



NEAR EAST FOUNDATION

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Extending Resources, Economic Security, and Peace in Central Darfur



Final Report

November 2015

Near East Foundation

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Grant Number: T-DAR002

Grant Title: Enhancing Peace Building through Demarcation of Animal Corridors and Improving Grazing Areas

Grantee: Near East Foundation

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Cover Photo: Enrichment planting. Photo by NEF.

Summary of Project Implementation

The “Extending Resources, Economic Security, and Peace: Enhancing Peace Building through Demarcation of Animal Corridors and Improving Grazing Areas” project promoted peace-building through collaborative natural resource management and support for livelihoods. Targeted activities were designed to help reduce tensions between competing users of natural resources. Collaborative natural resource management projects undertaken included the construction of two improved wells for livestock, the demarcation of animal migration corridors, and enrichment planting along 10-hectares of pasture along the corridors. The project team also worked with community water users and stakeholders in the two-targeted localities of Zalingei and Wadi Salih to build their capacity to manage these resources and ensure the sustainability of the program.

Despite a slight delay due to heavy rains during the rainy season, the project successfully:

- Demarcated an animal migration corridor from Zalingei to Garsila (113 km).
- Established two water sources (dug wells) along the corridor to provide crucial water resources for people and livestock.
- Designated 10 hectares of managed pastures for livestock grazing and resting (seasonal settlements and temporary resting spaces) through enclosures and enrichment planting with a mixture of drought-tolerant seed along the corridor.
- Formed and trained water committees for operation and maintenance of water sources, and Pasture and Demarcation Committees for management of the grazing corridor.



Installation of edge markers in Somei Village, near Zalingei.

Progress against output and outcome objectives

Overall Objectives

Reduce tensions between competing users of natural resources through targeted collaborative natural resource management projects.

Output Objectives

| Objective | Status | Notes |
|--|---|---|
| Demarcate animal corridor from Zalingei to Garsila (113 km). | Achieved 113 km of animal corridor demarcated | Completed in close cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Animal Resources and Forestry, Farmers Union, Herders Union, and Nomadic Union. |
| Establish two water yard sources (dug wells) along the corridor, providing a critical water supply for livestock, downstream farms and residents. | Achieved 2 wells dug in Darlow and Kidibu villages | The construction of the two water points attracted widespread local interest and support. The new water points have reduced a key source of tension between competing water users. |
| Designate 10 hectares of managed pastures for livestock grazing and resting (seasonal settlements and temporary resting spaces) through enclosures and enrichment planting with a mixture of drought-tolerant seed along the corridor. | Achieved Enrichment planting completed on 10 ha | Pastures reduced tension and competition over grazing land. |
| Form and train 10 water committee (caretakers) for operation and maintenance of water source and Pasture and Demarcation Committees. | Achieved | In collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Supra Village Associations, the Field Agents in Abata cluster formed pasture committees (2 committees in Abata areas; 3 committees in Delieg and Garsila clusters). The committees consist of 15 members; approximately 20-30% of members are women. These selected committees have been through on-site training during the pasture seeds broadcasting activities in Abata, Committees in Triej and Delieg clusters have also participated in on-site training during the installation of the edge markers in Zalingei, Trieg and Delieg. Considerable awareness raising was conducted with all committees. |

Outcome Objectives

| Objective | Status | Notes |
|---|--|--|
| Reduced conflicts over natural resource use between nomads and settled groups reported, as the result of demarcation of 1 animal's corridor, 10 ha pasture enrichment, and rehabilitation of community water point. | Achieved | Project activities (pasture enrichment, water points, and demarcation of the grazing route) have garnered the interest of the state Minister of Agriculture, the state Minister of Animal Resources and Forestry, the Central Darfur Wali, the FAO and other stakeholders. |
| Number of improved water sources constructed and functioned. | Achieved 2 improved water sources constructed and functioning | NEF will study the use and impact of these water sources during November, when improved water sources are in high demand. |
| Increased community cohesion reported. | Achieved | |
| Migration routes agreed and demarcated. | Achieved | |
| Numbers of people (Women, Children and Men) with their livestock's have access to sufficient safe water supply from the newly constructed livestock water sources. | ~ 1500 households | Based on the information from the project's field agent and Omda of Abata, there are currently around 1500 households who have benefitted from this safe water supply. NEF is organizing a field visit in November to study and promote the use of these water points. |
| Number of animals benefiting from the new water sources provided. | ~750 | NEF will also determine the final number of animals benefiting during the visit/survey to be conducted in November. Even though water is widely available during the months of September and October, the team found that an estimated 750 head of livestock benefited from the new water sources during this time. |
| 75% increased capabilities of community structures (Pasture and Demarcation Committee) to effectively manage local disputes related to livestock migration and | Achieved | The focus on SVAs in every cluster during the implementation of the program has played a vital role in helping communities to manage their disputes. NEF has also organized |

| | | |
|--|----------|--|
| grazing | | training for the committees on conflict mitigation and mediation. |
| Three new natural resource management initiatives in 2 localities created through USG funding, dedicated to resolving the conflict or the drivers of the conflict. | Achieved | Demarcation of 1 animal corridor, 10 ha pasture enrichment, and rehabilitation of community water point. |

Did the activity raise interest and discussions?

NEF's work through the AECOM project has been highly appreciated. Livestock migration corridors have addressed a key concern and point of conflict in the region – demarcating paths and reducing trespassing/damage to crops. The benefits of enrichment planting were also discussed during a meeting held in November 2015, chaired by the Central Darfur Wali and Minister from the Ministry of Agriculture. Farmers, pastoralists, local government officials, and other actors have all acknowledged the role that the demarcation, enrichment planting, water, and awareness raising activities will have in preventing disputes and conflict. Local actors have requested further development of these and similar initiatives.

Given concerns about food security in the coming year as the 2015 rainy season started late and ended early, these will be of particular importance in promoting adequate food production.

Impact on perceptions and behaviors

Project activities have had an impact on mitigating disputes between herders and farmers, particularly in the areas where the grazing route has been demarcated, awareness activities have occurred, and where water points have been constructed.

Recommendations

- Demarcation activities should be completed before or after rainy season to avoid setbacks due to heavy rains.
- Activities should also engage all actors in the area to mitigate potentials for conflict.
- To have optimum use of the corridor, the demarcation should reach its final points in the state.

Beneficiaries

| Locality | Total Male Direct Beneficiaries | Total Female Direct Beneficiaries | Total Direct Beneficiaries |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Zalingei | 1000 | 430 | 1430 |
| Abata | 2420 | 725 | 3145 |
| Triej | 1070 | 340 | 1410 |
| Deliej (Wadi Salih) | 1420 | 220 | 1640 |
| Total | 5910 | 1715 | 7625 |

Water committees beneficiaries:

| Location | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Darlo (Abata area) | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Kidibu (Abata area) | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Total | 14 | 6 | 20 |

Demarcation committees beneficiaries:

| Location | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Abata | 12 | 3 | 15 |
| Zalingei | 12 | 3 | 15 |
| Triej | 8 | 2 | 10 |
| Deliej | 8 | 2 | 10 |
| Total | 40 | 10 | 50 |

Lessons learned, challenges and recommendations

Heavy rains delayed the completion of the project as areas became inaccessible and demarcation activities could not be completed. Activities should be planned around the expected rainy season.

Future Steps

- The completion of the whole corridor up to Jugoma Al Garbia should be undertaken to at least finish one corridor.
- Additional water yards and water points are needed throughout the current corridor.
- NEF proposes work on livelihood activities in the targeted areas to support the mutual interest of both herders and farmers (i.e., cheese making, fodder production, etc.)
- NEF also proposes that animal water routes be constructed in case additional water points are not constructed along the main animal routes.

Photos



Committee members in Kotirri village – Abata Cluster during the illustration and awareness session in the field.



Preparation for broadcasting of pasture seed in Delieg area.



Fabricating edge markers in Zalingei.



Installation of the fabricated edge markers in Sornei village close to Zalingei.



Discussions with committee members.



Improved water sources.