

Field Excursion Report

Giraffe group

Almadani Alhassan - Sudan

James kasozi Tondo- Uganda

Usama Kayima - Uganda

Cleophas Makau - Kenya

Mutemo Charles – Uganda`

■ 1.0 Introduction

Location :Tigray region located in northern part of Ethiopia bordered with Eritrea , Sudan and Djibouti.

The total population is about 5,500,000 people.



1.1 Mekelle-Adigudom-Hiwane Route

Overview of the situation:

Before 2011, Adigudom was center of charcoal production for Mekelle town.

About 1200 donkeys were ferrying charcoal to Mekelle town daily.

As a result there was serious deforestation hence land degradation

Due to degradation and soil erosion , the water table was lowered and efforts to drill water made the situation worse.

In 2011, the Local government and regional politicians held a meeting with a view of reversing the degradation.

1.2 Mekelle-Wukro-Abreha Weatsbeha-hewzien-Freweighn route

- Community is using 18 check-dams to conserve soil and increase water table
- They have created a water buffer
- A number of storage ponds have been established
- Silt is used as a manure on the farms
- Community does most of the work with minimal support from government

How the work is organized?(Watershed Panning, Management)

- Strong community Mobilization and commitment .
- Establishment watershed committees.
- Watershed Assessment
- Regional Government commitment and support.
- Capacity Building interventions (Training packages, support by tools)
- Quick identification and Analysis of watershed problems
- Discussion on possible alternative option to address the problems . And establishing priorities.
- Watershed Planning.
- Implementation.

Key problems and solutions/Techniques and effects

(Degaradtion)

Problem

Solution/Techniques

Effects

High Degradation

Raise awareness

Awareness increased

1

Water Conservation

1. Increase the cultivated area.
2. Increase groundwater storage.
3. Reduce the water conflict during dry season .
4. The stability of the Pastoralists

Roads for Water



Problem

2
Water
shortage

Solution

Soil Water
conservation/
Road water
harvesting
/water bond
/cheek
dams/stone
bunds

Capacity
Building in

Effects

1. Recharge the groundwater system
2. Increasing for cultivated area

1. Raise awareness
2. Establishment of watershed management committees

Gender:

Mainstreaming of Gender had been reported . The committee composed from 7 persons .

4 Men

3 Women



Achievements

- Ground water increased
- Encouraged spate irrigation
- Increased cultivated area
- Increased food security. Planted; vegetables



Check-dams and water storage facility



Water storage facility



Vegetables grown as a result of soil and water conservation



Fruits are also grown



- **SWOT Analysis for Road Water Management**

- Strengthen Points:

- The availability of land and labour
- The positive attitude of the community- Community willingness.
- Government commitment

- Weak points:

- Low human resource capacity in the water resources/road
- Low level of Education (community)
- Low income levels of the community

Opportunities:

- Political will for the implementation of Road water harvesting
- Decentralization of political power
- Availability of Donor funding of the water for roads project
- Existence of regional educational networks that offers specific training opportunities in road water .
- Availability of runoff water .
- Presence of road infrastructure facilities
- Governmental commitments in some of countries...Ethiopia for example
- Land Tenure system
- Large population offers ready market for agricultural products

Threats:

- Impact of climate change.
- Water conflict.
- Conflict on Trans -boundary basin
- Poor sanitation and hygiene of the communities

Final words

- Social mobilization was an entry point for the watershed planning process, involves not only people in the community, but all engaging wide rang of stakeholders, sectors and levels of society as well as service delivery agencies. (Mixing between top down and bottom up approach)
- Its clear that constructive dialogue established and working relationships between local communities and service providers (government, NGOs), enhancing local governance. And making community members understand the role that they have in the transformation process of their own communities

Final works Cont'd

- Its clear that strengthening the problem-solving capabilities of communities and individuals through face to face dialogue.
- Making people aware of their own potential opportunities as well as challenges.
- Enhancing people's creativity and productivity as this is the sense of collective work and they were very delighted about the first time to collect people from the different catchment areas/villages to discuss and plan for the one of major issues concerning the communities at the locality level

End

Thank you