

SAFE-World Project/Initiative Summary

Country: Ethiopia

Project/Initiative Title: Antsokia – World Vision

Nos. farmers: 6540

Hectares: 7000

Agro-Ecological Zone: III

Improvement types

1x	2x	3	4	5	6x	7x	8	9
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Success and Limits to spread

Success	Limits
1b,3c	3a,3b,5a,7

A. Key Impacts

A1 – Productivity

	Before/Without	After/With	% change
Sorghum /teffrosia	800 kg/ha	1200 kg/ha	50
Vegetables			90

A2 – Impacts on natural capital

- ?? Pesticide/fertilizer application is an entirely new venture to the area. Only 60 out of the total 6000 farmers in the project area used inorganic fertilizers in 1994 with a disappointing result because the package did not include improved seed nor pesticide to go with it nor according to farmers, fertility of the soil is the last to worry about their prioritized needs is control of striga, moisture stress and reduction of heavy farm drudgery.
- ?? Soil erosion has been reduced considerably through earth works like 133.55 km of check dams and soil bunds
- ?? The loss of soil nutrients has been reduced through crop rotation cover cropping and fallowing.
- ?? The fertility of the soils of Antsokia is evaluated by FAO to be one of the richest in the world (comparable only to soils in few pockets in South Africa, Russia and Japan). Therefore, action is not to bring about any change in the soil

A3 – Impacts on local community (social capital)

- ?? As the law of the land prohibits land sales, change of land price cannot be measured, as too is labour wage since most of the farmwork in the area is family labour.
- ?? Migration to the area is reported, as several returnees from resettlement programs, returning ex-soldiers and students who went outside the locality for higher education returned and almost all are being accommodated by the existing resource.
- ?? An estimated 1.2 million Bers (200,000 \$US) is now available for credit to the poor. The money is raised through repayment of agricultural inputs free food for work (F. F. W.) labour and F. F. W. grain incentive by the community.
- ?? The local income levels and savings has increased through sale of forest products (estimated at 1 million Bers) vegetables and fruits (10 tons per week) increased yield in cereal crops (from 8-12 Qt year) and cash crops (like coffee, sugar cane, etc.).

?? The number of trainees on sustainable agriculture include:
Crop husbandry = 100 farmers + 90 contact farmers per year
Livestock = 100 farmers
Bio - intensive gardening = 120
Soil and water conservation techniques/ afforestation =600 farmers

?? At present there are 14 micro nurseries These nurseries are local people managed and financed aimed at sustainability to end the dependence on macro -nurseries run by W.V.E.

A4 – Impacts on households and individuals (human capital)

- ?? Food availability through the introduction of root crops and forest gardens as well as changes in cereal yields is exceptionally handsome. One indication is that the project area has not been declared as being food deficit by the government ever since our intervention ten years ago (while in the other eight projects food deficit has become a year to year phenomenon).
- ?? The farmers in the project area are better equipped to cope with droughts/environmental/market changes because they have introduced drought resistant crops (sweet potatoes etc.) practices that that retain moisture (cover crops) and physical and biological control of soil and water. In short, the entire watershed management guard against drought and environment changes.
- ?? The forest gardens and wetland interventions has benefited the poorer farmers to earn a substantial amount of income through the sale of cash crops, fruits and vegetables, livestock products and trees. Equally the richer farmers and town dwellers have benefited a lot in transporting and marketing the produce in some cases even to the sea port of Assab 335 kms away from the project.

A5 – Key changes in farm / regional system

- ?? Population of area up 36-45,000 in 6 years
- ?? Agricultural production up 5093 t to 8372 t
- ?? Per capita up 145 – 186 kg/person
- ?? The overall impact is that total production (crop) has increased from 6334 MT before commencement of sustainable agriculture to the present 9862 MT (56%). This is equivalent on an aggregate cereal yield from 8 Qt/ha - 12 Qt/ha.
- ?? Vegetables and fruits can be regarded to have increased by over 90% because cultivation and consumption of these crops were virtually unknown before.
- ?? Livestock yield even though hard to quantify has increased through biomass and aftermath yields as well as sufficient water supply through small-scale water harvesting.
- ?? Farmers introduced to new land management techniques are all still using the techniques (100%).
- ?? To date the forest cover in the project area accounts to 1300 ha. Or 16,000,000 trees planted at survival rate of average 60% through the projects effort.
- ?? The number of farmers that have adopted sustainable agriculture approaches include:
Bio- intensive gardening: 225 farmers
Inter-cropping (200)
Compost making (150)
Succession farming (100)
Soil Water conservation practices (600)
Forest gardens (100)

Farm forestry (2000)

?? The estimated area in which a sustainable agriculture approach is practiced is 16,000 ha. Under the described seven agroecological niches within the watershed.

?? The total number of people benefiting from the positive impacts described is estimated at 40,000.

B. Types of Sustainable Agriculture Improvements

Type 1: Better use of available renewable natural capital

Type 2: Intensification of single sub-component of farm system

Type 3: Diversify by adding new productive natural capital and regenerative components

Type 4: Better use of non-renewable inputs and technologies

Type 5: Social and participatory processes leading to group action for making better use of natural capital

Type 6: Human capital building through training-learning programmes

Type 7: Access to Finance

Type 8: Add value by processing to reduce losses and increase returns

Type 9: Add value by direct or organised marketing of produce to consumers

	Yes/No	Narrative
Type 1	x	<p>?? Several plant species has been introduced into the area that include root crops (cassava, sweet potatoes), legumes (winged beans, velvet beans, lueceana, susbania, acacia), fruits (papaya, guava, orange, lemon, grapefruit, banana and apple) and several varieties of cereals (sorghum, corn, maize, wheat and barley) and grass (elephant grass, alfalfa and vetiver).</p> <p>?? Increasing species diversity (by refraining from the Government policy of Green revolution approach)</p> <p>?? Improved species of livestock like Holsttain Fresian and white leghorn were introduced but again with disappointing results for lack of management in funding and healthcare.</p> <p>?? Bio-Intensive gardening</p> <p>?? Bio-dynamic farming</p> <p>?? integrated farming</p> <p>?? organic farming</p> <p>?? manure utilization</p> <p>?? Agro-forestry</p> <p>?? Water harvesting small scale</p> <p>?? Cover cropping</p> <p>?? Introduction of plants with diversified uses</p>
Type 2	x	?? Contour farming
Type 3		
Type 4		
Type 5		
Type 6	x	<p>?? PRA</p> <p>?? Community based technical program</p> <p>?? Farmers participation at all stages from need identification and prioritization all the way to planning, research (adoptive) implementation monitoring and evaluation and even phase-</p>

		out of projects.
Type 7		
Type 8		
Type 9		

C. Key Lessons: Success, Spread and Constraints

C2 – Aspects of local/national context contributing to success

- ?? Internal = planning, course of action, problem-solving and decision-making, M + E and length of commitments are all subject to the organizations principles - decentralized, participatory and holistic development. We live and work with people, built from what they have, respect God's given resources, respect people's culture and know how. Commitment and operational flexibility is mostly through people's wishes.
- ?? External = Through personal contact strong relationship with IFOAM and sister organization where exchange of material an information were done. ENDA, Agro-forestry (ICRAF) together with several U.N. (sister organization) have established networks. The entire World Vision partnerships (over 90 countries) share information of our works.

C3 – Limitations preventing spread

- ?? Adoption to neighbouring areas from the target area is in infancy because the local administration and Ministry of Agriculture prohibit any involvement by WVE outside its delineated area.
- ?? Macro-economic factors:
Structural adjustment policies, especially the wisdom of reduction of civil servants, and reduction of government subsidy resulted in cheating demoralized, office-bound extension workers which otherwise could have helped on the spread of our works.
- ?? National factors:
Sustainable agriculture is considered as a dualistic force to the present government strategy and policies aimed at duplicating the green revolution ideas under the S.G. program. Research focus is very narrow in that it has never been out of varietal research mostly cereal. Poor transportation networks and in general social Infrastructure is the worst to any standard in the country.
- ?? Others:
Very few people/intellectuals who comprehend or actively support sustainable agriculture. Limited resources especially finance to uphold the people and program to support sustainable agriculture.
Virtually no association or training institution in the country on sustainable agriculture.
- ??

C4 – Policy issues

- ?? Structural adjustment policies, especially the wisdom of reduction of civil servants, and reduction of government subsidy resulted in cheating demoralized, office-bound extension workers which otherwise could have helped on the spread of our works.
- ?? Sustainable agriculture is considered as a dualistic force to the present government strategy and policies aimed at duplicating the green revolution ideas under the S.G. program.

D. Contact Point for Project/Initiative

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