

Annual Report for Integrated Environmental Rehabilitation, Livelihood Enhancement and Biogas for School project for the year 2013

I. ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Save the Environment Ethiopia is a local NGO established & registered on 21/08/2007 under certificate of registration No. 246/2007 by SRS Justice Bureau in accordance with the association registration regulation (legal notice No. 321 07 1966). It is also registered and licensed by Ethiopian Residents Charities on Proclamation No. 621/2009. It is an IP with UNHCR/ARRA to implement EPREP in KB, AW & SH starting from 2009. Integrated environmental Rehabilitation, Livelihood Enhancement and Biogas for Schools project in the 3 camps funded by WFP. Promotion and Community Based Production of Biodiesel in Deneba and Elbahay Kebeles of SRS funded by BC/CSSP. Community Based Environmental Management, Livelihood Improvement and Solar Electrification of Deneba Kebele. Funded by GEF/SGP/UNDP.

Vision

To be one of the most outstanding environmental protections, rehabilitation & research management establishment of Ethiopia in general and in SRS in particular.

Mission

SEE is committed in competing desertification by concern & managing the degraded areas in the refugees & other impacted areas of the SRS. It expressed in emergently recovery interventions, anti- desertification campaigns and greening.

Values

SEE has internal value of having a well- developed reputation amongst the client communities, government, & donor agencies for implementing bottom up approaches participatory & sustainable development interventions. This will be achieved by ensuring that SEE has highly committed, well-trained & well-resourced employees as well as maintaining a balanced portfolio of donors

Strategic Objectives

SEE strives to achieve a broadened opportunities for a secure & sustainable environmental management with particular emphasis to the most threatened areas as program goals.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

Rehabilitation of environment through reforestation and soil conservation in devastated and impacted area, promotion of environmentally friendly utilization techniques of natural resources, enabling the disadvantaged and marginalized community members for access to basic social services (water, health, education etc), to improve the awareness level of the community towards development Natural resource management and conservation, the right of creating assets, municipal waste management system, Income generating schemes, create opportunities for reduction workload on women and children, enable the community establish effective and efficient disaster management system and enhance minimize or prevent displacement

2. PROJECT DETAIL

The goal of the project is to improve the protection of refugees through sustainable and integrated environmental rehabilitation efforts linked with livelihood enhancement of refugee and host communities.

Project Objectives

1. To improve vegetation cover of 30 hectare degraded land through enrichment planting and Physical and biological soil conservation measures in the rehabilitation site
2. Improve the income of 89 households (445 individuals) from refugee and host community through assistance to establish modern bee keeping and cattle fattening
3. Project Beneficiaries fully engaged in protection and development of 132 hectare of Rehabilitation/Conservation sites
4. Promote safe, clean and eco- friendly alternative energy through construction of biogas digesters in the two refugee schools which will be used for school feeding programmes and to meet other energy demands of the schools

Project Beneficiaries

The project will phase out by the end of 2013 and will benefit households from the refugee and host communities with the ratio of 50:50. During selection process of beneficiaries, priority will be given to economically weak and vulnerable individuals and families.

Targeted beneficiaries of the project are:-

- 430 households will participate in plantation and soil and water conservation activities and gain income.
- 89 households will be assisted to establish modern bee keeping and cattle fattening
- 2 schools will have biogas digesters which will be used for
- Four incentive forest guards and 8 incentive nursery workers will be deployed to protect the rehabilitated land from human and livestock interference and nursery management

2013 ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PROJECT

1. Nursery Activities
2. Environmental rehabilitation activities
3. Distribution of Seedlings
4. Cattle fattening project
5. Honey Bee keeping project
6. Construction of bio-gas digester
7. Capacity building

1. Nursery Activities

The main activity in the nursery for the year 2013 was production and caring of seedlings in all three nursery sites of Kebribeyah, Shedder, and Aweberi refugee camps.

- These nurseries produced a total of 80,000 indigenous and exotic eco-friendly multi-purpose tree species seedlings. The seedlings were raised and used for distribution, plantations and other program activities.
- Out of this, 30,000 produced in Kebribeyah, 20,000 in Shedder, and 30,000 in Aweberi refugee camps.



2. Environmental rehabilitation activities

After discussion with the community, degraded areas were identified for rehabilitation and demarcated to be free from human and animal interference for fast recovery. These sites are protected by area closure system. Seedlings were planted integrated with physical soil conservation measures (gabions, check dams, and soil bunds) and biological soil conservation methods.

- About 30 hectare of land (10 in KB, 10 in AW, and 10 in SH) heavily affected by deforestation, soil erosion and big gullies was rehabilitated with 45 km soil conservation structures and enrichment plantation.
- 260 M³ Check dam were successfully constructed in the three camps of Kebribeyah, Shedder, and Aweberi.
- About 80,000 indigenous and exotic seedlings were planted in the degraded land of the three camps and the surrounding host community.

- Some 20,000 seedlings were planted in KB, about 20,000 seedlings were planted in SH & 20,000 seedlings were planted in AW camp.

The seedlings were planted in the soil and water conservation measures. Economically disadvantaged women from the community were engaged to the plantation activity for the integration of environmental protection and for gaining income for their families from their labor activity.



3. Seedling distribution:

Eco-friendly and multipurpose seedlings were prioritized and such seedlings were produced for distribution to different beneficiaries (refugees, Local community, cooperatives, IPs, and institutions) to encourage tree-planting practice. Appropriate mechanism was established to provide technical assistance, follow up the performance and evaluation of impact.

- Accordingly, a total of 20,000 seedlings were distributed to refugees, local community, cooperatives, governmental institutions, and the different IPs.
- Amount distributed per site is as follows. 10,000 seedlings were distributed in KB refugee camp, and 10,000 seedlings in AW.

4. Bee keeping and cattle fattening projects

Tripartite selection criteria were developed by Save the Environment, WFP and ARRA for the assortment of project beneficiaries from local and refugee community.

- Accordingly, 89 economically weak households were selected from both communities, 65 beneficiaries were selected as beekeeping beneficiaries while 24 other households were that of cattle fattening.
- Out of the sixty five beekeeping beneficiaries, 25 beneficiaries were selected from SH, 25 from AW and 15 from KB.

2013	Refugees			Locals		
Cattle fattening	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Awbere	1	3	4	3	0	3
Shedder	2	2	4	3	0	3
Kebribeyah	0	5	5	4	1	5
Total	3	10	13	10	0	11
Bee keeping						
Awbere	11	2	13	8	4	12
Shedder	3	9	13	9	3	12
Kebribeyah	4	4	8	5	2	7
Total	18	15	34	22	9	31
Grand total	21	25	47	32	9	42

- In line with cattle fattening, 24 households established cattle fattening and assisted with 48 bulls, two bulls for each beneficiary.
- Out of the 24 cattle fattening project beneficiaries, 10 beneficiaries were selected from KB, 7 from SH and 7 others from AW.

Feed and shelter for the bulls were also provided to them. The beneficiaries selected from the refugee side were people with a background of animal rearing and the custom of animal husbandry.



- Concerning bee keeping project, 65 modern bee hives with their colony and other bee keeping equipment are purchased and provided to the project beneficiaries. The following items in the table were distributed to the project beneficiaries.

S/N	Item	Unit	Quantity
1	Gowns/ Body cover	Pcs	65
2	Gloves/hand gloves	Pair	65
3	Head cover/ big hats	Pcs	65
4	Chisels	Pcs	3
5	Wax casting molds	Pcs	3
6	Wax	Kg	40

- The beekeeping beneficiaries were given training on modern beekeeping such as colony rearing, honey harvesting, wax collection, smoker usage, and other management techniques. The mode of the training was both practical and theory.



5. Bio gas construction

Biogas is quite new technology to Ethiopia in general and in Somali regional state in particular. Therefore, getting of professional biogas maker had its troublesome challenges, after long effort done by SEE we found a professional biogas contactor from Dromia region.

- We have signed an agreement of constructing two biogas digesters with **Elshadai Biogas Production Company**. The bio gas was constructed at KB ARRA primary school and in SH.
- After the completion of the biogas digester, it's planned to be handed over to the school management team of ARRA and the camp level managers to maintain and take care of the digesters.
- SEE have also started to accumulate human and livestock excreta for the start up.

6. Capacity building

- a five days training was organized on soil and water conservation technologies and integrated watershed development.

The training composed of both theoretical and practical exercises. This training was expected to improve the knowledge and skills of the field staffs and to improve the technical skill efficiency of the staff so as to empower for better technical achievement. The training was conducted in Dir-Dawa triangle Hotel.

- ARRA program officers of the three refugee camps and ARRA zonal environmental officer and WFP-SOD were also participated in the training.

The major objective of the training was to enhance the capacity of the participants in understanding the concept, design, layout, construction and management of the different soil and water conservation and water harvesting technologies that fit to their environment.

The specific objectives of the training were to enable participants:

- Understand the concept behind soil and water conservation and water harvesting
- Design and demonstrate the technologies to communities in need;
- Train and guide communities involved in direct implementation of soil and water conservation and water harvesting practices.
- Link with livelihood activities at household and community level to enhance food security



7. The Major Challenges for the year 2013

- Transportation problems
- Human and livestock interference in CS
- Inadequate capacities of project staffs: as SEE is an emerging organization.

