

**Eco neighborhoods – Khartoum
State
(2010 – 2012)
Budget: EURO 550,000
Co – financier: European Union**

The overall goal of the project:

Is to improve environmental management and reduce poverty in the state of Khartoum to contribute towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The specific objectives are:

- 1 To influence the policies, harmonize regulatory measures and coordinate activities related to environmental and poverty issues in Khartoum.
- 2 Raise the awareness of the decision makers and residences in four Localities about environmental health.
- 3 Environmental rehabilitation in 18 schools (awareness and training for teachers and students; sanitation; tree planting; waste disposal; provision of potable water).
- 4 Empowerment and building the capacities of the CBOs and the communities.
- 5 Addressing poverty through revolving funds and facilitation of micro credit to the targeted communities.

Project's components:

1. Pre-implementation Phase:

Activities:

- A Meeting with the potential Associates was held at the premises of SECS on the 10th of October 2010. The purpose of the meeting was to enlighten the potential Associates about the project idea, objectives and proposed activities. Separate meetings were held with each potential Associate to determine the contribution from each Associate.
- Recruitment of the project staff.

- Reconnaissance surveys will be conducted in the four targeted Localities in addition to analysing the available secondary data to determine the current environmental health situation in each target area. During these surveys, public meetings will be held with the NGOs, CBOs, Local leaders and Administrative Committees in each Locality.
- Contacts with each target Locality will be established.

2. Establishment of locality forums and the Khartoum Environmental Forum (KEF):

Objectives:

- To influence the policies, harmonise regulatory measures and coordinate activities related to environmental and poverty issues in Khartoum.
- Raise the awareness of the decision makers and residences in four Localities about environmental health.

Activities:

- Establishing Environmental Forums at the Locality level to act as a platform for awareness raising, problem identification, dialogue and lobbying.
- The Environmental Forums will engage the Locality Councils in joint meetings to discuss environmental policies and regulatory measures at the Locality level.
- Representatives from the Environmental forums, the Legislative Council of the state of Khartoum, the targeted Localities, the communities, Local Advocacy Groups , NGOs, CBOs, Academics, environmental experts and other environmental activists and the media will form the Khartoum Environmental Forum (KEF). The KEF will commission specialised studies pertaining to environmental policies, legislation and general environmental issues to be discussed within the KEF and act on their recommendations. The specific studies are:
 - A. Environmental laws and by-laws
 - B. Environmental problems related to industrial areas and development in Khartoum
 - C. Water and Sanitation.
 - D. Urban poverty
 - E. Khartoum land issues
 - F. Implementation of environmental impact assessment.

The six targeted specialized relate to environmental policies, legislation and general environmental problems will be discussed and commissioned by KEF. The output of the 6 studies will be adopted by KEF and the recommendations of the forum will be

tabled to the relevant governmental authorities. A small committee will be formed to follow the implementation of these recommendations.

3. School Component:

Objective:

Environmental rehabilitation in 18 schools (awareness and training for teachers and students; sanitation and waste disposal; tree planting; provision of potable water).

Activities:

- Two teachers from each school will have an initial training session in From-Child-to-Child Approach for five days. The teachers will then go back to their respective schools and establish student groups (from the 5th to the 7th Grade). In each school the teachers will choose an environmental health problem in the school area and will supervise the Students Group (about 20) in their designing of a plan to deal with the identified problem. The teachers will come back to the training session and each school will present their work. The trainers and the other participants will discuss each school plan which will be amended according to the forwarded comments. The trained teachers and the Student Groups will then undertake continuous environmental campaigns in their respective Localities. The project will provide technical backstopping support, some financial support and continuous follow up of the activities. The schools will act as a hub of knowledge and dissemination of environmental knowledge to their communities.
- An annual Competition between the schools will be announced and each school has to present its activities during the year in a report supported by documentation and photographs. The winning three schools will be awarded certificates and an environmental library. The awards will be handed in an Annual Students Environmental Festival (ASEF). The Festival will also include competitions in fine arts, drama, poetry, etc.
- In each targeted school, a nursery will be established to produce seedlings of shade and fruit trees. The Forest National Corporation of the state of Khartoum will provide the technical knowhow of nursery design and management of the nurseries and will train the Students Groups in nursery techniques. The nurseries will provide trees for planting inside and outside the schools. The trees will be sold to the communities to provide revenue that will be used to sustain the running of the nurseries.
- A survey to identify needed sanitation and waste disposal units (incinerators) for rehabilitation.
- In each of the 18 schools a Natural Water Cooling Unit (NWC) will be established. The NWC has been created by a lecturer from the Industrial Designing Section of the Faculty of Fine Arts. The NWC is meant to replace the burnt clay jars (Zeer) now common in schools and other areas. The Zeer constitute an environmental and a health hazard as it is kept open and seldom

cleaned. The NWC Unit entails building two walls from perforated bricks for aeration. The water pipes run in between the two walls and are subject to the air cooling. Clean drinking water would then be available through ordinary taps at the surface of the system. The designer has established a partnership with SECS since 1998 as he entrusted the Society with the promotion of the NWC Unit. It has been established in numerous schools and other public areas both inside and outside Khartoum. The Society even produced a short documentary film on the system. The NWC System has been awarded an international prize at EXPO 2000 in Hanover.

4. Community component:

Objectives:

- Raise the awareness of the decision makers and residences in four Localities about environmental health.
- Empowerment and building the capacities of the CBOs and the communities
- Addressing poverty through a revolving fund and facilitation of micro credit to the targeted communities.
- To create pressure groups at the national levels at the national levels to influence policies and planning at the legislative and decision making levels.

Activities:

- An orientation and sensitisation session will be conducted in each Locality.
- Two persons with leadership qualities will be selected from each target area. One would be the focal person from the Locality and the other one will come from SECS branches or the other CBOs where there are no SECS branches.
- The eight persons from the four Localities will be trained in Advocacy Action Training for 10 days. The training will contain exposure to the experiences of SECS in Lobbying and Advocacy.
- Community Advocacy training will be conducted in each Locality. The 8 already trained persons will have an active role in this activity. The duration of each training activity will be eight days and the participants (20) will represent all the community (CBOs, males, females, students, and community leaders).
- Based on the Advocacy training, Local Advocacy Groups (LAGs) will be established.
- Environmental and health awareness raising activities will be implemented in each Locality. The subjects include: Environmental health/Children and Environmental Rights.
- TOT on issues of importance on awareness rising and Knowledge of transmission and prevention of diseases in the area.

- Awareness raising campaign using different methods e.g.: Drama, puppet show, mass media, open theatre and songs.
- Fora at the decision making level within the localities.
- The project will make use of the Health Equity Assessment undertaken by the WHO programme of Health Equity Urban Setting. UmBadda Locality has already been selected to be part of this international programme. The Society is part of the Steering Committee of this programme in the Sudan.
- Planting trees in public areas.
- A feasibility study of waste recycling and/or reuse will be conducted and one Locality will be selected for a pilot recycling/reuse initiative.
- Building the capacities of the CBOs in the targeted areas in organisation and management, project cycle and fund raising. Ten representatives from the CBOs in each of the four localities will be trained in two sessions for five days
- 15 participants in El Wihda Locality will be trained in small project and revolving fund management.
- Establishing a small revolving fund in El Wihda Locality to cater for the credit requirements of the neediest families.
- Facilitating the access of the community members to the Micro Finance Institutions.
- 4 workshops at the National level - 40 participants representing NGOs, CBOs, Women Associations, Farmers and pastoralist Unions, Workers Union, Private Sector and Mass- media. Workshop topics include:
 - A .Environmental awareness
 - B. Environmental Rights
 - C. Organization of Advocacy Campaign
 - D. Environmental Laws and by-Laws.