

## Abstract

Women consist more than 50% of the population in Ethiopia. Gender equality and women empowerment has been a fashion in Ethiopia's governance discourse and by most of the NGOs functioning in the country for decades now.

Even though, efforts by national and international agencies and the government have brought some changes in women empowerment in the country, significant number of women are still suffering from gender inequalities. The fact that women empowerment is one of the key priorities in the 2030 sustainable Development Agenda calls for the importance of revisiting the subject from different angles.

Women empowerment is a multi-disciplinary aspect and therefore the need for the right strategies to tackle disparities in the field should remain multifaceted as well. Therefore, the objective of this study is to examine the extent to which the current language policy affected the process in women empowerment in southern Ethiopia, the Sidama Zone. The study specifically tried to identify the sources of empowerment information for women in the Sidama Zone and the role that the Sidama language played in the process. The summary and recommendation will consider inputs for the directions in the national language policy and women empowerment in the country.