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## **FORUM FOR ENVIRONMENT**

A platform for environmental advocacy and  
communication among people concerned with the  
Ethiopian environment.

In partnership with the Heinrich Boll foundation

Wrap up of the 1<sup>st</sup> round consultation  
for the Rio + 10 preparation process

Based on Agenda 21

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## COMBATING POVERTY WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Key concerns of the Ethiopian society

- To be poor in Ethiopia is not only the inability to feed oneself or one's family. It is also lack of power, lack of access to resources, lack of freedom of choice, loss of your sovereignty, loss of environmental and cultural heritage, etc. Poverty is as much mental as it is physical.
- In Ethiopia the root causes of poverty are social, administrative and political rather than economical and environmental.
- 85% of Ethiopians are rural and out of this 47% are poor. Therefore, poverty in Ethiopia is considered mainly a rural phenomenon. However, out of the 15% percent living in urban areas, 37% are poor. In addition to this, the urban population in Ethiopia is growing at more than 3.6% per year so it is also important to give attention to urban poverty.
- The current land policy has been seen to be grossly deficient and has given rise to tenure insecurity and land fragmentation.
- The countryside is now carrying an enormous population (54 million) that is growing at a rapid rate, and the pressure on natural resources is equally alarming. There is therefore an urgent need to address the problem of how some of this population can find livelihood opportunities outside agriculture. The structural changes that this will entail (consolidated plots, shift to high value non-food crops, shift away from subsistence farming, etc.) should stimulate real growth in the farm economy
- Weakness in the use of existing poverty studies to design poverty reducing strategy. The IPRSP document seems to draw its understanding of poverty more from measurements of poverty than analytical studies.
- Global environmental problems and climate change for example, are becoming a great concern as they contribute to the environmental shocks that the country is experiencing therefore exacerbating rural poverty.
- Loss of human dignity is an important aspect of concern to the Ethiopian civil society in the definition of poverty in Ethiopia. Loss of sovereignty has to be considered both at individual or household level, and at country level.
- The destruction of traditional systems and the accompanying imposition of so-called modern systems of management and law enforcement are considered root causes of poverty in Ethiopia, more particularly in the case of pastoralist systems.

- The current land policy is not necessarily a key concern of all farmers in Ethiopia (who are also part of the civil society!); they tend to mention landslide, decreasing fertility and pests as their major concern. However, the inequitable land holding system is a cause for concern among farmers.
- Too often, the elite speaks in the name of the poor.
- Women's rights are not recognized and the need for gender perspective is ignored or dismissed, especially at zonal and wereda level.

### **Main achievements (of the civil society)**

- The existence of NGO-Government forums
- The legislation for NGOs
- The participation of NGOs in commissions and committees, at federal, regional and wereda level (for instance the Human Rights Commission, the PRSP)
- The improved capacities of NGOs to prepare programmes and to do a strategic planning to alleviate poverty.
- The increased involvement of NGOs and CBOs in poverty alleviation and food security activities.

### **Failures of civil society in implementing the issues at hand, and causes for these failures**

- The civil society in Ethiopia has not been able to engage the Government into issuing some sort of title deed that gives security to farmers and avoids their displacement (e.g. due to tractorisation or to sales of land to investors)
- Although the civil society is now asked and expected to provide an input in different policy and strategic matters, these inputs are not clearly seen to be taken into consideration.
- The geographic distribution of NGOs remains in cities and along main roads. Therefore, people in remote areas do not get a chance to participate in their programmes.
- Civil society (and Government) failed to foresee, and therefore prevent, marketing problems that would arise from increased cereal production. The focus was on fertilizers and improved seeds, whereas marketing too can be a way to boost production.
- Funding remains donor-based and no system to finance civil society initiatives has as yet been proposed and set up.

## **Challenges and constraints ahead**

- The need to diversify economic production rather than keep considering the land as the sole reservoir for sustaining one's livelihood.
- The diversity of context, conditions and environment in Ethiopia, which calls for a diversity of solutions.
- For civil society in general and for NGOs in particular, the need to look for justice is a major challenge.
- Ethiopia has plenty of land, but its population is concentrated in a few areas only (mainly the highlands). It may very well be that some of the solutions advocated by the former regime, such as resettlement and producers cooperatives, will have to be considered again when to adequately address poverty issues in the rural areas.
- Civil society in Ethiopia has a propensity to copy rather than be innovative. It needs to come up with unconventional paradigms instead of replicating what the Government does.
- Ethiopia's civil society is still timid; its capacity to advocate and debate is weak. It needs to develop skills to comment and criticize constructively, and learn to propose new programmes.
- There are many indigenous organisations (CBOs) in Ethiopia. They need to be better recognized and their role in development must be enhanced. The challenge, however, is to not destroy them when making them take new assignments and responsibilities.
- Global competition is seen as a major constraint for the Ethiopian producers.
- Networking has to become effective; networking members should feel that they enhance their performance and achieve something, rather than that they waste their time.
- Food aid is a constraint in combating poverty. It is needed in emergency situations but dissuades local production and destroys local production capacities.
  - Land holding policy: the current policy creates tenure insecurity for the majority of the small holder farmers and prevents them from long term planning and investing to improve their holdings.
  - We have many policies in Ethiopia but the problem is implementation. We have to identify why this is so and facilitate the translation into action.
  - Soil fertility: On the whole, the soil is very low in fertility due to soil erosion, leaching, cultural practices and extensive cultivation for many years.

- Droughts and floods: These two have become a common phenomena and cost, at times, thousands of human and animal lives and force the able bodied into ill-health or migration towards the cities.
- Inadequate health services for the rural poor, inadequate social infrastructures such as schools, water supplies, etc. and high rates of illiteracy are some of the major constraints to the improvement of the livelihood of rural people.

*Reasons that explain why policies in Ethiopia are not implemented include:*

- a) The fact that the role of civil service has not been separated from the role of politicians.
- b) The lack of involvement of civil society in policy development.
- c) The imposition of programmes, which do not support national systems or views, by international organisations.

### **New initiatives and how to make them work for us**

- Different partnerships to tackle poverty issues are coming up. To make them work better, partners have to ask themselves whether they contribute enough. Partners need to realize and admit that they cannot be perfect and go a long way by themselves alone. When it comes to partnerships with Government agencies, civil society organisations need to be pro-active, and call the Government rather than waiting for it to come.
- The establishment and development of micro-finance institutions (MFIs), with NGOs being the major shareholders for some of them. The MFIs help in creating new income-generating activities and take some load off the land. To be successful, the need to be business-oriented, but at the same time the presence of NGOs among the stakeholders ensures that they work for the poor.
- There is now a focus on pastoralist issues. These issues used to be completely neglected. The pressure needs to be kept and the issues need to be continuously brought to the forefront.

### **The way forward**

- The two major focuses on poverty should be a) improved national governance and b) improving global relationships. Previously the world has been forced to accept the one system that has worked for the West and there has been a mal- adaptation of this system by other countries to their own detriment.

- The tendency for Ethiopia should be to eliminate dependence on resources coming from the outside. Production should be as close to the producers as possible.
- We have to foster only informal linkages with the North, after we have identified organizations and movements that are grassroots oriented. Our main focus should therefore be internal in emphasis. We should in fact develop a strategy that works towards emancipating and empowering both the artisan to become mainstream, and the peasant to save without fear of pillage or more importantly, peer censure.
- Surely Ethiopia deserves an appropriately coherent and innovative Government/donor approach, an approach which can stand up to the principles of a livelihood perspective:
  - It should be people centred and better at supporting existing livelihood strategies.
  - It should be holistic, aim to support markets and producers as much as beneficiaries and aim to do more than pay lip service to the linking of relief and development.
  - It should be dynamic, with an eye to supporting and eventually achieving a situation in which public resource transfers are pre-planned and self-financed.
  - It should be initiated within the context of a complete review of policy initiatives to facilitate livelihood regeneration.
  - It should be cash-based to harness market delivery mechanisms, by the stimulation of effective market demand.
  - It should be based on participatory planning and self-initiative.
  - And, perhaps most importantly, it must be one component within a meaningful broader strategic framework for food security.

## Combating desertification with Sustainable Development

### Key Concern

- In Ethiopia large area of the land is dry and a large proportion of this is threatened by desertification. Soil and water erosion causes loss of large tones of soil and this is translated in to loss of millions of Ethiopian birr annually. In general, the problems of desertification, drought and the loss of land productivity have been the major causes of food deficit and declining livelihood for millions of citizens. The problems of drought and the expansion of desertification have been the concern of both highland and lowland population although the latter, namely the pastoralists, are hit seriously by such changes in the environmental resource base.
- The problems of pastoralists are further aggravated by the absence of agricultural policy, which does not address the concerns of pastoralists. The current extension package also neglects pastoralists. In this context, it is noted that the Ethiopian 5 year development strategy, which is based on agricultural industrialization hardly address concerns of pastoralists. As experiences have shown, this strategy may, instead of solving, aggravate the problems of pastoralists and their environment.
- Among several emerging problems of pastoral areas, the spread of unwanted tree species such as *Prosopis juliflora* has become a growing concern. It demonstrates the negligence of the concerned authorities. The effect such invasions on the grazing area of the pastoralists is a concern.
- The livelihoods of partoralists are largely based on livestock development. Therefore, any development strategy for pastoralists should consider their cattle. There is no doubt that the diversification of the asset base of the pastoralists would ease pressure off the land whilst lack of diversification would accelerate the process of the depletion of the resource base.
- The influx of a large number of refugees into fragile ecosystems often occupied by pastoralist has been the cause of serious deforestation and land degradation. The unexpected influx the refugees appears to be a key problem as experiences elsewhere in the country demonstrate. Obviously, refugees do not give heed neither to the delicate ecosystem nor to the local indigenous sustainable system of living.
- Lack of appreciation for indigenous knowledge and participatory actions, both by the government and the NGOs, has still remained a serious constraint at all levels of policymaking and its implantation.

- Knowledge on the effects of desertification on economic, social and cultural is lacking of the people appears barely adequate.
- Despite the appalling magnitude of the changes that have been taking place in dryland ecosystems, there is inadequate research directed at dryland management. Further, there is an absence of a monitoring system to track changes.

### **Challenges**

- A strategy need to be put in place to mobilize resources (material, financial & human) for combating desertification.
- A better strategy needs to be worked out to network NGOs, Government and CBOs
- Establishing a banking system with easy access for pastoralists. This is because they do not have an asset, like land, to use as collateral to get credit from banks.
- In pastoral areas small-scale development should be pursued as a policy and implementation strategy. For example, small irrigation, not big scale dam building, should be pursued. People living near rivers should develop small-scale irrigation as means of diversifying their asset bases.
- There are three emerging issues around education in pastoralist areas. There is intensive urbanization in Somali and Afar areas so we can have secondary schools around these areas. Outside this we have to set up a mobile education system and in major center areas we should build boarding schools.
- Reappraisal of the traditional way of conflict resolution, which requires a real attitudinal change on the part of the government and some NGOs, is urgently needed.

### **Main achievements**

- Awareness creation. The issues of desertification became the points of discussion in national and international forums and this is considered as a positive achievement as it informs policy and strategy.
- Improvement of the knowledge of technical/ professional staff. Professional staffs of both government and NGOs are aware of the desertification conventions, the National Action Plan (NAP) and other desertification related issues now than some years before.
- Enhanced collaboration between the government and civil society. In the spirit of the desertification convention, NGOs and government have a better collaborative relationship now than some years ago.

- There is a growing recognition that desertification is mainly a pastoralist phenomena and this helps to design policies specific to the ecology of areas in the Ethiopia.

### **Achievements/ Success story**

- The development of NAP and the government's willingness to involve NGOs in its revision and implementation
- Calf-feeding system during dry seasons using hay, which is cut and stored during rainy season.
- The use of plastics sheets (recognizing that they can be ecologically harmful if they are not disposed in a proper way), for water harvesting and the reduction of seepage and evaporation.
- Water harvesting techniques such as cistern.

### **Failures**

- Lack of political commitment for the implementation of environment related policies and strategies (for example, the NAP is not yet ratified by the government).
- Absence of private sector participation in combating desertification.
- Inability of NGOs to develop action plans and implement measures which will help in the rehabilitation of degraded areas.
- Inability of NGOs to form a working network and a mechanism to lobby the relevant bodies for implementation of the desertification of convention.

### **New initiatives/ the way forward.**

- The problem of desertification is a very complex one, which requires the attention of development agents, and the cooperation and coordination of effort at all levels (National, Regional and Global levels).
- Establish a core dry land extension team in the Ministry of Agriculture and in its subsequent branch.
- Establish/ strengthen dry land research division in EARO
- Introduce water-harvesting techniques in dry lands.
- Introduce drought resistant, fast growing and multipurpose tree/grass species into dry lands.
- Introduce food security strategy and programs into all areas identified as dry lands.
- By joining forces, NGOs can increase their leverage in sensitizing policy makers, so that donors establish a National Desertification Fund (NDF);
- More specifically, NGOs should:

- Prepare a situation-analysis document to be used for lobbying
- Lobby the government to ratify the National Action Plan (NAP) and in the meantime collaborate with EPA to improve the NAP to clearly indicate the role of each of the stakeholders.
- Work towards the integration of NAP with the national development program/strategy.
- Draw-up an inventory and establish a data bank on available documents related to issues of dry land management and desertification.
- Develop a strategy together with EPA and the Science and Technology Commission of Ethiopia to start the registration of indigenous knowledge and appropriate technology in combating desertification.
- Develop a roster of experts.
- Participate in the formulation and implementation of Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and include the NAP issues into it.
- Advocate on behalf of the voiceless and for the legality of CBOs to have an impact on policy.
- Mobilize financial, material and human resources that can be used for combating desertification.
- Network among themselves to co-ordinate their activities effectively.
- Ensure local community participation and a bottom up project development approach.
- Develop benchmarks and indicators to enhance proper project formulation and monitoring of the participation of the various stakeholders.
- Intensify awareness promotion activities among the various stakeholders at the different levels.

## Role of education for Sustainable Development

### Key concerns

- Education ignores agriculture/ rural setting. In reality agriculture looms large in the life and consciousness of the rural child, it is his life and his all.
- There is a lack of balance between theory and practice.
- The quality of education is poor and its delivery needs much improvement.
- Infrastructure is inadequate for numbers and there is no equity.
- Insufficient attention to pre-school education.
- Most of those who come out of the school system cannot find employment. This number has been increasing ever since, with each year's unemployed backlog being added to the following year.
- Environmental education in Ethiopia does not help students to appreciate, understand and bring a positive change to their environment.

### Challenges

- A new political, social & economical environment is evolving in Ethiopia. Knowledge, skill & values taught in schools must be relevant to these.
- The primary concern of the Ethiopian peasants is food and food production, followed by health, clothing and shelter. In this regard, the non-formal education approach is much better suited to their needs than formal education.
- A shift in student thinking from a cultural bias, which associates well-being with material possession to one which values non-material assets, should be the goal.
- Ethiopian education has contributed to the development of deep-rooted bias against 'blue-collar' jobs and has fostered inappropriate work ethic.
- Integration of sustainable development concepts into the formal school curriculum should be pursued.
- We need to develop standards for our teachers and at the same time improve the working condition for them so that good education is delivered to students.
- The HIV/AIDS epidemic has left over half-a-million children orphaned. According to a 1996 study, the street is 'home' to over 100,000 children and an estimated 500,000 live with a high risk of joining street life. Population growth rate is one of the highest; over 3% per year and which means 1.7 million more people every year. Therefore, education has to address this situation.

## **Main achievements/ Successes stories**

- In Borena and Rift valley, there is a non-formal basic education using local teachers/ resources.
- Mekele University holding small classes with strong emphasis on practical work and providing working place exposure.
- Wondo-Genet, gives its students practical exposure at diploma and masters levels.
- Environmental clubs have mushroomed in schools and in some cities. They involve practical work and visits.

## **New initiatives**

- Realization by the government that education to rural people should consider rural setting and agriculture.
- The move to integrate environmental education in to curriculum.
- Open debates in education and education related issues.
- The increase in number of Universities and their emphasis on practical learning.
- The mushrooming of private colleges and universities and their emphasis information technology.
- A very useful by-product of what might be called the 'vocationalisation' of Ethiopian formal school education is that the schools identified for the implementation of the vocational/technical curriculum can also be used as centres of non-formal education

## **Way forward**

- Encourage private/ public schools.
- Encourage the teaching of positive attitudes for society and the environment.
- More support for non-formal education.
- Encourage appropriate pre-school education.
- Promote practical learning at all levels.
- All curricula should incorporate learning the rules of safety in traffic, basic hygiene, and waste management/ recycling, etc.
- Non- government organisations (NGOs) - both local and international - have a key role to play in the development endeavour by providing sustainable non-formal education opportunities.

- Environmental education alone could not bring about sustainable development. The educational system itself needs to be reoriented to focus on sustainable development. Thus it is required to:
  - strengthen partnership with other environment related education programs including agriculture, health, etc.
  - relate education more closely to the sustainable priorities of the country or locality.
  - investigate ways of demonstrating how life styles can be improved and resources better husbanded as a result of these measures.
  - incorporate gender analysis, because this helps to get more and better information about gender disaggregated knowledge, attitudes and behavior. This will also help in developing specific environmental education programs and communication systems for both men and women.
  - the continuing education of teachers, at all levels, is of special strategic significance; if they fail to keep up with the frontiers of knowledge they will be giving yesterday's education to tomorrow's citizens.
  - the curriculum should bear part of the burden for developing behavior compatible with the values of sustainable development

## **Promoting sustainable human settlement development**

### **The case of Addis Ababa**

#### **Key concerns**

- Rapid urban population growth caused by inadequate family planning services and the migration of rural people from their areas.
- Inadequate shelter, 35% of the population has no access to land and shelter.
- Poor governance, which is the result of lack of autonomy, lack of managerial skills, political influences and lack of decentralization.
- Poor environmental infrastructure that include poor waste disposal system and lack of urban forestry and open spaces/ public parks.
- Inadequate water, health, education, energy and transport services.
- The increase in urban poor.

#### **Challenges**

- Absence of legal authority on utility corporations including telephone, electricity, etc.
- Poor municipal administration and absence of decentralization
- Inadequate capacity for revenue collection
- Cultural constraints for urban waste management
- Urban poverty reduction
- Rural urban migration
- Lack of enabling environment for business and NGO community..

#### **Main achievements**

- Civil societies involvement in managing solid and liquid waste.
- NGOs involvement in upgrading slums.
- Business involvement in cleaning and greening the city.
- Formation of environmental clubs among youth and schools prepared to address urban environmental problems.

#### **Failures**

- Lack of integration among NGOs, CBOs and government working on the same elements of urban issues.
- Lack of economic backup to poor people even to the level affordable by the government and some NGOs.

- Lack of community participation in the planning and execution of projects designed to help the urban poor.

### **New initiatives**

- Recognition by the government on the role of NGOs in alleviating the urban problems.
- Readiness by the government in separating politics from civil work.
- Starting the celebration of the world Habitat day in Ethiopia which can be used to start issue based networks and collaborations.

### **The way forward**

- Giving the city a genuine autonomy
- Install civil administration
- Decentralize authority/ power to the lower administration level.
- Encourage community participation
- Encourage private investment
- Enhance the role of NGOs and CBOs.
- Issue missing elements of enabling environment

## Sustainable agriculture and rural development

### Key concerns

- How do we keep the balance between low external input agriculture and high external input agriculture? What we are learning is that in high external input systems the negative consequences far outweigh the positive and that the input to any agricultural systems should mainly consist of resources that are produced on the farm.
- How do we change our agriculture policy to take in to account the real experiences of our country and others? Adopting SG 2000 as a blanket approach was not an informed measure. We have to focus on the body of available knowledge and we have to be location specific in our approach.
- Currently Ethiopia advocates the high-input extension package, but the marketing aspects of this extension package have been overlooked. There has been little or no effort made to stabilize the market.
- A combination of Indigenous Knowledge and western knowledge is very important for Ethiopia. As a nation she has been neglecting the local farming methods and knowledge to the point of ridiculing them.
- Poorer farmers need to be targeted, as the present system targets rich and resource endowed farmers. Due to this inherently wrong strategy that ET is pursuing, we are witnessing depressed prices, the selling off of assets by the farmers and the imprisonment of those farmers who cannot pay their debts.
- The key factor in sustainability is the creative ability of farmers to adjust to the change in their farming environment. We have to change our approach to research and extension, in order to integrate the creativity of farmers into our sustainable agricultural strategy.
- Little consideration is given to human resources. Population is a resource but if the major part of the population is denied an opportunity for education and capacity development there will not be sustainability.
- We have to consider population growth and work on family planning activity. The question of AIDS should also be considered.
- Energy as a significant component of sustainable agriculture should be one of our concerns.

## **Main achievements**

- In a bid to try to introduce improved quality of crop seeds in Northern Ethiopia, knowledgeable local farmers have been identified and invited to select different types of local crop seeds and conduct research to determine the best-suited seeds for their specific area. This has led to highly successful local seed-banks being established, using local indigenous knowledge.
- Within this same region, crop diversity has been encouraged, as has organic farming methods, using compost as fertilizer. In addition to these successes, grain-storage systems, which protect farmers against market-price fluctuations have also been set up.
- Achievements in the promotion of human excreta as fertilizer, waste recycling and composting systems have also been attained, in various parts of the country.
- In terms of lobbying and advocacy on sustainable agricultural issues, civil society in ET has met with some partial successes, governmental bodies and semi-governmental organisations have been influenced by advocacy on behalf of human excreta use, participatory land-use planning and participatory natural resource management. One of the main achievements of pressure applied by CBO's and NGO's is the drawing up of Ethiopia Environmental Policy document.

## **Failures and causes of failures**

- Promotion of inappropriate knowledge by some NGO's, e.g. promoting the use of hybridised seeds and the accompanying chemical packages. These practices may be adopted due to funding pressures, or pressures on the NGO's legal status within ET.
- Inadequate lobbying or advocacy by CBO's and NGO's, this may be due to previous bad-experiences during the preceding regime.
- High concentration of NGO's in urban areas. This situation is mainly caused by poor infrastructure, which leads to lack of access to remote areas and also to the lack of willingness of staff to live and work in these areas.
- Lack of adequate NGO networks or networking. This is mainly caused by previous bad-experiences, lack of awareness of the benefits of networking and information sharing, the few number of NGO's working in this area, and (if formal a network) the bureaucracy involved would deter most interested groups.

## **Challenges**

- There is sufficient data showing that agriculture's performance was stagnant all through the 1980s and most of the 1990s. The causes of which need to be though roughly investigated.
- What is missing at the moment are changes in land policy to provide secure rights of access, to encourage all farm house-holds to invest on their land and to promote the movement of land from one holder to another so that, for example, farmers with sufficient means are able to obtain secure access to more plots.
- We need to consider draught oxen when we talk of sustainability. This is because the possession of draught oxen by a farmer can mean the difference between timely preparation of the farm and timely plantation, which has important bearing on the harvest produced. Early planting gives 35% more yield.
- The government is aggressively promoting maize based agriculture in their SG 2000 approach, and have shown increased output in this crop. However the comparison of outputs between the traditional approaches and the SG 2000 approach for tef-led agriculture and for other cereals has shown no difference in out-put. This indicates that the SG 2000 approach is not appropriate to all our crops, although it has been good for maize.

## **New initiatives**

- The promotion of Government/NGO/Farmer partnership success stories. These success stories can be used to work for the civil society in ET by conducting publicity exercises and by holding national workshops.
- Sharing the experiences of those who have established successful seed-banks and other I.K. schemes can enhance appreciation of indigenous knowledge.
- Highlighting the importance of University/academic expert involvement at regional level can also be achieved by further publicity and national workshops, this would also be hoped to stimulate further research.

## **The way forward**

- Create a realistic and usable Sustainable Agriculture Network, incorporating programmes to increase participant awareness of the benefits of sharing knowledge and information, and of learning from each other's failures as much as from our successes.
- The land issue in Ethiopia must be settled with the participation of all her people.

- We have to change our approach to research and extension, in order to integrate the creativity of farmers into our sustainable strategy.
- As a principle, we should advocate a low-input agricultural system rather than a high-input one.
- Market identification and market development need to be addressed in our policy development. The maxim 'if you grow, the market will come' does not often hold true.
- Diversification is very important as areas that grew mono-crops suffer more due to fluctuations in prices, environmental changes and catastrophes.
- NGOs should promote off-farm activities and strengthen Co-operatives. They should promote local production of food, rather than importation through aid and by other means.
- By increasing their capacity in lobbying, in distributing and storing grains and other plant materials, the Ethiopian Grain Trade Enterprise (EGTE) and Agricultural Marketing Corporation should be supported.
- Sustainability can be achieved by integrating trees, livestock and crops..
- Sustainability can be achieved by combining the best of modern and indigenous knowledge
- Sustainability can be achieved through education. This is important because rural people need to have access to information.
- Ultimately peace, stability and good governance are the most important pre-requisite for truly sustainable agriculture.