The Story of Bedria Nur

Bedria Nur is one of the women gender Champions of GYEM from Timret Union in the South region. She has been widowed since 2 years and has 4 sons and 3 daughters. She lives with her family in a well-kept premise.

Bedria used to be the lone-runner of the household, her sons were not that helpful and she rented out her land under a 50/50 output sharing. Although she cultivated khat in her backyard, there was no one to take care of it properly and to hoe it in time.

What life looks like after participating in the Participatory Action Learning for Sustainability (PALS) Workshop?

It was Bedria’s plan to cultivate tomatoes, onion and beetroot. Under a 50/50 output sharing agreement she got 8.5 quintal of onion produce. She sold each quintal at ETB 700 and got ETB 5950. She spent two thirds of this income to buy fertilizers for maize and ETB 1140 for improved maize seeds. The maize was sown soon after. Bedria shared the tools with her sons who not only have appreciated them but also started to cooperate better to implement the plans. They told us the tools are very useful for planning production. Some of the major changes the family had after the workshop are:

- Proper maintenance of farm including the khat at the back yard and better management of resources such as sheep
- Improved relationship between Bedria and her sons
- Improved saving habits: she saved ETB 900 and bought a sheep after the workshop
- Adoption of modern farm inputs such as improved seed. Bedria used to resist using improved maize seeds because they cost more. Now she is open to see the benefits