Gender aspects of *Prosopis juliflora* **spread** perceptions, impacts and coping strategies



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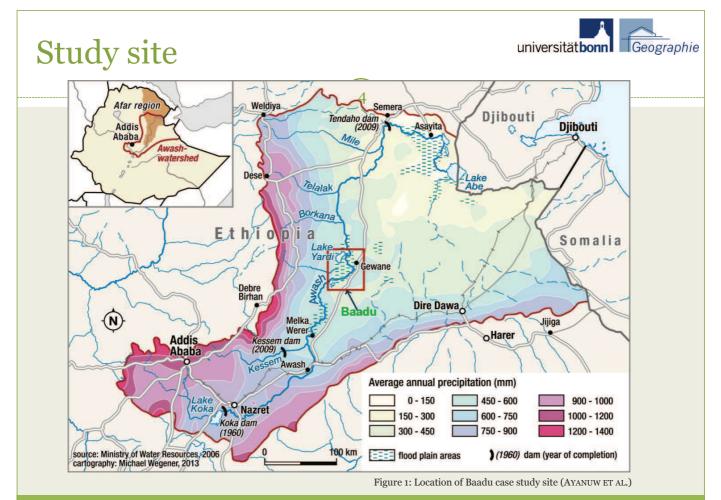
Introduction

• Gender relations influence the use and management of the environment

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- Women play an important role as social actors
- Strict gender roles in a pastoralist society
 - Work tasks and work load
 - Power relations
 - Decision making
 - Access to resources
- Focus of the case study → Gender sensitive perceptions, impacts and coping strategies

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Key Findings – Perceptions



- Curse of Allah
- P. juliflora responsible for decreasing herd sizes
- Problem ranking differs between men, women, and areas
- "Tiredness" of talking about P. juliflora invasion
- "The black gold"
- Perceived as threat to livestock and food security

Key Findings – Impacts

- "Woyane Hara doesn't discriminate!"
- Decreasing dry season grazing areas \rightarrow less livestock \rightarrow food insecurity
- Men focus on livestock, women include dimension of household needs
- Mobility patterns are influenced
- Pastoralists particular vulnerable





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Key Findings – Coping strategies universitätbonn Geographie



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Conclusions



- Men and women perceive invasion mainly in the same way
- "Woyane Hara doesn't discriminate." (local perception) →
 from a research perspective impact on women and men differs

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- Distinction needs to be made between rural and more urban areas
- Coping strategies → threat *and* potential for women → increased vulnerability *vs*. changing power relations
- Women cannot be seen as one homogeneous group Gender aspects of Prosopis juliflora spread Helena Inkermann

Recommendations



 Administrative responsibilities need to be clarified → women representatives need to be included

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- Learn from experiences of others \rightarrow e.g. Rohi Wadu
- Land use plan → identify sites that can be used for clearing
- Focus on pastoralists → pastoralist women especially vulnerable

Thank you for your attention!

