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The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF
THE ENVIRONMENT



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***Institutional
Strengthening for the
Forest Sector
Development Program
(IS-FSDP)***



Creating Multi-functional Landscapes
*Rehabilitation of degraded landscapes in piloted
areas of Ethiopia*

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1. Introduction

Ethiopia has set a high bar for itself and the world: In its development blueprint, the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy, it is aimed to achieve middle-income status by 2025 while transitioning to a climate-resilient green economy.



Protecting existing forest and tree-based landscape restoration are central to these goals as trees contribute not only directly to economic development and raising living standards, but also to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

One of the forest sector targets included in the CRGE is rehabilitation of 15 million hectares of degraded lands. To this end, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has designed this project in 2014. One of the focus areas of this project is rehabilitation of degraded lands. It is expected that this project will contribute a lot to the realization of the above national targets.

2. Approaches to rehabilitation of degraded lands

Prior to intervention, integrated land use plan is prepared through PRA techniques and collection of GPS points. Additionally, by-laws were established and approved, all with active engagement of the target community.



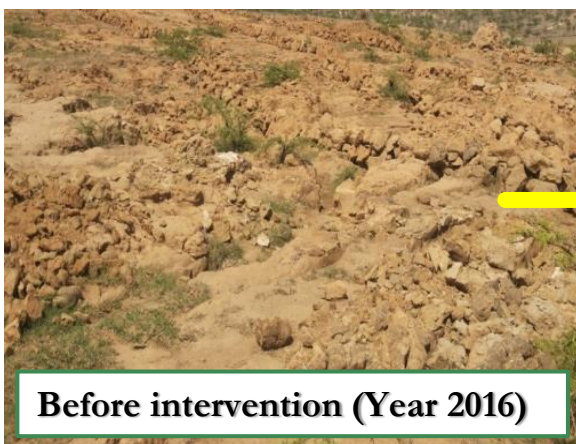
Proactive participation and voluntarily labor contribution of communities is taken as an asset for implementation of this particular component and the whole program, in general.



Construction of soil conservation and moisture harvesting structures done at the project districts



3. Major Achievements in progress



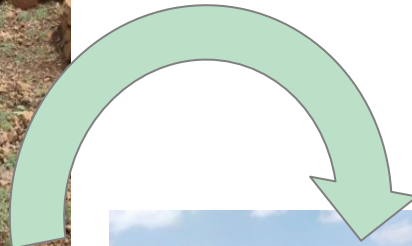
Construction of moisture retention structures for watering of planted seedlings during dry spells & site reclamation after intervention



Some additional pictures showing partial view of rehabilitation achievements progressing with time



At the beginning of intervention (Year 2016)



One year after intervention (Year 2017/18)

Partial view of rehabilitation achievements at Meket district



Year 2016



Partial view of rehabilitated sites at Lemo (Upper two) and Sodo Guragie (Lower) districts after two years of intervention



Gully reclamation as part of site rehabilitation scheme

Table: 3 year's rehabilitation achievements in the 3 regions

Region	3 years' achievement (in ha)	% achievement (3 years')
Tigray	31,000	93.94
Amhara	61,750.53	93.56
SNNPR	40,458	81.73
Overall Achievement	133,208.53	89.70



4. Results achieved so far:

- Degraded lands rehabilitated
 - ✓ Springs developed
 - ✓ Flooding damage reduced at the downstream
 - ✓ Vegetation cover increased
- Livelihoods supported
 - ✓ Additional income gained by the target community through beekeeping, fattening, grass harvesting through cut & carry
- Biodiversity conservation enhanced
 - ✓ Locally threatened wild animals reappeared because of increased vegetation cover
 - ✓ Plant species diversity improved

5. Major challenges encountered

Sites with significant environmental constraints- soil depth, water stress, rainfall variability demanded extra investments in site amelioration efforts.

6. Summary and the way forward

- Participation of communities in the project sites and the leadership by the government institutions at various levels has been instrumental.
- Assessment of achievements so far in relation to purpose of the program demonstrates promising results;
- The program has significant contribution towards the achievement of the forest sector in the green growth development agenda of the country.

