

UNHCR Ethiopia Sub Office Assosa

2025

Environment and Livelihoods

Integration of the environmental and Agricultural approach at a practical level

UNHCR Ethiopia Assosa

Major intervention to prevent climate change or adaptation

- Protection of the natural resources against illegal acts
- Re-forestation activities/ nursery & plantation site management.
- Promote Agro-forestry system & animal fodder to improve production & productivity of Agricultural activities
- Soil & water conservation /Biological & physical measures
- Regular awareness raising campaign on environment protection & rehabilitation activities.
- Household energy provision/ firewood distribution, Energy efficient stove production & distributions and communal kitchen
- Fireline and firebreaks
- Community woodlots development

What actions do you implement to prevent or mitigate the environmental impacts of your actions?

- Promote environmentally friendly technologies in the camp/ Fuel efficient stoves
- Briquette technology
- Communal kitchen through grid connection
- Soil and water conservations measures



Livelihood opportunities provided to ease the pressure on the environment



What specific measures do you incorporate to avoid reproducing gender inequalities in the environmental or climate actions to promote positive changes in terms of gender equality?

- Employment opportunities for Refugee & local women beneficiaries, through their direct engagement in nursery development, tree planting and maintenance.
- Most environment rehabilitation activities implemented by more than 60% refugee & local women for that matter gender equality is the key pillar of each environment activities.
- Women's artesian cooperative to produce fuel saving stoves
- Female headed HHs are prioritized on the limited assistance on energy related services
- The grid connected communal kitchens are serving mainly refugee women's

Do you link up with other institutions or organisations to carry them out?

- NRDEP
- Bureau of Agriculture
- Rural Energy Bureau
- Rural Agricultural Technology
- Regional TVET
- GNE
- DRDIP/WB

In what contexts are they necessary? Is the approach different in conflict contexts?

- Environmental issues are sensitive to the government and host community.
- Displaced communities in protracted camps, don't have many options for their energy demands.
- Population trend and influxes have a significant impact on natural resources (Shelter, firewood, etc) of the host community
- So, broader collaboration and investments are key for sustainability of shared environment and peaceful coexistences.
- Provision of fuel saving stoves, reduce the deforestation rate/minimize pressure.

What kind of tools are you using?

- Community mobilization and mass awareness.
- Backyard gardening initiatives
- Mechanized farming
- Business Enterprises/IGA initiatives



What difficulties do you encounter?

- Increased gully formation due to lack of physical structure for soil and water conservations.
- Indigenous tree deforestations due to lack of alternative energy sources
- Limited grid connection availability for green solution/communal kitchen
- Limited nursery sites to cover plantation targets
- Limited livelihood opportunities in farming and off-farm services to reduce dependency on natural forest.

Do you have any good practices? What made them possible?

- Community gardening initiatives
- Mechanized farming(income and better land management practices)
- Livelihood opportunities for women's (Agriculture, Livestock, bakery, stove production, grinding mill)
- Woodlot development (Shelter, Firewood)
- Soil and water conservation works
- Re afforestation (woodlot development and economic fruit seedlings)

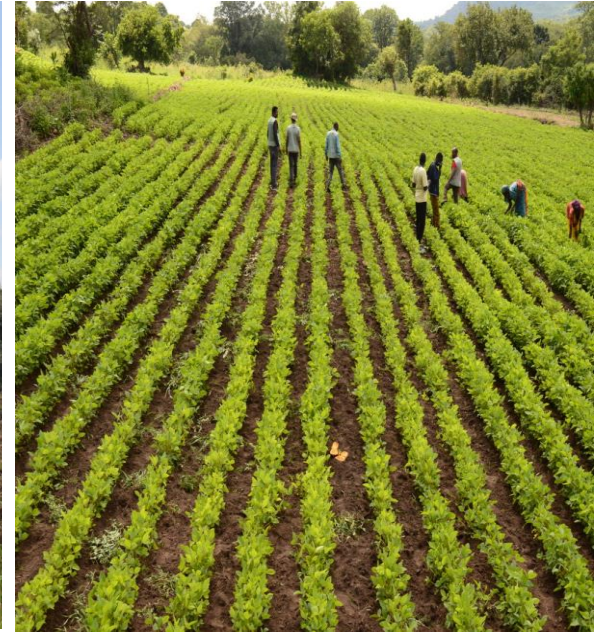
Soil and water conservation and fruit plantations



Afforestations



Environmentally friendly farming practices



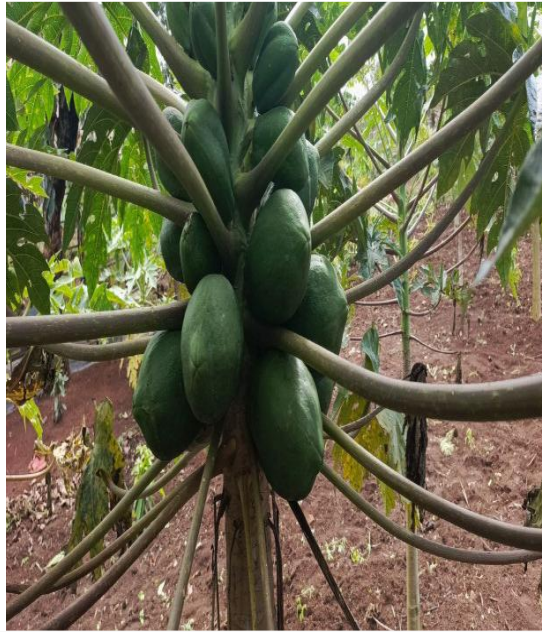
Firewood distribution for household energy



Communal kitchen through grid power connection



Economic fruit seedlings



Cluster farming



Energy efficient cook stove production



What kind of negative impacts do your actions have on the environment? Which ones can you avoid, and which ones can't you? Why?

- Livestock free grazing
- Bio briquetting (Inconvenient mode of operation and health hazards)
- Firewood provisions (Not environmental friendly)
- Increase deforestation rate related to more population pressure which related to the energy consumption & house construction from the existing natural forest resources.
- Funding gap for different environment development activities.
- Depilation of natural resources has also affected the livelihood of host community
- Lack of Environmental technology promotion activities/Alternative sources of Energy, Efficient fuel saving stove/

What future scenarios do you foresee in the contexts in which you operate? What kind of actions will you prioritise?

- Expand awareness raising on environmental issues & introduce environmentally friendly technologies
- Reforest affected or degraded areas as community woodlots and encourage household woodlots using fast growing tree species based on their preference
- Allocate appropriate budget for environment protection & rehabilitation in the operation
- Promote alternative source of energy & different environmentally friendly technologies.
- Support refugee livelihoods to reduce dependency on natural resources for their livelihoods
- Agroforestry intervention through economic fruit trees and intercropping
- Watershed management for soil and water conservations
- Tapping on the bamboo production potentials for handicraft making
- Embed Livelihood programming in environmental actions to ensure sustainability

Gracias