

Pursue for Sustainability



ADHENO Integrate Rural Development Association

ADHENO team paid a courteous visit at the Modernizing Animal Farming Exhibition on Oct 28, 2022 in search of social entrepreneurship initiative for sustainable income to the organization. The team comprised of Ato Yonathan Fikre (ED), Isayias Fikre (PC) and Sefinew Demlie (PO). The exhibition was held from October 27-29, 2022 at Skylight Hotel.

ADHENO has been raising funds from different funding partners. Besides raising funds, ADHENO is getting prepared to generate its own income to ensure the financial sustainability of the organization. The purpose of the visit to the exhibition was to make partnerships with different firms working on the area of animal farming.

At this time, the main challenge of ADHENO is limited funding from funding partners and other sources. In ADHENO's project implementation areas, the extent of poverty and food insecurity is immense. Environmental degradation is also another concern. In addressing such deep rooted economic and societal problems, ADHENO has been striving in fundraising and resource mobilization activities. Recently, ADHENO is looking for generating its own income parallel to fundraising endeavors.

Currently, ADHENO is considering for options to establish a standardized dairy farm in the project implementation area (North Shoa Zone of Amhara region). The dairy farm will have a well-designed shed which is expected to accommodate at least 50 high yielding improved cow breeds. The surplus from the dairy sales helps to generate sufficient income to the organization. It will be used for supporting rural farmers by implementing different projects that will ensure food security and improve livelihoods. It also ensures the financial sustainability of the organization.

The ultimate goal of founding a standardized dairy farm is to create a viable dairy farm which yields sufficient milk products for sales. In this long process, ADHENO desperately needs expertise on selection of high yielding and diseases resistant breeds; selection of suitable environmental conditions (adequate ventilation, suitable temperature, sufficient light, water, air, well drained housing accommodations); fed on balanced ration; how often veterinary doctors need to visit the farm?; inspection and record keeping issues; cleanliness and hygiene while milking and transporting the products among other concerns.

At the exhibition, the team was able to connect with different local and foreign agribusiness firms. For instance, the team has communicated with a Kenyan dairy business firm. The representative for the firm briefed the team that they design sheds based on the number of improved cow breeds. Also, they consult other fundamental inputs for the dairy farm.

Additionally, ADHENO team discussed with PUM Netherlands which provides technical expertise services on dairy and other animal farming businesses. We learnt that PUM provides technical expertise services for established and operating agribusinesses.

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Figure1: ADEHNO team with a Kenyan Firm @ Skylight Hotel, Addis Ababa