



## Global Knowledge Sharing Fund

### Application format

Name of KS initiative:	<b>Applying the Lessons from SII on Women's Empowerment</b>	Contact person:	<b>Asmare Ayele, RBI Unit Team Leader Dawn Wadlow, ACD-P</b>
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#### What knowledge do you want to share?

What knowledge do you want to generate, share, and/or use? Share the main learning objective of this Knowledge Sharing (KS) initiative.

**By reflecting on the Strategic Impact Inquiry (SII) on women's empowerment conducted in CARE's anti-FGC project in Afar Region, identify an appropriate application of this learning process that can be conducted throughout the CO's program leading to a fundamental understanding of women's empowerment in the different socio-cultural contexts the CO works in.**

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#### Why is this knowledge relevant to CARE?

Why do you consider this knowledge relevant to CARE's mission/vision? How is the main objective of the KS initiative related with other objectives and goals of your area, unit, CO?

**Promoting empowerment is one of CARE International's programming principles, and in particular, women's empowerment is a cornerstone of CARE Ethiopia's new Strategic Plan as articulated in its goal statement and Strategic Direction #3.**

**The SII on women's empowerment conducted in relation to anti-FGC project in the Afar Region by CARE Ethiopia during FY 2006, brought new insights on: 1) how the Afar women and men define and understand empowerment; and, 2) the challenges ahead in promoting the universal definition of "rights" in a way that changes socio-cultural relations and livelihoods systems. This raises a question on our "theory of change". Enhancing understanding on this has a lot to contribute to the CO's effort towards addressing the underlying causes that inhibit women's empowerment.**

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#### How do you intend to share the knowledge?

What are the main activities of the learning process? Which knowledge sharing method(s) will you use?

- 1. This knowledge sharing will be done through organizing a 3-day event that pulls together a representative sample of CARE program staff (e.g. the CO's RBA Ambassadors) and partners. The workshop will: a) review the SII methodology and identify strengths and weaknesses; and, b) develop a guideline and tools for application in other projects that staff and partners (including community members) can use to identify and "unpack" the definition of women's empowerment within the targeted communities.**

2. Finalize the tool and guidelines (i.e. printing, reproduction).
3. Application of tool and guidelines will begin before the end of this Fiscal Year. Documented findings and lessons learned from the application will be integrated into the CO's Learning, Design and Measurement (LDM) processes and systems.

**Who will benefit from this knowledge?**

Who are the people involved in the KS initiative and how will this knowledge be useful for them? Who (outside the group) will find this knowledge useful and why?

**CARE staff and selected partners will benefit from the new insights obtained from the SII so as to reconsider the way they design their approach and set of interventions to address the deep rooted practices and beliefs that disempower women and girls (e.g. FGC practice). By defining a way forward to understanding women's empowerment from the community's point of view, can lead to more effective and informed methodologies that "expand" this definition and ultimately towards gender equality.**

**How will you measure success?**

How will you know if you achieve your main learning objective? What are the indicators of success?

- CARE staff and partners have gained an improved understanding on the challenges of defining women and girls' empowerment and the implications of such on the set of skills and entry mechanisms required to facilitate empowerment processes within the community.
- The willingness and the action plan at the end of the event among CARE staff from different projects and field offices to undertake processes to define women's empowerment among the target group they serve. As a result, project interventions will be re-assessed to ensure we capitalize on appropriate entry points that facilitate application of universal rights and responsibilities.

**What are the associated costs of your KS initiative?**

Please develop a brief budget and include it with your proposal. If you have a match (money or in-kind) include it as part of the total budget.

1) Conducting the 3 day workshop	<b>\$3,000</b>
2) Development and production of tools and guidelines	<b>\$1,000</b>
3) Organizing orientation sessions at Field Office levels	<b>\$ 500</b>
4) Documenting and disseminating piloted application	<b>\$ 500</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>= <u>\$5,000</u></b>

**Do you require any assistance?**

Will you need any support? If so, from whom and for what?

**We planned to invite Allison Burden (from ECA RMU) and colleagues from different ECAR COs who conducted similar SII work in the areas of women empowerment and/or knowledge sharing events. These costs are not reflected in the \$5,000 budget above.**