

## Economic value of non timber forest products: Estimating using local valuation and market survey in Kaffa zone Southwest Ethiopia

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The contributions of NTFPs to the local economy and the country have long been recognized. However, little or no efforts were made to estimate the economic value in a comprehensive way. Therefore, this study was initiated to estimate the economic value of NTFPs and factors influencing income from NTFPs. The study was conducted in two woredas of Kaffa Zone; Gimbo and Decha Woredas. A total of 150 households were randomly selected from the six kebeles (three from each) using probabilities proportional to size techniques. Household survey and focus group discussions were conducted with the selected individuals. To supplement primary data, secondary data were collected and the study identifies ten categories of NTFPs; namely forest coffee, honey, spices (Ethiopian cardamom and Long paper), farm implements, fuelwood, medicinal and

edible plants, bamboo, tool handles and household utensils and others (climber, *Rhamnus prinoides* and feed for animals). Considering both subsistence and commercial NTFPs, the total average gross income of the NTFPs was estimated at Birr 15,806.38 per household and year. The econometric result revealed that size of landholding (+), a distance of the market from the residence (-) and distance of the forest from the residence (-) were significant variables that determined income derived by the households from NTFPs. Both the commercial and subsistence contribution of NTFPs should be considered during planning and development issues related to NTFPs.

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