



Oromia Bureau of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Sustainable Land Management Programme

Sustainable Land Management Programme- a solution to land degradation in Oromia: the case of Gimbi Woreda

by

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Background information

Oromia:

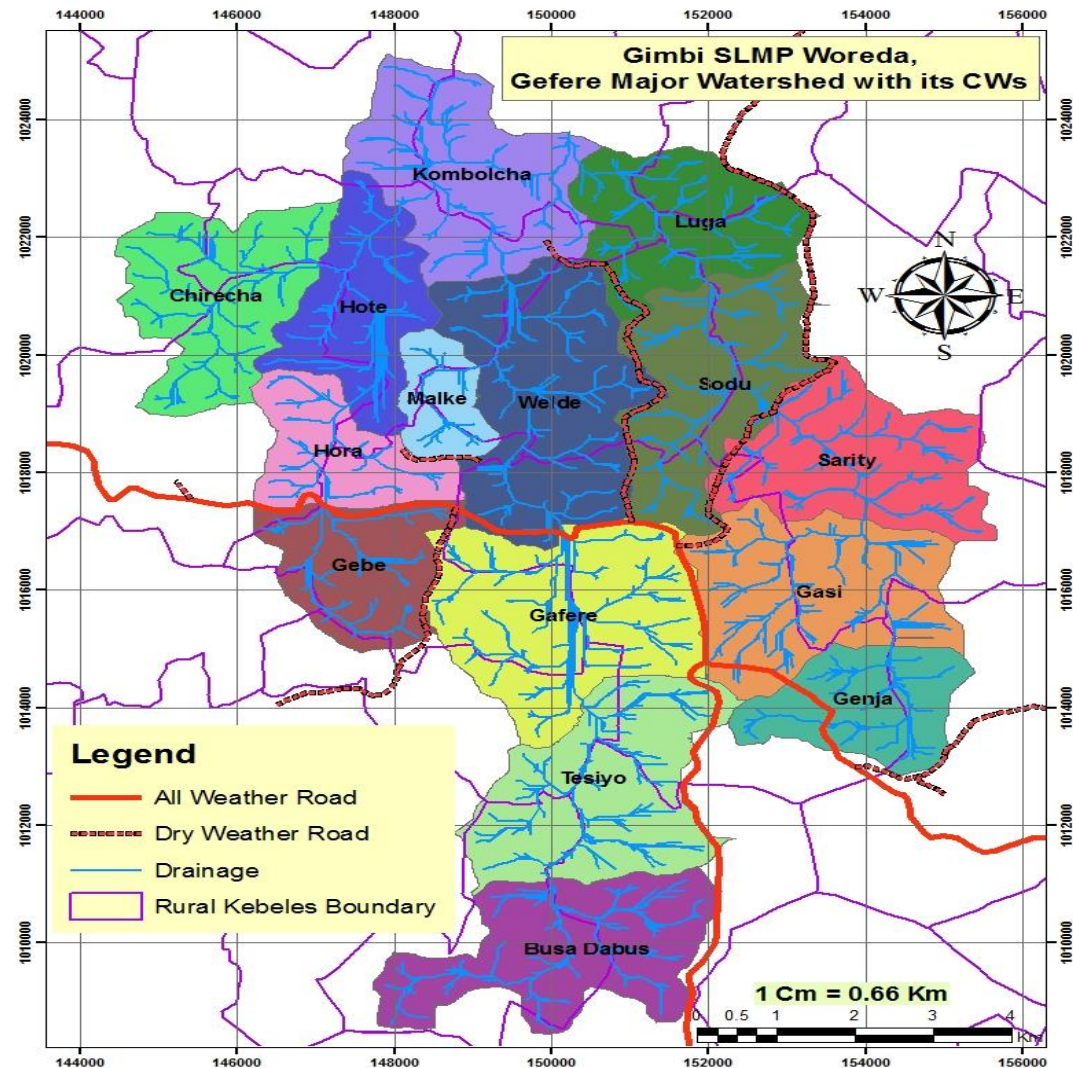
- Most populous (33 million, 34.3%), largest region (36.3 million ha, 34.3% of the National)
- Divided into 20 administrative zones, further subdivided into 287 woredas (sub-districts)
- Land degradation rampant in the region
- SLMP implemented in 68 woredas (23.7%) of the region on the basis of 1-community watershed per woreda
- Total project beneficiaries: 907,006
- Total project area: 599,116 ha

Gimbi Woreda:

- Population: 93,021
- Total woreda area: 118,365.87 ha
- Name of major watershed: Gefere
- Project beneficiaries: 19,736 (3,587 households)
- Number of community watersheds: 15
- Project area: 9,660 ha

Geferie MW Map

CWs_name	Area in ha
Gabe	465
Hora	390
Hote	517
Malke	204
Genja	441
Busa Dabus	747
Tesiyo	825
Gafere	938
Welde	937
Chirecha	649
Kombolcha	763
Luga	586
Sodu	716
Sarity	688
Gasi	794
Total (GeferieMW)	9660



By design:

- Objectively (designed to reduce land degradation, improve land productivity, improve livelihood and land tenure security)
- Formula/model wise (considers 3-interdependent phases/stages: initiation, land rehabilitation and economic development)
- Multidisciplinary and implemented by institutional arrangement of platforms
- Package of proven technologies and best practices
- Based on integrated watershed and landscape management principles
- Bottom-up planning approach based
- People centred
- Knowledge & skill based
- Gender sensitive
- Based on participatory planning & implementation arrangements/strategies
- Based on strong RBM&E system

SLMP- a solution to land degradation

Results achieved:

- Land degradation in treated lands tremendously reduced (2,520 ha of which communal land =1,567 ha and farmland 963 ha)
- Vegetal ground cover increased
- Direct runoff threat turned into groundwater recharge opportunity
- Initially non-existent or intermittent springs flow year round (also used for fisheries)
- Raised water table
- Treated gully lands converted to productive land pattern (9 ha)

SLMP- a solution to land degradation

Results achieved (Cont'd)

- Improved yield (increase of 14-18 Qt/ha) [Gimbi Feb. 2014 for WB Mission - Copy - Copy - Copy \(2\) - Copy.ppt](#)
- Abundant feed availability
- Amelioration of the environment & restored eco-system functions (Natural forest regeneration increased by 10-15%, grass/vegetal cover by 40-60%, water sources' discharges by 20-40%)
- Improved micro-climate
- Improved potable water supply
- Improved community road accessibility
- Improved livelihood of beneficiary community
- Community convinced better about the importance of NRM
- Produced far reaching impact beyond its boundary

SLMP- a solution to land degradation

Lessons learned:

- Continuous awareness creation & skill development
- Committed leadership & functioning platform
- Utmost patience to win the minds and hearts of the community (community needs short cycle benefits but the programme requires some time to show tangible results)
- Community participation and empowerment are key to success
- Community always eager to see something on the ground than mere words
- Land certification improved farmers investment on their land, court case over boundary dispute with neighbours and work efficiency
- Better rely on local byelaws than introduced conventional ones
- Strong RBM&E system

SLMP- a solution to land degradation

Conclusion:

- SLMP – a well designed programme that considered the key aspects of sustainable land management
- Guided by a special strategy purposely formulated for the programme (ESIF)
- Holistic in its approach
- Land degradation in treated areas minimized
- Community benefitted a lot with equitable benefit sharing
- Strong impact with wider sphere of influence
- Achieved spectacular results (Photo gallery)
- SLMP has demonstrated to be a solution to land degradation





Communal lands treated and managed by target communities

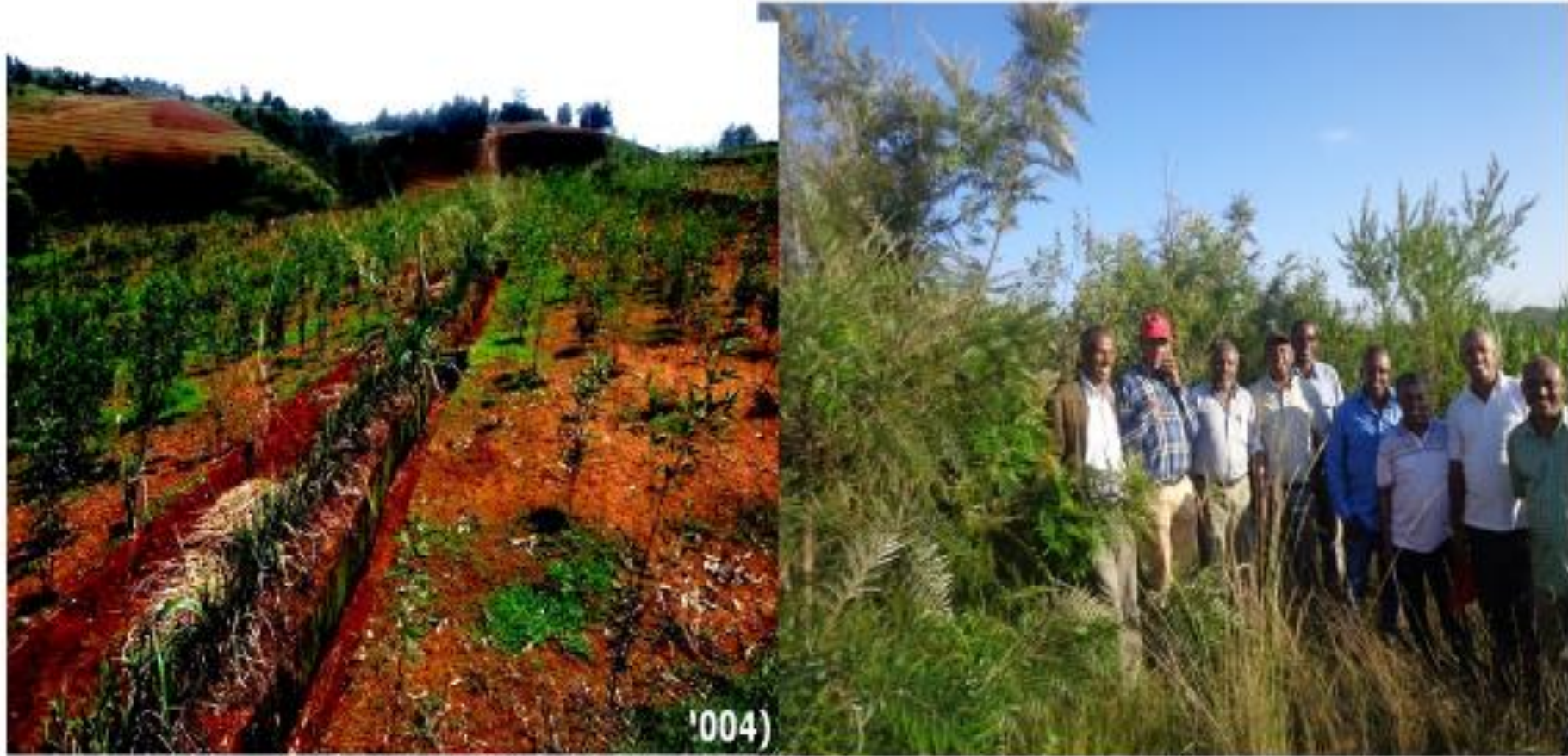


Rehabilitated termite infested and degraded communal land





Rehabilitated degraded land





Rehabilitated degraded land











-Technologies applied on Hillside

















