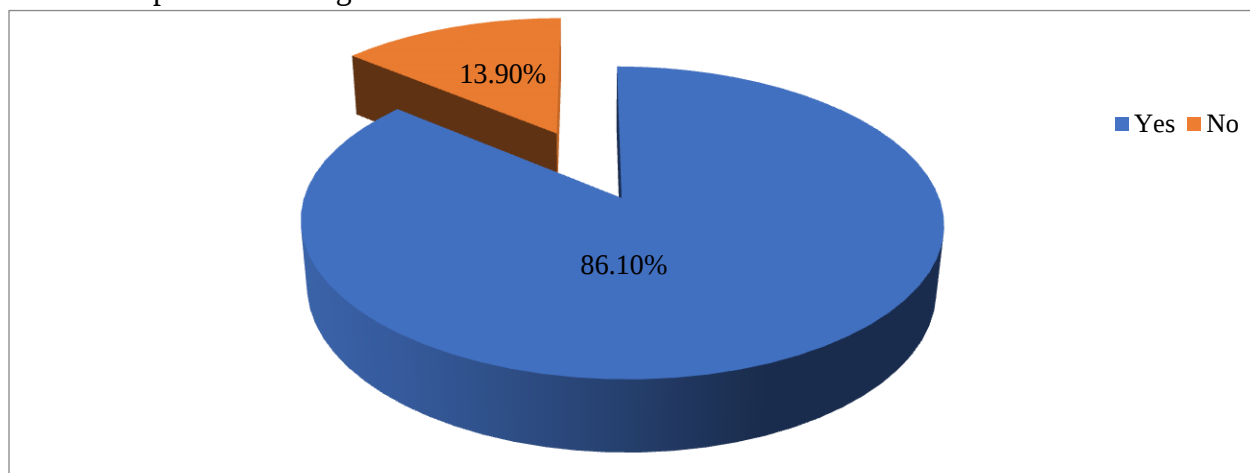
As indicated in table 4.7, statement 2 indicates that the level of World Vision`s Intervention in Promoting peace and reconciliation, out of 178, 84(47.2%) responses that “Very Strong” intervention”, 91(51.1) responses that “Strong” intervention and 25(14) responses that “Medium”. Similarly, the data shows a high level of approval for World Vision`s intervention in promoting peace and reconciliation, with nearly half of the respondents considering it very strong. The significant percentage of strong responses further reinforces the positive impact perceived by those surveyed.

4.4.5.2 Intervention in Peace Building

Another important theme is the nature of World Vision's peace-building programs within these communities. This could include activities focused on promoting social cohesion, economic development, education, and other factors that contribute to sustainable peace.

In this section, respondents' perception of World Vision's livelihood program has a role in ensuring sustainable peace and integration, socio-economic impacts of World Vision conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives programs, livelihood impacts of World Vision conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives programs and Community Development programs of world vision brings change on peacebuilding among Guji and Gedeo communities has been discussed.

Pie chart 2: Perception of World Vision's livelihood program has a role in ensuring sustainable peace and integration



Source: Own Field survey, 2024

From the total participant sample households, the majority, 153 (86.1%) of the sample households perceive World Vision's livelihood program has a role in ensuring sustainable peace and integration in the study area, whereas the remaining 25 (13.9 %) of the sample households perceive world vision's livelihood program did not have the role ensuring sustainable peace and integration in the study area. The majority of sampled households perceive that World Vision's livelihood program plays a role in ensuring sustainable peace and integration in the study area. Scholars such as Stein (2010) have revealed that NGOs working to facilitate conflict resolution also seek to promote human welfare among distressed populations. These organizations may become targets of military action in civil wars and emergencies, and they sometimes assume roles typically held by major powers when these entities politically and economically disengage from conflicts. In other words, NGOs involved in conflict resolution often perform roles beyond

their original scope of activities. Aall (2014) describes four roles they perform during a crisis: human rights monitoring, early warning, mediation and reconciliation, and relief and rehabilitation functions.

. Peacebuilding activities aimed to promote reconciliation, social cohesion, and conflict resolution within communities that may have been affected by past conflicts or tensions. By fostering dialogue, understanding, and cooperation among community members, the project sought to create a more stable and harmonious environment conducive to sustainable development.

Job Creation for Youth and Women: One of the significant outcomes of the project was the creation of job opportunities for youth and women. By organizing women into micro and small enterprises, the project empowered them to become financially independent and support their families. Similarly, initiatives targeting youth employment aimed to provide young individuals with skills training and opportunities to engage in productive economic activities. Through these efforts, the project contributed to reducing unemployment rates among vulnerable groups and promoting inclusive growth (World Vision 2020:8).

Construction of Damaged Infrastructures: Another important aspect of the project was the reconstruction and rehabilitation of damaged infrastructures in the target areas. This included repairing essential facilities such as roads, bridges, schools, health centers, and water supply systems that had been adversely affected by conflicts or disasters. By restoring critical infrastructure, the project not only improved access to services for local communities but also laid the foundation for long-term development and resilience against future shocks (ibid 2020:7).

FGD4 argues that, Capacity Building for Local Government: Capacity building for local government institutions was a key strategy employed by the project to enhance governance effectiveness and service delivery at the grassroots level. By providing training, technical assistance, and resources to local authorities, the project aimed to strengthen their ability to plan, implement, and monitor development initiatives independently. This capacity-building approach was crucial for ensuring sustainability beyond the project's duration and empowering local governments to address community needs more efficiently.

4.4.5.3 Intervention in Socio-economic Empowerment

The economic improvement initiatives undertaken by World Vision have had a significant impact on promoting peace between the Guji and Gedeo communities. By creating opportunities

for economic growth and development, World Vision has addressed underlying issues that contribute to conflict.

Table 4.8: Does a program of world vision bring socio-economic empowerment?

Community development programs *	Response			
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Promoting gender equality	30	16.9	148	83.1
Improving human capital	54	30.3	124	69.7
Focusing on Youth	88	43.4	90	56.6
Other	12	6.8	166	93.2

Source: Own Field survey, 2024

* Multiple responses are given

As indicated in Table 4 above, some of the community development programs include promoting gender equality and improving human capital and youth. Thus, most of the sample households, 88 (53.4 %) perceived that World Vision conflict resolution and peace building initiatives focusing on Youth, followed by 54 (30.3 %) perceived that World Vision conflict resolution and peace-building initiatives improving human capital, 30 (16.9 %) perceived that World vision conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives help to promote gender equality and the remaining 12 (6.8 %) perceived that World Vision conflict resolution and peacebuilding initiatives help to get other benefits like life-skill training in the study area.

World Vision trained 4,820 project staff (2,640 females), Kebele children's committee members, and community members on child protection, child development, and gender-based violence (GBV) mainstreaming. They also strengthened their knowledge and skills in child protection and GBV case management through community-based structures for children and women. Additionally, 6,000 internally displaced children (2,505 girls) received sportswear, and 1,300 children (653 girls) were provided with life skill training. GBV treatment kits, consisting of 1,200 packets of various tablets and 800 bottles of syrup, were distributed to four target Woredas. Eight child-friendly safe spaces were established in collective sites, benefiting 7,751 vulnerable children who were lost or separated from their parents or otherwise affected. These spaces allow children to play, learn, and enjoy social interaction with peers, contributing to their psychosocial well-being.

Moreover, it supported indoor and outdoor games, sport wear, and storybooks for the children supported 1,600 dresses for pregnant and lactating women. Distributed dignity kits for 1,840 girl beneficiaries in six Kebeles, which helped to maintain the self-esteem and confidence of girls'

and women's dignity and community-based foster care placement conducted for 38 unaccompanied and separated children (19 girls). Also reunited 16 separated children (6 girls) with their families and provided school materials for 463 returned children (World Vision, 2022).

FGDs reveal that World Vision's interventions in the Guji and Gedeo regions have indeed contributed significantly to fostering peace. By implementing various programs focused on conflict resolution, community engagement, and sustainable development, World Vision has played a crucial role in promoting peace and stability in these areas. Through initiatives such as peace-building workshops, mediation efforts, and community dialogue sessions, World Vision has helped to address underlying tensions and build trust among different groups within the communities. Additionally, by providing support for livelihood opportunities, education, and healthcare services, World Vision has contributed to addressing root causes of conflict and promoting social cohesion.

Respondents involved in the study acknowledged that World Vision provides a means of unifying communities. This is explained by the possibility that disputes may arise in such places. Moreover, World Vision has been organizing workshops on peacebuilding for the general public. Regarding this, Pierl et al. (2016) discussed how "traditional" conflict has become increasingly destructive and less manageable, deteriorating the economic situation. This study confirms Blair and Lacy's (2010) argument that conflict resolution in this case was achieved through representatives from NGOs who engaged in constructive and practical dialogue. The process was based on consultation and negotiation of issues, ideas, and facts to arrive at a mutually beneficial solution for a win-win scenario.

Regarding education, World Vision trained teachers, students, and partners on school-related gender-based violence, accelerated learning program, education in emergency and conflict-sensitive areas and psycho-social support rendered, provided temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) materials (Blackboards, dusters, balls, jumping ropes, First Aid Kits, etc.), including primary school students, who have dropped from school due to the conflict in Accelerated Learning Program class in four woredas of West Guji zone, constructed TLCs through supporting local and industrial materials and IDPs and returnee children aged between 4 and 6 years, are participating in Accelerated School Readiness Program (ASR) in six woredas of west Guji zone and two woredas of Gedeo Zone (World Vision, 2022).

Furthermore, regarding health, World Vision Benefited 18,044 people through the provision of four emergency medical supplies (drug kit) and four bull Infection prevention supplies to 8 health facilities. Established and equipped four temporary static clinics in two woredas, trained 83 static clinic staff and health workers on newborn care, child health, and maternal and reproductive health 8,970 people have received primary health care consultations for different infectious diseases, and 9,134 under-five children have received community-based treatment of malaria, diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections and Two outbreak alerts responded successfully (AWD and measles) (World Vision, 2022).

Table 4.8

Statement	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
World Vision's Intervention in Economic Improvement	Very Strong	77	43.3
	Medium	16	9
	strong	85	47.7
	Totally	178	100
World Vision's Intervention in Providing Other Humanitarian Assistance	Very Strong	98	55
	Medium	21	12
	Strong	59	33
	Totally	178	100

According to the data presented in Table 4.8, the level of World Vision's intervention in economic improvement has been assessed quite positively by a significant number of respondents. More specifically, approximately half (47.7%) of the responses indicated that the intervention was "Strong," while over a third (43.3%) reported that it was "Very Strong." The remaining responses (9%) described the intervention as "Medium."

Furthermore, table 4.7 reveals that the level of World Vision's intervention in promoting peace and reconciliation has also been perceived favorably by a majority of respondents. Specifically, around half (51.1%) of the responses indicated that the intervention was "Strong," while slightly over a third (47.2%) reported that it was "Very Strong." The remaining responses (14%) described the intervention as "Medium."

4.5 The Role of World Vision's Livelihood Programs in Ensuring Sustainable Peace and Integration

4.5.1 Conflict Transformation

The respondents' answers varied in relation to the transformation of youths who have been addressed with development interventions to influence their livelihoods and turn them into agents of peace. Many respondents highlighted the positive impact of capacity-building training and awareness on the youths who were once agents of conflict, leading to their transformation into peace agents and significant improvements in their lives. KII reveal the remarkable transformation observed in youths who were previously involved in conflicts. Through targeted development interventions, these youths underwent capacity-building training and awareness programs that equipped them with the necessary skills and knowledge to transition from being agents of conflict to becoming advocates for peace. This transformation not only benefited the individuals themselves but also had a ripple effect on their communities, contributing to overall stability and harmony.

In this initiative, a total of 675 youth peacebuilders were trained in conflict resolution and transformation. Among them, there were 204 women and 471 men. Additionally, 90 couples (90 men and 90 women) were trained in The Faithful House/Islamic Family House approach to supporting marriage and family well-being. Furthermore, 190 school heads and teachers received training in peace-building activities, with 57 women and 133 men participating. Following the initial training sessions, the consortium provided advanced training in dialogue and mediation skills for a group of 129 youth peace champions. This group consisted of 48 women and 81 men. Moreover, an additional training session was conducted for 90 faiths, community, and religious leaders, including 10 women and 80 men (World Vision. 2021).

4.5.2 Livelihood Recovery Support

In the period from 2019 to 2022, a comprehensive livelihood recovery support program was implemented to assist farmers who were severely affected by adverse circumstances and struggled to recover independently. A total of 17,587 farmers, comprising 5,215 females and 12,372 males, were identified as the most impacted and in need of external assistance to rebuild their livelihoods. These farmers were provided with essential agricultural inputs such as seeds, tools, and other materials to enable them to resume crop production (HDP, 2021:2).

FGDs2 discussed that the provision of agricultural inputs played a crucial role in empowering and restarting our agrarian activities, thereby enhancing our food security and income levels. By supporting these individuals with the necessary resources, we are able to overcome the challenges that we faced in severally rebuilding our livelihoods following the disruptive events that had negatively impacted our ability to sustain ourselves through farming. This initiative contributed not only to the economic recovery of the affected farmers but also had broader implications for the local community's resilience and stability. By restoring the livelihoods of these individuals, the program helped revitalize the agricultural sector, which is often a key source of income for rural populations. Additionally, by improving food security and income levels among beneficiaries, the support program likely had positive ripple effects on overall community well-being. KII argues that the project focuses on providing livelihood recovery support to individuals affected by various crises, such as conflict or natural disasters. This support aimed to help people rebuild their means of earning a living and improve their economic stability. By establishing farmers' cooperatives and supporting micro and small enterprises, the project enabled beneficiaries to generate income through local businesses like animal fattening and sheep rearing. The creation of these sustainable income-generating activities not only benefited the individuals directly involved but also contributed to the overall economic development of the communities.

Table 4.9 Socio-economic Impact of WVE

Socio-economic impact *	Response			
	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Enhancement of agricultural productivity	140	78.6	38	21.4
Promoting markets and finance activity	130	73.0	28	27.0
Accessing basic services	102	57.3	76	42.7
Promote conflict resolution attempts	149	83.7	29	16.3

Source: Own Field survey, 2024

* Multiple responses are given

As depicted in Table 2, some of the socio-economic impacts of World Vision's improved food security include enhancement of agricultural productivity, promoting markets and finance activity, accessing basic services and promoting conflict resolution attempts in the majority of the sample households, 149 (83.7%), perceived that World Vision's conflict resolution and peace-building initiatives promote conflict resolution attempts. Additionally, 140 (78.9%) believed that these initiatives enhance agricultural productivity, 130 (73.0%) felt they help to promote market and finance activity, and the remaining 102 (57.3%) perceived that they assist in accessing basic

services in the study area. Key informants stated that several NGOs were present in the region following the Gedieo-Guji conflict, one of which was World Vision. It has been established that they offer humanitarian assistance to the community, supplying food, water, clothing, and tents after conflicts. Thus, World Vision provides these necessities in case of conflict between the Gedieo-Guji communities. World Vision supplies food, water, clothing, and tents after conflicts, particularly in cases involving the Gedieo-Guji communities. Providing these basic needs is considered as a way to reduce the likelihood of struggle. Burton (1986) revealed that this approach aligns with the main theoretical assumption of conflict resolution known as human needs theory.

Additionally, World Vision offers medical facilities as an important tool for engaging with communities and facilitating peace negotiations. The presence of NGOs like World Vision is considered essential in conflict resolution. According to Allan (2010) and Gultang (2012), game theory introduces a broader notion of violence that encompasses avoidable insults to basic human needs for conflict resolution to be achieved. World Vision provided a forum for conflicting communities through fortnightly meetings and other social functions. These functions bring together members from different communities. An effective mechanism to mitigate conflict should, in the first place, seek to understand the root cause of the conflict (Richmond, 2009). In this regard, Boulder (2013) suggested that conflict management and resolution through consultation meetings can be effective.

The impact of World Vision's programs on peace and integration can be seen through their contribution to reducing conflict over natural resources such as water. For instance, their water management projects have helped communities establish equitable water sharing arrangements that have reduced tensions between neighboring communities (World Vision International, 2021).



Photo credit World Vision (2020) Ethiopia receiving livelihood opportunities in kind Gelan Woreda

FGDs discussed that one of the key areas where World Vision's programs have made a positive impact is economic empowerment. World Vision has helped individuals in the Guji and Gedeo communities develop sustainable livelihoods by providing training, resources, and support. Initiatives include agricultural training, microfinance support, vocational skills development, and entrepreneurship programs. These efforts have not only improved the economic well-being of community members but also contributed to poverty reduction and increased resilience to economic shocks.

- **Cattle Fattening:** Cattle fattening can provide a source of income through the rearing and selling of livestock. This sector offers opportunities for young people to engage in animal husbandry practices and benefit from the demand for meat products.
- **Small Scale Retail:** Small scale retail businesses such as grocery stores, clothing shops, or convenience stores can offer young entrepreneurs a chance to establish their own businesses and cater to the local community's needs.
- **Woodwork:** Woodwork involves crafting furniture, decorative items, or construction materials from wood. This skill-based occupation can provide employment opportunities for youth interested in carpentry and woodworking.
- **Bakery:** The bakery industry presents an avenue for young individuals to start their own baking businesses, producing bread, pastries, and other baked goods for sale within their communities.
- **Beauty Salon:** Operating a beauty salon can be a lucrative venture for young people interested in cosmetology and hairdressing services. This sector caters to the grooming needs of local residents.

- Tailoring: Tailoring offers young individuals the opportunity to start their own clothing design and alteration businesses. This trade can be particularly valuable in communities where there is a demand for custom-made garments.
- Selling Produce: Engaging in agricultural activities such as growing fruits, vegetables, or other crops for sale can provide a sustainable source of income for young farmers. Selling produce at local markets can help boost economic stability (World Vision International, 2021).

In Ethiopia, World Vision has been working in partnership with local communities in the Guji and Gedeo zones since 2008. The organization's development programs focus on various sectors, including education, health, water, sanitation, agriculture, food security, and economic development. World Vision's key interventions in the Guji and Gedeo zones include support for agricultural development. This involves providing farmers with training in modern farming techniques such as terracing, crop diversification, irrigation systems, and organic farming practices. Additionally, World Vision has established savings and loan associations (SACCOs) to help farmers access credit for inputs like seeds and fertilizers. These initiatives have led to increased agricultural productivity and improved food security for families in these communities (World Vision International, 2021). KII reveals that World Vision is a global humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and communities to reach their full potential by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice.

Another critical area where World Vision has made a significant impact is in education. In partnership with local governments and other organizations, they have constructed schools and provided teacher training to improve access to quality education for children in the region. This investment in education not only benefits individual students but also contributes to a more educated workforce that can contribute to economic growth (World Vision International, 2021).



Photo credit WV (2020): The Ela Bofa school (Gelana Woreda)

World Vision has made significant strides in improving access to education by constructing schools, providing teacher training, and supporting scholarships for girls. They also provide uniforms to ensure regular attendance. Education empowers children with essential knowledge and helps break the cycle of poverty. Additionally, World Vision's focus on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) has improved health outcomes for community members. By constructing water sources such as boreholes and rainwater harvesting systems and implementing sanitation facilities like latrines and hand washing stations, World Vision has helped reduce waterborne diseases such as cholera (World Vision International, 2021:22). The economic benefits derived from these programs contribute significantly to sustainable peace and integration within the Guji and Gedeo communities. Improved livelihoods through increased agricultural productivity lead to reduced competition over scarce resources, which can be a source of conflict between different ethnic groups (Barnes & Admassu, 2016:456). Additionally, access to education helps bridge socio-economic gaps between different ethnic groups by providing equal opportunities for all children regardless of their background (UNICEF & UNESCO, 2019). Improved health outcomes contribute to better community cohesion as people are less likely to be divided by illnesses or disease outbreaks (Barnes & Admassu, 2016:90). Initiatives have helped create jobs and improve the livelihoods of the Guji and Gedeo communities (World Vision, 2021).

4.5 Effectiveness of World Vision's Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding Initiatives

World Vision plays a significant role in peace-building by producing lasting outcomes that address the underlying causes of conflicts. These processes establish fair and equitable solutions accepted by all parties, considering the existing interaction patterns, family links, and community norms in the study area. The effectiveness of the organization in peacebuilding is analyzed through a Likert scale analysis, and data from respondents are gathered as follows.

4.5.1 Sustainable Outcomes in Peacebuilding

Item	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
World Vision's interventions in the Guji and Gedeo regions have contributed to fostering peace	Strongly agree	89	50
	Agree	53	29.8
	Neutral	8	4.5
	Disagree	12	6.74
	Strongly disagree	16	9
World Vision	Strongly agree	62	34.8
Enhanced capacity for peace building and conflict resolution at the local level	Agree	88	49.2
	Neutral	8	4.5
	Disagree	16	9
	Strongly disagree	4	2.2
Total		178	100

Source: own survey (2024)

Table 1, item 1, titled "Respondents' Replies," lists the reactions to the statement, "World Vision's interventions in the Guji and Gedeo regions have contributed to fostering peace." Out of 178 households, 89 (50%) strongly agreed, 53 (29.78%) agreed, 8 (4.5%) were neutral, 12 (6.74%) disagreed, and 16 (9%) strongly disagreed with the statement. The data indicates that a majority of households, or 50%, strongly agree that World Vision's interventions lead to lasting peace. This belief is supported by KII, who argues that World Vision has played a crucial role in promoting peace between the Guji and Gedeo communities through various interventions. World Vision, an organization that focuses on assisting communities in need, including those affected

by conflicts, has implemented initiatives aimed at conflict resolution and peace-building in the context of the Guji and Gedeo communities.

Scholars such as Stein (2010) have revealed that NGOs working to facilitate conflict resolution not only seek to promote human welfare among distressed populations but also become targets of military action in civil wars and emergencies. Additionally, they assume roles typically held by major powers when these entities politically and economically disengage from conflicts. In essence, conflict resolution NGOs frequently undertake tasks beyond their primary area of activity. Aall (2014) describes four roles they perform during a crisis: human rights monitoring, early warning, mediation and reconciliation, and relief and rehabilitation functions.

The corresponding table, titled "Item 2 Table One," lists the respondents' replies to the statement, "World Vision enhanced capacity for peacebuilding and conflict resolution at the local level." Out of 178 households, 62 (34.8%) strongly agreed, 88 (49.2%) agreed, 8 (4.5%) were neutral, 16 (9%) disagreed, and 4 (2.2%) strongly disagreed with the statement. The data shows that out of 178 households, 84% agreed with the statement, "World Vision enhanced capacity for peacebuilding and conflict resolution at the local level."

As an organization that prioritizes communal harmony and provides a platform for open communication and negotiation, World Vision has helped foster understanding and reconciliation between the two groups. KII argues that the World Vision organization puts a strong emphasis on inclusivity, reaching agreements, and respecting different points of view. Involving affected communities in decision-making processes, encouraging ownership, and building empowerment are all part of it. A fundamental idea is consensus-building, which entails discussion and dialogue to explore various viewpoints and find points of agreement. This strategy encourages cooperation and long-term stability while guaranteeing that the concerns of indigenous groups are taken into consideration.

4.5.2 Community-centered Peacebuilding approach

KII argues that one of the key strengths of World Vision's initiatives is its community-centered approach. By actively involving members of the Guji and Gedeo communities in the peace-building process, World Vision ensures that the solutions are locally relevant and sustainable. This approach empowers community members to take ownership of the peace-building efforts and fosters a sense of unity and collaboration among them. World Vision Ethiopia (2021:12) also

reveals that, through the intervention of consortiums in regions like West Guji and Gedeo, local actors have been empowered to enhance community capacities for peace. This empowerment has been instrumental in fostering sustainable peace initiatives, with a particular emphasis on the significant role played by young people in driving positive change and promoting peaceful coexistence.



Photo credit: WV (2020), corporation of the two communities after violent conflict

Item	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
World Vision's effort Reduced tensions and Guji and Gedeo Communities peace	Strongly agree	95	53.4
	Agree	44	24.7
	Neutral	6	3.4
	Disagree	16	9
	Strongly disagree	17	9.5
WV facilitates joint activities. community events that bring together members of the Guji and Gedeo communities.	Strongly agree	64	36
	Agree	63	35.5
	Neutral	9	5
	Disagree	25	14
	Strongly disagree	17	9.5
	Totally	178	100

Source own survey, (2024)

The corresponding table, titled "Item 1 Table 2," lists the respondents' replies to the statement, "World Vision's effort Reduced tensions and conflicts between Guji and Gedeo communities" Out of 178 households, 95 (53.4 %) strongly agreed, 44 (24.7%) agreed, 6(3.4%) were neutral, 16 (9%) disagreed, and 17(9.5%) strongly disagreed with the statement, according to the data. A significant number of respondents believe that World Vision's effort Reduced tensions and conflicts among the Guji and Gedeo communities. A sizable portion of people disagree, pointing to potential roadblocks, including inaccessibility, marginalization, a lack of understanding, or tensions brought on by modernity and outside influences.

KII reveals that World Vision's programs have played a crucial role in fostering community integration and peace-building in the Guji and Gedeo communities. By bringing together individuals from diverse backgrounds through collaborative projects and initiatives, World Vision has helped bridge social divides and promote understanding among community members. This sense of unity and cooperation is essential for building sustainable peace within these communities.

FGDs 3 discuss that World Vision's programs among the community often prioritize inclusivity by involving multiple perspectives. By including different community members in the resolution process, these mechanisms ensure that a wide range of viewpoints and experiences are considered. This helps to create a more comprehensive understanding of the conflict and its underlying causes and also creates conducive conditions for peace-building. Furthermore, they highlight the cultural values of equality and collective responsibility that underpin these processes.

The corresponding table, titled "Item 2 Table 2," lists the respondents' replies to the statement, "World Vision facilitates joint activities and community events that bring together members of the Guji and Gedeo communities." Out of 178 households, 64 (36%) strongly agreed, 63 (35.5%) agreed, 9 (5%) were neutral, 25 (14%) disagreed, and 17 (9.5%) strongly disagreed with the statement, according to the data. The KII suggests that integrating the community and facilitating joint activities in the peace-building process can promote intergenerational harmony and cultural continuity. However, sometimes, some members of the community perceive themselves as unable to be involved and less addressed by the initiatives, expressing concerns about generational differences and young people's readiness. Despite the responses, World Vision Ethiopia plays a significant role in fostering understanding and cooperation between the two

groups. They have shared traditions, practices, and ceremonies, which have helped to build bridges between them

4.5.3 Holistic Peace-building Approach

FGDs reveal that World Vision is implementing a comprehensive approach to peacebuilding in the Guji Gedeo community in Ethiopia. The initiative focuses on addressing conflict's underlying causes through dialogue and reconciliation, providing essential services like clean water, healthcare, education, and economic development programs. It also promotes interfaith dialogue and cooperation among different religious groups, reducing tensions and fostering understanding. KII argues that the organization also offers psychosocial support to those affected by conflict or trauma, including counselling services for children. World Vision collaborates with local authorities and civil society organizations to strengthen governance structures and promote the rule of law, which are crucial for fostering lasting peace in complex environments. By partnering with these entities, World Vision ensures that interventions align with local priorities and are sustainable in the long term. Strengthening governance structures builds trust between communities and authorities, preventing future outbreaks of violence. Promoting the rule of law involves advocating for legal reforms, access to justice, and combating impunity for human rights violations. By addressing the underlying causes of conflict and building resilient communities,

Item	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
World Vision has facilitated reconciliation processes between the Guji and Gedeo Communities	Strongly agree	95	53.4
	Agree	44	24.7
	Neutral	6	3.4
	Disagree	16	9
	Strongly disagree	17	9.5
Comparatively WVE program has placed a strong emphasis on gender equality and youth empowerment.	Strongly agree	64	36
	Agree	63	35.5
	Neutral	9	5
	Disagree	25	14
	Strongly disagree	17	9.5
Totally		178	100

Source of data own survey (2024)

In the corresponding table 4.8, titled "Item 1," the majority of respondents (53.4%) strongly agree that World Vision has played a crucial role in fostering reconciliation between the Guji and Gedeo communities. 24.7% also agree, indicating a substantial portion of respondents acknowledging World Vision's impact. However, only 3.4% remain neutral, suggesting further information or reservations. A small percentage (9.5%) strongly disagrees, representing a minority but significant portion of the surveyed population. Overall, a majority of respondents perceive World Vision positively in reconciliation efforts.

4.6 Challenges and Barriers to World Vision's Peace-Building Process

Despite these efforts, peace-building in Guji Gedeo remains a complex and challenging process. One significant barrier is the deep-rooted nature of the ethnic tensions. These tensions have historical roots and are fueled by factors such as land disputes, political power struggles, and economic inequality. Additionally, there are external factors at play, including regional instability and the influence of neighboring countries. Addressing the challenges and barriers to peace-building in the Guji Gedeo community requires a multifaceted approach that considers historical grievances, resource competition, identity politics, governance structures, and external influences (OCHA). By engaging with these complex issues through inclusive dialogue, conflict-sensitive programming, and targeted interventions, stakeholders can work towards sustainable peace and reconciliation in the region. Building trust and fostering reconciliation between the warring factions is a significant barrier to successful peace-building. Years of conflict have eroded trust between the Guji and Gedeo communities, making it challenging to establish meaningful dialogue and cooperation. The challenges and barriers to peace-building in the Guji Gedeo community require a comprehensive approach that tackles underlying issues such as historical grievances, resource scarcity, lack of trust, political marginalization, and external influences. By understanding these obstacles and developing targeted strategies to overcome them, sustainable peace can be achieved in the region.

4.6.1 Ethnic Tensions

KII argues that Ethnic tensions in the Guji Gedeo community have led to displacement, property destruction, and loss of life, posing a significant obstacle to achieving sustainable peace and stability. Organizations like World Vision are taking steps towards peace-building by promoting community dialogue and reconciliation initiatives. These efforts aim to foster understanding and

cooperation between conflicting groups, laying the foundation for lasting peace and harmony in the study area. Addressing these tensions requires concerted efforts from various stakeholders, including humanitarian organizations, local authorities, and community leaders.

Ethnic tensions have long been a significant barrier to peacebuilding in the Guji Gedeo community. According to a report by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), ethnic clashes between the Guji and Gedeo communities have resulted in displacement, destruction of property, and loss of life. World Vision has acknowledged this challenge and has prioritized efforts to address ethnic tensions through community dialogue and reconciliation initiatives. Political marginalization of certain groups within the Guji Gedeo community can also impede peace-building efforts. When certain factions feel excluded from decision-making processes or lack representation, they are less likely to support peace initiatives.

4.6.2 Lack of Resources

Participants of the FGDs³ revealed that the main challenge in this regard was the hidden agenda of politicians who were working against our peace-building initiatives. There were repeated attempts to interrupt the reconciliation and return of IDPs to their original places. They were working for the communities depart forever, and the interest behind them was to permanently take their resources (land, housed, perennial crops such as coffee, mango, avocado, etc and other properties). According to the organization, limited resources are another major challenge facing World Vision's peace-building efforts in Guji Gedeo. According to a report by the European Union Delegation to Ethiopia, the region faces significant development challenges, including limited access to education, healthcare, and water and sanitation facilities (European Union, 2021). World Vision has acknowledged this challenge and has called for increased funding and resources to support its peace-building initiatives (World Vision, 2021).

4.6.3 Political Dynamics and Security Concerns

Local power dynamics, political interference, or external influences can complicate peace-building efforts by exacerbating existing tensions or undermining trust-building processes. Political instability is a significant barrier to peacebuilding in Guji Gedeo. According to a report by Amnesty International, the region has experienced political unrest and violence in recent years, with human rights abuses reported against both civilians and security forces (Amnesty International, 2021). World Vision has acknowledged this challenge and has called for greater

political stability and respect for human rights as essential components of any sustainable peace-building process. Political stability is a fundamental prerequisite for achieving sustainable peace in conflict-ridden areas. Without a stable political environment, efforts to build lasting peace are likely to be hindered by ongoing instability, power struggles, and governance challenges. By advocating for greater political stability, World Vision underscores the need for strong and effective governance structures that can address the root causes of conflict and promote reconciliation among conflicting parties (World Vision, 2021).

Security concerns are another major challenge facing World Vision's peace-building efforts in Guji Gedeo. According to a report by the Global Peace Index, Ethiopia ranks as one of the most violent countries in the world (Institute for Economics & Peace, 2021). World Vision has acknowledged this challenge and has called for increased security measures to protect its staff and program participants from violence and other forms of harm (World Vision, 2019). Both KII and FGD argue that political elites play a pivotal role in exacerbating conflicts for their gain. By exploiting existing divisions and spreading misinformation, these elites manipulate sentiments within their communities to consolidate power and advance their agendas. They often present themselves as defenders and protectors of their group's interests, further polarizing communities and inciting conflict for their benefit.

Moreover, some individuals or groups thrive on perpetuating conflicts for their survival. These "entrepreneurs of conflict" have vested interests in ensuring that hostilities continue unabated, as their livelihoods are intricately linked to the existence of conflicts. This perpetuation of violence not only sustains their influence but also hampers any meaningful attempts at reconciliation and peace-building.

4.6.3 Cultural Differences

Cultural differences between different ethnic groups in Guji Gedeo can also pose challenges to peace-building efforts. According to a report by the African Development Bank Group, cultural differences can lead to misunderstandings and conflict between communities (African Development Bank Group, 2019). World Vision has acknowledged this challenge and has prioritized efforts to promote cultural understanding and respect through community engagement activities (World Vision, 2021). KII revealed that they don't feel that way because the two communities originated from the same clan, and they share their languages and cultures.

Therefore, the major barrier is all about politics. Similarly, elders added that politics is the main barrier that hinders peace-building initiatives between the Gedio and Guji communities.

The main barrier hindering peace-building initiatives between the Gedio and Guji communities, according to elders and World Vision staff, is politics. Additionally, they identified “conflict entrepreneurs” as a significant challenge in the implementation of building programs. These individuals worked against peace efforts, attempting to relapse the conflict and sabotage reconciliation processes.

According to a report by World Vision International titled “Building Peace: The Role of Community-Based Organizations in Conflict-Affected Areas,” published in 2019, the Gedeo-Guji conflict in Ethiopia has been a longstanding issue that has caused significant damage to both communities. The report states that despite several peace initiatives, the conflict continues due to various reasons, with politics being a major one (World Vision International, 2019). Similarly, Elders from both communities have shared their experiences and insights regarding the conflict. They believe that political interests have fueled the conflict for years. According to them, politicians from both sides have used the conflict as a tool for gaining power and resources (Amhara Mass Media Agency, 2019). This has led to a vicious cycle of violence and retaliation that has made it difficult for peace-building initiatives to take root.

Moreover, World Vision staff working on peace-building projects in the region has reported encountering “conflict entrepreneurs.” These individuals work against peace efforts by instigating violence and creating divisions within communities. They benefit financially from the conflict by receiving aid and resources meant for those affected by the violence (World Vision International, 2019). These individuals are determined to keep the conflict alive and hinder any reconciliation efforts.

Despite these challenges, there have been some successes in peace-building initiatives between the Gedio and Guji communities. For instance, community-based organizations have played a crucial role in promoting dialogue and reconciliation between community members (World Vision International, 2019). However, continued political interference and the presence of conflict entrepreneurs pose significant threats to these efforts.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents summary, conclusions and recommendations based on the findings of the previous chapter. Accordingly, the overall analysis is summarized, conclusions are drawn from the study based on the research findings, and the researcher forwards recommendations.

5.1. SUMMARY

The conflict between the Guji and Gedeo communities erupted in April 2019 due to longstanding ethnic tensions and resource competition. The violence resulted in widespread displacement, destruction of property, and loss of life. In response to this crisis, World Vision launched an emergency response program aimed at providing immediate assistance to affected families.

World Vision's peace building interventions focused on several key areas: protection of vulnerable populations; provision of essential services such as water, sanitation, and healthcare; promotion of dialogue and reconciliation; and support for community-led peace building initiatives. For instance, World Vision established child-friendly spaces where children could access psychosocial support services. Additionally, the organization facilitated community dialogues aimed at promoting understanding between the Guji and Gedeo communities.

Moreover, World Vision's peace building efforts were underpinned by its long-term development programs aimed at addressing the root causes of conflict. For example, the organization implemented agricultural projects that aimed to improve food security and reduce competition over resources between the two communities. Furthermore, World Vision provided education opportunities for children from both communities to promote mutual understanding and respect. Despite challenges such as limited resources and security World Vision's peace building interventions have contributed significantly to reducing tensions between the Guji and Gedeo communities. For instance, a joint assessment report by World Vision and other humanitarian organizations noted that there had been a significant reduction in reported incidents of violence since the implementation of peace building initiatives

5.2 CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, while conflicts have been a part of the history between the Guji and Gedeo communities, their relationship is not defined solely by discord. The cultural exchange, individual interactions, and shared experiences have contributed to a more nuanced dynamic characterized by both conflict and peaceful coexistence. World Vision's initiatives in conflict resolution and peace building among the Guji and Gedeo communities have shown promise in fostering dialogue, reconciliation, and sustainable peace. Through its community-centered approach, capacity-building efforts, reconciliation activities, and livelihood support programs, World Vision has made significant strides towards mitigating conflicts and promoting harmony between these two groups. Through its multispectral approach, World Vision has made significant strides in promoting peace and reconciliation among the Guji Gedeo community. By addressing interconnected issues related to livelihoods, education, healthcare, and advocacy, World Vision contributes to building resilient communities capable of resolving conflicts peacefully. The impact of World Vision's programs on the economic and livelihood aspects of the Guji and Gedeo communities is part of a broader effort towards sustainable development. By addressing the root causes of poverty, promoting inclusive growth, empowering marginalized groups, and fostering social cohesion, World Vision contributes to long-term stability and prosperity in these communities.

World Vision has to promote peace and development in the Guji Gedeo community. At the same time, Ethnic tensions, political instability, weak governance, poverty, and cultural differences have all contributed to the conflict. The Guji and Gedeo communities have a long history of conflict over land and resources, leading to displacement and property destruction. World Vision has been working to address these issues through community dialogues and conflict resolution mechanisms, but the deep-rooted nature of these conflicts makes it challenging. Despite these challenges, World Vision is working to promote interfaith dialogue and understanding between the communities.

5.3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- World Vision should prioritize inclusivity by ensuring that all relevant stakeholders, including women, youth, elders, and marginalized groups, have a voice in decision-making processes related to conflict resolution and peace-building.
- Investing in capacity-building programs for local community members and leaders can enhance the sustainability of peace efforts. Providing training on conflict resolution skills and mediation techniques can empower communities to address conflicts independently.
- Implementing robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will enable World Vision to assess the impact of its interventions... Regularly collecting data on key indicators related to peace-building outcomes will inform future program adjustments.
- Strengthening partnerships with local organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders can amplify the impact of World Vision's initiatives. Collaborative efforts can leverage diverse expertise and resources for more effective conflict resolution strategies.
- World Vision should continue to facilitate sustained dialogue platforms where representatives from both communities can engage in constructive discussions to address grievances and build trust.
- Providing conflict sensitivity training to staff members and community leaders can enhance their understanding of conflict dynamics and improve their ability to respond effectively.
- Implementing livelihood support programs that benefit both communities can help alleviate competition over scarce resources and promote economic cooperation.
- Engaging youth from both communities in peace-building activities can help prevent the intergenerational transmission of animosities and foster a culture of tolerance and understanding.
- Collaboration with Local Stakeholders: Collaborating with local authorities, religious leaders, civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders is essential for ensuring sustainability and ownership of peace-building initiatives.
- Advocating for policy changes at local and national levels to address structural issues contributing to the conflict can create an enabling environment for lasting peace.
- Providing peace education at the grass lot level and incorporating it in the education curriculums

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APPENDIX'S A



COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

DEPARTMENT OF PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Research Questionnaires On;

The Role of Humanitarian Organization in Peace Building among Guji and Gedeo Community: The Case Study of World Vision Organization

Dear informants, my name are Alemayehu Bonsa. I am a student at Hawassa University, pursuing a Master's Degree in Peace and Conflict Studies. As part of the academic requirement, I am researching The Role of Humanitarian Organizations in Peace Building among Guji and Gedeo Community: The Case Study of World Vision Organization. You are kindly requested to share your knowledge and experiences to guide me in this study. Your answers or responses will be used for research purposes only, and your identity will be kept confidential. Please read and answer the questions, and write where required.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Household questionnaires

Part I. General instruction;

1. Put a tick marks in front of the appropriate alternative (s) for multiple choice questions.
2. To the open-ended questions, please write your response on the space provided.

NB. You can choose more than one response for multiple choice questions.

Name of the enumerator.....

Date of enumeration.....

Part I. Personal information

- ### 1. Sex of the respondent

A. Male

B. Female

- ## 2. Age of the respondent

A. < 20

B. 20- 30

C. 31- 40

D. 41- 50

E. 51- 60

F. > 60

- ### 3. Marital status of the respondent

A. Single B. Married C. Divorced D. Widowed

- #### 4. Educational status of the respondent

A. cannot read and write

B. Can only read and write

C. Primary education (Grade 1-8)

D. Secondary Education (Grade 9- 12)

- ## 5. Religion

A. Muslim

B. Orthodox

C. Protestant

D. Catholic

E. Other (specify).....

6. Family type

A. Male headed

B. Female headed

Part II Questions about the specific objectives

1. Questionnaires on historical interaction between the Guji and Gedeo communities in the study area.

7. Is there any interaction between the Guji and Gedeo communities in your area?

1. Yes

2. No

8. How do you express the interaction between Guji and Gedeo Community?

1. Conflicting

2, peaceful coexisting

9. If your answer was "conflicting" for question number "8" what is the immediate cause of conflict in your area?

1. Resource Competition

2. Historical grievances

3. Political representation

10. If your answer was "conflicting" for question number "8" what is the basic cause of conflict in your area?

1. Political dynamics 2. Cultural difference 3. Political Marginalization 4. Other specific_____

11. When did broken the peaceful relation between the Guji and Gedeo communities in your area? _____

12. During the violent conflict which concerning body made peace building efforts in your area?

1. Federal government 2. regional government 3. NGOs 4. Local elders and community leaders 4. other specific_____

12. How do you express World Vision's Intervention in Guji and Gedeo Community in promoting peace?

Please! Put thick marks in provided space.

facilitating Dialogue	Very Strong ☐
	Medium ☐
	strong ☐
Economic Improvement	Very strong ☐
	Medium ☐
	Strong ☐
promoting Peace and reconciliation	Very strong ☐
	Medium ☐
	Strong ☐
Other humanitarian assistance	Very strong ☐
	Medium ☐
	strong ☐

2. Questioners on the effectiveness of world vision's initiatives in conflict resolution and peace building among Guji and Gedeo communities

The choices range from strongly agree to strongly disagree.

Key: 1=strongly agree 2=Agree 3=neither agree nor Disagree 4=Disagree

5=strongly disagree

NO	Statement	1	2	3	4	5

1.	World Vision's interventions in the Guji and Gedeo regions have contributed to fostering peace.					
2.	The WV economic empowerment initiatives have helped to create jobs and improve the livelihoods of the Guji and Gedeo communities.					
3.	The WV's initiatives Enhanced Education and Child Protection in your community					
4.	World Vision's effort Reduced tensions and conflicts between Guji and Gedeo communities.					
5.	World Vision Enhanced capacity for peace building and conflict resolution at the local level					
6.	World Vision provides health services to improve the overall health and well-being of the communities.					
7.	WV facilitates joint activities community events that bring together members of the Guji and Gedeo communities.					
8.	World Vision has facilitated reconciliation processes between the Guji and Gedeo communities.					
9.	Comparatively Wv program has placed a strong emphasis on gender equality and youth empowerment.					
10	World Visions has encouraged sustainable land management practices among Guji Gedeo community					

13. Does world vision employ the key objectives and strategies in its peace building and social cohesion initiatives between the Guji and Gedeo community in your area?

A. yes

B. No

14. If your answer was “Yes” for question number “13”, what is the vital humanitarian assistance provided through WV?

1. Health care 2. Education 3. Livelihoods aspect 4. Food aid

15 what kinds of strategies were under taken by world vision to initiate social cohesion between the Guji and Gedeo community in your area?

1. Economic Empowerment Programs 2. Community Engagement and Awareness C.
Dialogue and Mediation D. Reconciliation Initiatives G. Other (specify).....

3. Questionnaires on The impacts of world visions program the economic and livelihood aspects of the Guji and Gedeo communities and how these contribute to sustainable peace and integration

16. Do you believed that world vision’s program has economic and livelihood impacts for Guji and Gedeo communities in your area?

KindsofWVImpacts

1. Yes 2. No

17. If your answer was “Yes” for question number “16”, what are the economic impacts of world vision programs in your area?

1. Agricultural Productivity 2. Markets and Finance 3. Basic Services 4. 1000

18. What are the livelihood impacts of world vision programs for peace building efforts between Guji and Gedeo communities in your area?

1. Employment opportunities 2. Entrepreneurship 3. Facilitating small businesses 4.
Other specific_____

19. What are the Community Development programs of world vision brings change on peace building among Guji and Gedeo communities in your area?

1. Confirming gender equality 2. Improving human capital 3.Focusing on Youth 4.
Other specific_____

20. What are the world vision overall initiation that sustain conflict resolution and peace building among Guji and Gedeo community

1 Sustainable agriculture 2 Access to markets 3 Income-generating activities 4 improved food security

4. Questionnaires on challenges and barriers of world vision's peace building process in the Guji and Gedeo people

Questionnaire for Community Members:

1. What are the major sources of conflict in your community?
2. How has World Vision contributed to peace-building efforts in your area?
3. What are the main challenges you have faced in participating in peace-building activities facilitated by World Vision?
4. Do you feel that there are specific cultural or social barriers that hinder peace-building initiatives?
5. In your opinion, what additional support or resources are needed to enhance the effectiveness of peace-building programs?

Questionnaire for Local Leaders:

1. From your perspective, what are the key obstacles to achieving sustainable peace in the Guji and Gedeo regions?
2. How has World Vision collaborated with local leadership structures to address conflict and promote peace?
3. What role do traditional norms and practices play in either facilitating or impeding peace-building efforts?
4. In your experience, what strategies have been most effective in engaging community members in peace-building activities?

5. What recommendations do you have for improving World Vision's approach to peace building in your community?

Questionnaire for World Vision Staff:

1. What do you perceive as the most significant challenges in implementing peace-building programs in the Guji and Gedeo regions?

2. How does World Vision navigate cultural differences and power dynamics when working towards peace in these areas?

3. Have there been instances where external factors, such as political instability, have posed barriers to your peace-building initiatives?

4. In your opinion, what changes or adaptations could enhance the impact of World Vision's peace-building efforts in these communities?

5. How do you assess the level of community ownership and sustainability of peace-building interventions facilitated by World Vision?

Part III. Questionnaires for KII with civil servants of world vision organizations

1. What is the function of your organization related with peace building and social cohesion?

2. What are the key objectives and strategies of your organization in peace building and social cohesion initiation in cases of Guji and Gedeo community? Please! Mention it.....

3. What are the economic and livelihood components of your organizations programs?

4. how the economic and livelihood components of your organizations programs can contribute for overall peace building efforts in the Guji and Gedeo community?.....

5. Have your organization faced same challenges and barriers in peace building process between Guji and Gedeo community? If any challenges and barriers, please! Give briefly explanations about it.....

Questionnaires for KII with local elders, displaced individuals, youth, and women

1. What does the historical interaction between the Guji and Gedeo communities in your area?

2. Have world vision organization give any initiation in conflict resolution and peace building among Guji and Gedeo community in your area? Please! Mention it if any.....

3. What is contribution of world vision programs to maintain social cohesion among Guji and Gedeo community in your area? Please? Mention it.....

4. Have you got the economic and livelihood components from world vision organizations?

5. If your answer is “yes”, for question number “4” how many times per a year?

6. Do you believe that the economic and livelihood components of world vision programs contribute to overall peace building efforts in your area?

If your answer is “yes”, please! Mention it how has contribute to the overall peace building efforts in your area.

