

ADHENO: Integrated Rural Development Association

## 2016 Annual Report



March 2017

# **ADHENO: Integrated Rural Development Association**

## **Annual Report 2016**

### **Executive Summery**

ADHENO Integrated Rural Development Association is established in order to address the deep-rooted and interlinked problems of the population of North Shoa of Amhara Regional State. In 2016, the organization has been involved in implementing various development initiatives in an integrated manner targeting five kebeles of Bassona Worana Woreda namely Woynye, Goshebado, Metkorya, Moy Amanguilt, and Muti Cherkos. In addition to the main goal that the organization is striving for, ADHENO was also involved in addressing the drought problem that has happened in 2015 & 2016 and assisted Kewet woreda which is one of the woredas that was severely impacted in the zone. The realization of all these achievements was totally impossible without the financial and technical support of our partners namely All We Can, Dir Biybair, Czech Embassy, Prof. Turnowsky and Prof. M.Kroetlinger and more importantly government, board members and the targeted community at large. Accordingly, ADHENO can reach a total of 6,423 direct beneficiaries of which 2,520 are females and this has enabled the organization to reach about 32,150 indirect beneficiaries during the completed year. Similar to the previous years, all possible effort is made to give due emphasis to marginalized section of the society specifically to Jobless youth, destitute women and very poor farmers. Various strategies have also been used in order to realize planned activities which include Tree Gudifecha, Capacity building training, community mobilization, Adult Education, Community Conversation, distribution of agricultural hand tools, organizing self help groups, distribution of improved crops, distribution of improved sheep, fruits and vegetables etc...

In spite of the different challenges faced and the very limited human and financial resource available, thanks to the above mentioned partners ADHENO could register visible achievements during the finalized year.

### **Program Intervention**

As stipulated in the five years strategic plan (2015-2019) ADHENO has been operating under three component areas namely,

1. Environmental rehabilitation and sustainable development
2. Crisis mitigation goal
3. Strengthening ADHENO

## **1.2 About ADHENO**

ADHENO Integrated Rural Development Association is a not-for-profit non-governmental indigenous organization established in 2002 and registered in 2009 with charities and Societies Agency. ADHENO is dedicated to improving the living conditions of the people of North Shoa by working with communities and closely collaborating with government and other development actors through designing and implementing programs focusing on environmental rehabilitation, expanding access to basic education, facilitating income generation opportunities and promoting health and wellness of the society.

## **1.3 Vision:**

ADHENO Integrated Rural Development Association aspires to rehabilitate the degraded natural environment in order to see the livelihoods of the rural people of North Shoa becoming self-sustained, free from ignorance, healthy and dedicated community

## **1.4 Mission:**

ADHENO: Integrated Rural Development Association is dedicated to improving the living conditions of the rural people of North Shoa by working with communities and closely collaborating with Government and other development partners through participatory designing, implementation and evaluation of projects and programs of environmental rehabilitation, expanding access to basic education, facilitating income-generating opportunities and promoting wellbeing

## **1.5 Major Strategies Used**

- Partnership with government line offices and target community;
- Community mobilization through innovative methods eg. Tree Gudifecha;
- Cost sharing in implementing different development activities;
- Capacity building through training, experience sharing visits and the like;
- Local resource mobilization and community participation;

## **2. Activities and Achievements of ADHENO in 2016**

The activities planned and major results registered out of the major projects and other small grants are briefly described below under corresponding partner organizations supporting the activities;



# 1. Environmental Rehabilitation and Sustainable Development

## All We Can

Based in the United Kingdom, All We Can is one of the close partners of ADHENO since 2012 in its effort to alleviate rural poverty. In partnership with this partner, ADHENO was implementing a project entitled “Economic Empowerment through Environmental Rehabilitation and Income Generation Scheme” in Goshebad, Metkorya, Muti Cherkos and Moy Amanguilt Kebeles. The period of the project was three years started in September, 2013 and completed in August, 2016. The main purpose of the project was ensuring food security and increase standard of life of poor targeted households. This project was successfully completed in August, 2016 by achieving the targets set in the project document. All We Can was satisfied with the results achieved and agreed to support the second phase of the project which is to be implemented till December, 2019 in the above kebeles as well as three additional kebeles namely Kasima, Mati and Angolela. The following description thus provides major activities accomplished and results registered out of the intervention for the completed project and for the past four months of the current project.

### Activities Planned & Realized:

#### Provision of training on Soil and Water Conservation Mechanism & Distribution of Hand: Tools-

A three days training focusing on practical and theoretical knowledge and skills of soil and water conservation mechanisms was given to a total of 240 participants during the months of January and February, 2016. Out of the 240 trainees, intensive training was given to the first 100 farmers drawn from the new targeted kebeles where as refresher training was given to the rest 140 farmers drawn from the existing kebeles. In addition to this, with the purpose of facilitating the soil and water conservation task, the purchase and distribution of 50 shovels, 36 crow/digging bar and 36 stone hammers is realized. This was followed by construction of physical structures covering 415 hectare of degraded land. Currently, the community is making the necessary follow-up in order to protect the structures from animal contact and most of them exist in good condition.



Soil & Water conservation

### **Provision of training on Nursery Management to nursery workers**

ADHENO manage and support two central and three community tree nursery stations under this project through provision of material and technical support. As part of this effort, a three days training was given to **ten** nursery station workers ( six females) focusing on basic skills and knowledge of tree nursery station management including application of manure, compost preparation, size and type of soil to be used as well as watering techniques. As a result of this training, the nursery workers could manage and nurture over 400,000 tree seedlings of which the plantation of about 395,000 has been successfully realized during the last plantation season.

### **Provide Training on Improved Crop productivity to 40 model farmers and Distribution of Improved Seeds**

As part of the effort to improve crop productivity and ensure food security at household level, training on improved crop productivity techniques and compost making was given to 40 model farmers of whom nine were females. The training focused on skills of compost preparation, weeding, improved seeds management as well as sowing and watering. Following the training, seventeen quintals of improved seeds was distributed to 40 selected farmers. The farmers are very successful in the reward and could increase their productivity at least by half.

### **Provide Exist Strategy Training to Tegulet Cooperative Management Members**

Provision of technical and material support to Tegulet Bee Cooperative was one of the activities preformed by this project. In relation to this, capacitating the cooperative through provision of training to the members of the management has been realized successfully. The training focused on basic skills of cooperative management, basic accounting skills, procurement and other related administrative and financial issues. The training was attended by twenty members of the cooperative. The cooperative is currently functioning in good condition. The woreda cooperative office is also providing the necessary follow-up.

### **Establish five community woodlots and five area closures**

Application of biological soil and water conservation mechanisms through establishment of community woodlots and area closures is one of the strategies being used by ADHENO in order to rehabilitate the degraded land. In this regard, it is possible to realize the establishment of twelve woodlots and seven area closures. Following this, it is also possible to plant over 200 thousand tree seedlings in these new establishments. On top of this, ADHENO in collaboration with the community residing in the area has established a committee responsible for day to day follow-up and control of these areas and ensure that the trees are protected from any cattle and human contact.

### **Planting 400,000 tree seedlings**

ADHENO has been successful in planting 401,300 economical and agro-forestry tree seedlings.

The plantation was made through different approaches mainly community mobilization and ADHENO's "Tree Gudifecha" strategy. The trees planted are now covered over 40 hectare of land and 70% of them exist in good condition while the remaining 30% are critically affected by recent frozen.



METKORYA Tree Nursery Station



New tree planted

### **Provide Technical Support to Increase Honey Production**

Supporting and encouraging beekeepers through technical and material support is the other focus of this project. To this end, two separate trainings focusing on basic bee keeping as well as transition bee hive preparation skill was given to 80 beekeepers. In addition to this, 25 jobless youth who are believed to have good potential in beekeeping were provided with modern beehives. Similarly, the distribution of 83 transitional beehives produced by the targeted trainees has also been realized. It is believed that the cumulative effect of all these efforts will increase the honey production at least by half.



Transitional Beehive construction Training



## **Introduce fruit and vegetable production**

Production of varieties of fruits and vegetables has got high acceptance among the targeted community both for household consumption and for sell. Accordingly, during the reporting period it is possible to distribute 1,500 seedlings of orange, avocados, mangos, lemon as well as coffee tree seedlings. Besides, it is also possible to distribute 2 kg. of , beetroot , onion and cabbage. Prior to the distribution, the farmers were made to be equipped with basic skills of fruit and vegetable management skill. Apart from using the products for family consumption, the villagers have earned 3, 000 to 7,000 Birr out of sale of the products.



Vegetables

## **Provide Clean and Adequate Water to the Community;**

The installation of 6 kms water pipeline from Goshebedo to Workegur has been completed successfully. Following this, the construction of six water points is also completed. Hence ADHENO's long year dream of creating access clean and adequate water to over 500 new community members within 1kms readies has become real. Besides, the constructions of two springs in the newly targeted kebeles have also been realized with a reservoir which contain 4 meter cube each amount of water. Currently the water point is serving the community in three categories for human being, sanitation and livestock. The water points are being managed by a water committee established for the purpose.



Water spring before and after construction

## Updates on the new project

Following the completion of the project discussed herein above, successfully, All We Can again entered into another agreement with ADHENO to support 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of a project with 4.2 million Birr targeting over seven thousand direct beneficiaries for three years. In addition to the previous kebeles, the current project also target Kasima, Angolela and Mati and intends to address the following problems:-

- Degradation of the natural resources ;
- Absence/lack of alternative means of livelihood and full dependency on traditional farming that doesn't cover households basic requirement;
- Low level of productivity due to infertility of the land and failure to use improved crop production technology;
- Absence of adequate and clean water and high exposure to intestinal diseases;
- Limited access to adult education and community conversation sessions;

This project will thus accomplish the following activities in order to address these problems:

- Provide relevant short trainings to jobless youth and destitute women on basic skill of soil and water conservation mechanisms;
- Essential tools will be distributed to communities engaged in soil and water conservation activities ;
- Construct different soil and water conservation structures and plant trees in order to protect soil erosion and degradation of natural resources;
- Strengthen and support existing central & community tree nursery stations;
- Introduce alternative means of livelihood through beekeeping and production of fruits and vegetables;
- Develop and upgrade water points and springs for human consumption; livestock and raising of tree seedlings through different technologies
- Organize adult education and community conversation sessions;

ADHENO has thus signed agreement with relevant offices at zonal level and started implementation of the project. The major activities performed so far thus include:-

- Purchased and distributed tree seeds both for the community and central tree nurseries;
- Trained 27 nursery management workers who are managing the sites;
- Distributed agricultural hand tools ;
- Identified area for area closures and created awareness;
- Identified springs to be constructed;
- Identified land for construction of soil and water conservation structures;
- Created awareness on the concept of self help groups;
- Conducted community conversation sessions;
- Compiled baseline survey;
- Promoted "tree gudifecha strategy" using different event;



## Dir Biyabir

ADHENO with funding received from the Dir-Biyabir is implementing a two year project entitled **“Integrated Environmental Rehabilitation and Economic Empowerment.** The project is being implemented *in Woynye kebeles of Bassona Worana Woreda, North Shoa Zone, Amhara Regional State as of June, 2015 to June 2017 though extended till November, 2017 by ADHENO’s request. Woynye is rural kebele having 5 sub kebeles.* The main objective of the project is to improve the livelihood of poor and marginalized farmers in the project area through cultural, environmental and biodiversity conservation interventions. The following is brief description of key activities accomplished in 2016:-

### **Supporting nursery station:**

ADHENO has been working in Debre Birhan tree nursery station for this project. The center has the capacity of managing over 300,000 trees. Currently ADHENO is managing this center with four full time nursery workers managing over 60,000 tree seedlings.

**Planting and nurturing of 200,000 indigenous trees:** Over 80,000 trees have been planted so far. The preparation for planting the remaining 120,000 seedlings is under way through raising and nurturing of the tree seeds. To this end about 100,000 tree seeds are being managed in the nursery station mentioned above as well as in Metkorya nursery state (some seedlings are taken to Metkorya in order to protect from the frozen). The remaining 20,000 tree seeds are to be purchased from individual suppliers. This gap is created due to the frozen that has happened by the end of 2016. The trees planted exist in good condition.



Tree nursery station and tree planting

### **Rehabilitation and propagation of Medicinal Plants used for medicinal, food flavor and cosmetics purpose:-**

This activity is intended to ensure the survival of indigenous species that are on the margin of destruction and rapidly disappearing from the area. In this regard, an attempt has been made to address the general targeted community and improve their awareness on the value and importance of preserving these plants. Apart from this, two individuals who found to be very active in planting and preserving such plants by their own have been contacted and provided with the necessary technical and material support. This will obviously, contribute to promote biodiversity of the area.

### **Development of area closures:**

Five areas have been identified (though the plan was three) in the sub kebeles of Debir, Tid Amba and Woynye. Currently, the areas covering 165 hectares of land are protected from human and animal contact and the vegetation has already started revival. Awareness is also repeatedly given to the community particularly to religious leaders and elderly people not to cut the trees and stop open grazing. This strategy founds to be more powerful and respected than any legal measure.



Distribution of Fruit Trees



New Closure Area

**Retrieve traditional knowledge of value particular medicinal practices (books, oral, pictures etc...):**

This activity is intended in order to preserve traditional knowledge through documentation of valuable traditional medicines and other disappearing cultural heritages. Accordingly, a handbook that illustrates the various types of medicinal plants that are common in the area is prepared and distributed to CBOs and religious institutions operating in the kebele. Besides, collection of traditional/religious books, binding and keeping them in their orderly place is also realized.

#### **Support for the production and selling of traditional textiles, pottery and basketry:**

Supporting those individuals who are involved in production of traditional textiles, pottery and basketry is one of the strategies designed in order to preserve the existing tradition and culture. In this regard, it is possible to support those who are working on pottery and basketry. Both groups work in Tid Amba sub kebele having six members each (all males except the one female in the pottery group). Apart from this, various orientations have been given both to the producers and the general community at large regarding the importance and significant value of these products and how they should be maintained and transferred from generation to generation.

#### **Strengthen CBOs through financial and technical support**

Community Based Organizations are found to be important entry points in order to address the targeted community. To this end, a brief assessment that has compiled the existing community based structures is prepared and kept for reference. With regards to partnership, special emphasis is given to “Idir. ADHENO has thus provided technical and material support to one Idir operating in the area. Members of this Idir are now active partners of this project specially in promoting the main theme of the project which is propagating the cultural heritage and biodiversity. They play key roles in mobilizing the community for annual tree planting, in protecting area closures as well as planting local Variety of seeds, fruits and vegetables and contribute the incentive they receive from ADHENO to their institutional strength for their participation in Tree Gudifecha.

#### **Support Community conversation and Adult Education:**

These activities are going smoothly; CC is being attended by about 60 people (each CC contain about 15 persons who are neighbors and established good relation ) through coffee ceremony usually under a tree , meet every two weeks and discuss about social issues including proverbs and existing traditions that needs to be maintained ; Adult education is also underway for a total of fifty three individuals using a material developed by the government ; it is basically intended to equip the illiterate community with basic skills of writing and reading;

**Establishment of Self Help Groups:** This is intended to create awareness



among the poor women on self help group approach, encourage saving habit and enable them to run extra income generating activities. Currently, five groups having a total of 100 members have been established and functioning properly. Members have now started to be involved in petty trades using the small loan they took from their savings and are earning side income. ADEHNO supported the groups financially in the form of seed money, materially through provision of improved varieties of chickens and sheep as well as technically through provision of entrepreneurship training. In addition to the main goal, such gathering has also created good opportunity for discussion and sharing of information among the women.



Self Help Group Discussion

### **Provision of local variety of seeds, fruits and vegetables**

The farmers were also provided with local variety of fruits, vegetables and seeds which include but not limited to local cabbage, tomato, local onion, mango, lemon, coffee and Teff. Currently, the plants are in good condition and farmers have already started using some of their products both for family consumption and as source of income.



Improved Crops



Vegetable Seeds

**Provision of beekeeping materials:**

Twenty five jobless youth who are already involved in beekeeping activities were given training on basic bee keeping techniques as well as on construction of transitional beehive. Apart from this, effort is made to encourage the villagers to be involved in beekeeping and work properly. ADHENO strongly believe that all these effort will take the honey production one step ahead.

**Organize small agricultural enterprises through development of small scale irrigation:**

The establishment of the agricultural enterprise having 40 members (all jobless youth) is realized. These groups are currently involved in small scale irrigation mainly in production of fruits and vegetables. The enterprise is legally registered by the concerned woreda office. The establishment of this enterprise helped members to work collectively and increase production and to create better access to market as well as meet other needs easily. With the purpose of facilitating the irrigation initiative, the construction of a pond having the capacity of holding 12 meter cube water is realized. The constructed canal is connected to the traditional canal and significantly reduced wastage of water.

**Upgrade the current foot-path:**

With the objective of improving access to local markets as well as facilitating the community's day to day life, a 6 km difficult foot path downhill from the asphalt road to the center of the kebele has been stone paved, and upgraded in to a horse track. (



Footpath Before and After Construction



### **Spring development**

With the objective of providing clean and adequate water for human and livestock, the construction of one spring is completed in a sub kebele called Gof. This spring is envisaged to benefit a total of fifty three households. In order to secure its sustainability, a water committee having seven members who have been equipped with the necessary skill and knowledge has been established and is making the necessary follow-up.



Water Spring Before and After

### **Czech Republic**

A project under the title “Improved Small Scale Irrigation Practice for Sustainable” Development “was launched in April, 2016 and completed in October, 2016 with the financial support of Embassy of the Czech Republic through their small grant fund. The goal of this project is to increase the agricultural production of the community through the adoption of small scale irrigation and introduction of fruits and vegetables. This project was implemented in Goshebado kebele in two specific villages called Kitalegn and Kelem Amba. Construction of two springs, constructing 25 meter irrigation canal and connecting with the traditional canal, constructing traditional pond and covering 20 hectares of land through fruits and vegetable production were the major tasks carried out under this project, which enabled over seventy households and about four hundred members of their family to benefit from access to clean water as well as intensify their fruit and vegetable production with irrigation. Farmers were thus provided with 34 k.g. of carrot, beetroot, onion , tomato, and 1,200 pieces orange, avocado, mango, coffee and lemon. The farmers witnessed that they have earned 7,000 to 9,000 Birr out of the sale of the products. All essential activities were carried out in collaboration with the local government and the community at large.





Water Spring Before and After



Small Scale Irrigation Canal

Carrot Plantation

## 2. Promote Measures to Mitigate Social Crisis

Similar to the previous years, ADHENO was working various activities that address social crises of the community in general and education I which include school girls support program, book support, organizing award program and construction of additional class rooms. Our esteemed donors, Dir Biyabir , Professor F.Turnowsky and M.Kroetlinger and Hiwote Memorial Fund have been supporting these initiatives. With regards to the school girls support program which include support of stationery materials, uniform, sanitary materials and financial support for room rent, a total of 72 students are being supported (8 of them boys) of whom 35 of them by Professor Turnowiki and Micheal, 27 by Dir Biyabir while the remaining 10 by Hiwote memorial fund. Besides 189 elementary students are also being supported with stationery materials by Dir Byabir and Professor Turnowhiski.

The other major activity performed by the financial support of Dir Biyabir is the provision of reference and supplementary books. The support is made to three schools namely Goshebado, Debre Eba and Woynye the first two being high schools while the last one is elementary school A total of 977 books have been provided to the schools where by 627 is to the newly constructed Goshebado high school and 208 and 142 is for the remaining Debre Eba and Woynye schools respectively. Besides, pre schools of Workegur, Woynye and Moy Kaset were also provided with kindergarten teaching materials including puzzles, story books, alphabet and pictorial charts.

Organizing award program is the other task undertaken in relation to education. To this end with the initiative and financial support of our two respected partners Wrt. Haeran Fiseha chair person of Dir Byabir and Dr. Solomon Bekure, ADHENO's board member provided cash award to 4 students who are sponsored by all of the three donors. Out of the 14 students two of them joined university and the remaining 12 have successfully passed grade 10 national exam and joined colleague preparatory level. The half day program that was good held in Debre Birhan town was good opportunity to pass impressive messages both by Wrt. Haeran and Dr. Solomon to encourage the students to work hard and realize their dream.

On the other hand, the two retired Austrian professors who are supporting ADHENO's initiatives since 2009 mainly through construction of schools, availing school materials and supporting school girls have also extended their support in 2016. It is to be noted that these two individuals have supported the construction and furnishing of two additional class rooms (for grades 5 and 6 in 2013) and the installation of the solar system that helped the community to run adult education program during night time. In 2016 the two professors also took another initiative and decided to construct another two class rooms in Workegur School for grade seven and eight. Accordingly, project agreement is signed with the woreda education office and selection of the contractor is underway.

### **3. Strengthening ADHENO**

Building the institutional capacity of ADHENO is the other activity that has been addressed during 2016 and few attempts have been carried out focusing on resource mobilization, strengthening the constituency, expanding office and staff employment and development as well as promoting ADHNO's work. Accordingly, the secretariat has been doing aggressively on fund raising and submitted applications to potential donors namely US Embassy, Czech Embassy, Sida, GEF, KR Foundation and Michigan University and of which the one submitted to Michigan University has got acceptance. Regarding the strengthening of the constituency of the organization, three new members joined ADHENO and replacement of two existing board members with new once is realized. The other achievement is considering ADHENO's involvement in social and economical issue, the employment of one part time staff responsible for coordinating the social activities is realized with the financial support of our Austrian friends. Besides, areas are identified for supporting the staff to attend on – job training through the financial support of All We Can project. As part of strengthening the project office in Debre Birhan, the installment of broadband internet and rent of one additional room for the purpose of conducting training and provision of tutorial programs is realized. The preparation and distribution of ADHENO's bi-annual publications has been realized as per the timetable.

### **Mitigating the Impact of Drought in the Wereda of Kewet**

Kewet woreda is located in North Shoa 230 kms far from Addis Ababa. Shoa Robit is city of the woreda. The project was launched in February, 2016 with the financial support of Dir Byabir. There were two kebeles targeted by this project Kure Beret and Sefi Beret with two major activities distribution of cattle feed and distribution of crop seeds. To this end, it is

possible to realize the purchase and distribution of 450 quintal of factory production improved forage and 2,400 quintal of grass to 1, 500 people. All Stakeholders in general and agricultural office and the targeted community in particular appreciated ADHENO's intervention and certified that the support was very timely and addressed the community's immediate problem.



Cattle Feed Distribution

### Visits Hosted

Two program managers of All We Can, Erica Bertolotto and Stephanie Dalton paid a three-day visit to ADHENO from June 5-7, 2016. The purpose of the visit was to review ADHENO's achievement since adoption of its new Strategic Plan in January, 2015. Secondly, to discuss the plan for the second phase project and determine on how the partnership could continue and finally to introduce the newly assigned program manager Stephanie Dalton to Ethiopia replacing Erica Bertolotto. The visitors spent the first two days at ADENO's head office reviewing the status of the Strategic Plan achievements and the activities planned for the next three years. The third day was devoted to a field visit of the activities implemented in the project just completed. The visitors were very happy with the achievements and gave us constructive feedback.

The second visitors were our partners from Austria who paid successful visit in the mid of February. What makes this year visit special was, this time they came in group consisting of six members, the two professors together with two other couple university professors who are friend of them, and two family members. The visited Basso high school, Debre Birhan Hospital and above all met and discussed with the school girls sponsored by them. The visit to Workgur elementary school was also very effective as it create opportunity for the community to deliver the request of the construction of the additional two class rooms which lasted in success.

The other visitor was his Excellency Ambassador Karel Hejc of Czech embassy. This team was composed of two other program managers from the embassy. The focus of the visit was to see the status of the project funded by the embassy and specifically, it was intended to visit the springs developed, the irrigation canal constructed and discuss with the targeted community. The visit was successful in meeting its objective and was also very good opportunity for the team to learn more about ADHENO's achievement by directly hearing from the community and through personal observation.



#### **4. Challenges Encountered**

- Incidence of frozen that has damaged tree seedlings in the nursery site as well as planted trees in the field;
- Transport limitations and difficult foot paths
- Limitation of fund compared to the demand of the community
- Poor community commitment especially in leadership and group work habit;

#### **5. Lessons Learnt**

- It is very important to establish good working relation with all relevant stakeholders specially government and the targeted community in implementing development activity;
- Empowering the community especially jobless youth and destitute women leads to better results;
- Working with different stakeholders specially with DAs is important to reach to the desired goal;
- Product diversification improves farmers' incomes;
- Strong team work leads to better result;

#### **ADHENO is Grateful to the Following Organizations and Individuals:-**

- Dir Biyabir
- All We Can
- Czech Embassy
- Prof. Turnowsky and Prof. Michael
- Local Government & Community
- Executive Board
- Hiwot Memorial Fund and others

