United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System

4th Reporting and Review Cycle - 2010

Report for Society for Conservation & Protection of Environment
### General Information Section

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting country *</th>
<th>Society for Conservation &amp; Protection of Environment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name and surname of the person submitting the report *</td>
<td>Tanveer Arif, CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affiliation and contact details *</td>
<td><a href="mailto:scope@scope.org.pk">scope@scope.org.pk</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Collaborative reports by accredited Civil Society Organizations

Are you submitting a report on Best Practices that was prepared in collaboration with different accredited organizations?

Yes

Specify the name of the organization(s)

If yes, please provide the full names and acronym of the organizations on whose behalf the present report is submitted. Kindly ensure that any duplication will be avoided: only one organization should submit a collaborative report on behalf of all the other organizations.

Ministry of Environment, Government of Pakistan
C. Best practices

According to decision 13/COP. 9, Annex V, UNCCD best practices shall be collected according to seven themes: 1. Sustainable land management (SLM) technologies, including adaptation; 2. Capacity building and awareness raising; 3. Desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) and SLM monitoring and assessment/research; 4. Knowledge management and decision support; 5. Policy, legislative, institutional framework; 6. Funding/resource mobilization; 7. Participation, collaboration and networking.

While themes 2 to 7 represent different elements of the enabling environment needed for the implementation and dissemination/up-scaling of sustainable land management (SLM) technologies (indirect impact), theme 1 comprises all actions on the ground that have a direct impact on desertification, land degradation and drought mitigation.

In particular, as specified in document ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.5, paragraph 12, theme 1 ‘SLM technologies, including adaptation’ refers to SLM technologies that directly contribute to the prevention, mitigation and rehabilitation of desertification and land degradation on cropland, grazing land and woodland, with the aim of improving the livelihoods of affected populations and conserving ecosystem services. Successful implementation of SLM technologies is the base for achieving strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy. Theme 1 also integrates five of the strategic areas defined by decision 8/COP.4, namely: (a) sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas; (b) sustainable use and management of rangelands; (c) development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems; (d) development of new and renewable energy sources; and (e) launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes/ intensification of soil conservation programmes.

ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.5 provides definitions for ‘practice’, ‘good practice’ and ‘best practice’. These definitions are included in the common glossary that shall be referred to by Parties and other reporting entities while reporting to UNCCD, according to decision 13/COP.9, paragraph 8.

The template for reporting is based on the general structure for the documentation of best practices contained in ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.5, paragraphs 40 to 43; it is tailored to the documentation of best practices related to theme 1 ‘SLM technologies, including adaptation’.

Best Practice #1

Property rights
Clarify if the technology described in the template, or a part of it, is covered by property rights:
Yes

If yes, please provide relevant information on the holder of the rights.
(max 100 words)
SCOPE Pakistan

Section 1. Context of the best practice: frame conditions (natural and human environment)

Title of the best practice
Sustainable Land Management in Nangarparkar by mobilizing communities

Location (if available, also include a map)
Nangarparkar is an ecologically sensitive area in District Tharparkar in the South East of Pakistan along with India-Pakistan boarder. Tharparkar District is a fragile arid ecosystem in southeast of Pakistan, spread over 19,000 sq. Km, hosting 1 million people and 4 million livestock

Attachments:
none

If the location has well defined boundaries, specify its extension in hectares
Hectares (ha)

50000

Estimated population living in the location
Number of people

30000

Prevailing land use within the specified location
- Cropland
- Grazing land
- Woodland
- Unproductive land
- Human settlement

Other (specify) (max 30 words)
range land, sparse forest, thorny bushes, hilly

Brief description of the natural environment within the specified location
Climate: (max 50 words)
the desert vegetation is mostly herbaceous, or of stunted scrub; trees occasionally dot the landscape. The grasses form the main natural resources of the desert and provide nutritive and palatable pasturage. Human and natural induced causes such as deforestation and drought are main causes of land degradation or desertification. Wind and water erosion are furthering this process. Massive scale illegal, wildlife present with some threatened species

Soil: (max 50 words)
The soils are generally infertile and because of severe wind erosion are overblown with sand.

Topography: (max 50 words)
hilly terrain

Prevailing socio-economic conditions of those living in the location and/or nearby
Income level: (max 50 words)
People live below poverty line, mostly pastoralists and subsistence farmers

Main income sources: (max 50 words)
livestock, subsistence farming

Land tenure and land use rights: (max 50 words)
some land is private, while most of the land belongs to state i.e. forest department, local people get the cultivated land on 1 year lease for cultivation purposes

Short description of the best practice
max 250 words
Nangarparkar, Tharparkar is a fragile arid and semiarid ecosystem which is subjected to desertification due to frequent droughts, pressure on natural vegetative cover due to exploitation by human and livestock (for fodder, timber, firewood, gum resin, medicinal herbs extraction etc.) and limited water resources. Desertification threatened livelihood of about 1.3 million inhabitants and 5 million livestock.

The major causes of desertification are felling of trees and removal of vegetative cover in the result of deforestation and overgrazing. Destruction of Camiphora mukal (gum yielding shrub), by tukka (chemical cut) method, is a major cause of desertification and land degradation here, particularly in Nangarparkar area which is rich in this shrub.
The project aimed at reducing pressure on land and forest resources which is caused by illegal tree chopping, and destruction of natural plantations of guglan (Camiphora mukal) for gum resin extraction. SCOPE organized local communities and other stakeholders to resist illegal gum extraction, which was causing elimination of vegetation.

**On the basis of which criteria and/or indicator(s) (not related to The Strategy) the proposed practice and corresponding technology has been considered as ‘best’?**

Max 100 words

Simply because project was able to motivate and mobilize local people to resist against destruction of camiphora mukal shrub. The local youth were organized in the form of Green Guards, who were trained in natural resources management, rangeland management and combating desertification.

**Section 2. Problems addressed (direct and indirect causes) and objectives of the best practice**

**With respect to DLDD, the best practice directly contributes to:**

- Prevention
- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Rehabilitation

**Main problems addressed by the best practice**

(max 50 words)

- community was disorganized and involved in indiscriminate gum extraction which was eliminating camiphora mukal vegetation
- the influential people were backing this gum extraction by making a lot of money by selling the gum in wholesale market
- trees were also chopped down, wildlife was hunted and poached

**Outline specific land degradation problems addressed by the best practice**

Max 100 words

- deforestation
- degradation of range land
- low regeneration rate of range
- soil erosion

**Specify the objectives of the best practice**

(max 50 words)

- a. Motivate, organize and enable local community organizations for sustainable land management (SLM), in order to combat desertification
- b. Immediate halt of deforestation and organized destruction of guglan (Camiphora mukal) shrub cover, in the district through local action
- c. Rangeland health assessment and rehabilitation
- d. Reintroduce and strengthen traditional Gochar (rangeland) management system through consensus and participation
e. Create livelihood opportunities for indigenous people through sustainable harvesting of gugral (gum from guglan shrub)
f. Cooperate with Sindh Forest Department and local government to protect forest and rangeland

Section 3. Activities

Brief description of main activities, by objective

Objective 1
(max 50 words)

- Objective: Motivate, organize and enable local community organizations for sustainable land management (SLM), in order to combat desertification

Activities:

- Community consultation and brainstorming in about 50 main villages of Union Councils of Majthy, Joro, Bhakao (tehsil Mithi), Jharmario
- Ballari (tehsil Diplo), Nagarparkar, Pithapoor, and Haroo (tehsil Nagarparkar), Chilhar, Kantio, of Tehsil Chachro of District Tharparkar on state of natural resources, pressures on land, responsible strategy to reduce pressure and identification of a community action plan to reduce pressure on land
- responsible strategy to reduce pressure and identification of a community action plan to reduce pressure on land and remove hurdles
- Formation of village “Community Green Groups (CGGs)”, in 50 villages, as the task force which will work on combating desertification with SCOPE on long term basis.
- The CGGs will be well represented by notables, village headmen, youth and women
- Training and orientation of Community Green Groups (CGGs) on sustainable land management including rangeland health assessment, methods of rehabilitation by seed broadcast, protection of woodlots, rotational grazing,
- avoiding unsustainable agricultural practices such as use of tractor, pesticides and chemical fertilizers

Objective 2
(max 50 words)

- Stakeholders dialogue on the issue, identification of culprits and their modes operandi
- Formation of District's Joint Action Committee (JAC) consisting on community members, political representatives, District Government, Police, NGOs, media and Forest Department to ensure a complete ban on
- commercial tree chopping and destruction of guglan plantations
- Ensuring immediate practical ban on deforestation under section 144

Objective 3
(max 50 words)

- Joint rangeland scouting / assessment survey by Community Green Groups (CGGs), along with SCOPE, Forest department, AZRI and assessment of the health of rangeland, carrying capacity, identification of problems, mapping of hotspots under supervision of experts from AZRI and Rangeland section of
Objective 4
(max 50 words)
• Consultation, writing and adaptation of “traditional gochar (rangeland) management system” and its wider publicity and adoption by all stakeholders particularly the District assembly, Community Green Groups (CGGs)

Short description of the technology
max 250 words
No answer provided

Technical specifications of the technology – if any
max 250 words
No answer provided

Section 4. Institutions/actors involved (collaboration, participation, role of stakeholders)

Name and address of the institution developing the technology

Name
Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE),

Address
D-141 (annexy) Block 2, P.E.C.H.S
Karachi-75400 Pakistan

Was the technology developed in partnership?
No

If yes, list the partners:
No answer provided

Specify the framework within which the technology was promoted
• Local initiative

Other (specify) (max 30 words)
No answer provided

Was the participation of local stakeholders, including CSOs, fostered in the development of the technology
Yes

If yes, list local stakeholders involved:
• local communities, forest department, rangeland research institutions, police, district administration, NGOs, CBOs

For the stakeholders listed above, specify their role in the design, introduction, use and maintenance of the technology, if any.
max 250 words
community: take part in guarding range land and forest
forest department: cooperation
Arid zone rangeland research institute (AZRI) rangeland management technologies
Was the population living in the location and/or nearby involved in the development of the technology?
Yes

If yes, by means of what?
- Consultation
- Participatory approaches

Other (specify) (max 30 words)
full ownership of the project, by setting a defensive mechanism against forest clearing

Section 5. Contribution to impact

Specify to which strategic objectives of The Strategy the technology contributes
(more than one box can be ticked)
- 1. To improve the living conditions of affected population
- 2. To improve the conditions of affected ecosystems
- 3. To generate global benefits through effective implementation of the UNCCD

Describe on-site impacts (the major two impacts by category)
Production or productivity:
1. (max 50 words)
   - regeneration can be seen
   - fresh cuts to sgrub are not seen

2. (max 50 words)
   - people are highly motivated
   -

Socio-economic level (including cultural level):
1. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Environmental level:
1. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Other (specify):
1. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Describe the major two off-site (i.e. not occurring in the location but in the surrounding areas) impacts
1. (max 50 words)
   - awareness among stakeholders
- shortage of wood in local saw mills, because trees are not being chopped

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

**Impact on biodiversity and climate change**
In your opinion does the best practice/technology you have proposed positively impact on biodiversity conservation?
   Yes

*Explain the reasons:*
max 250 words
- density of tree cover increasing
- hunting poaching of animals stopped

In your opinion does the best practice/technology you have proposed positively impact on climate change mitigation?
   Yes

*Explain the reasons:*
max 250 words
The carbon sequestration capacity increases by the swing of trees and vegetation and cultivation of more shrubs

In your opinion does the best practice/technology you have proposed positively impact on climate change adaptation?
   No answer provided

*Explain the reasons:*
max 250 words
- definitely,

**Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out?**
No answer provided

**If yes, summarize its main conclusions:**
max 250 words
No answer provided

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**Section 6. Connection to other UNCCD themes**

Specify if the technology relates to one or more of the other UNCCD themes
- Capacity-building and awareness-raising
- DLDD and SLM monitoring and assessment/research
- Knowledge management and decision support
- Participation, collaboration and networking

**Section 7. Adoption and replicability**

Was the technology disseminated/introduced to other locations?
No answer provided

*If yes, where? (add as many rows as necessary)*
Location:
No answer provided
Were incentives to facilitate the take up of the technology provided?
- No answer provided

If yes, specify which type of incentives
- No answer provided

Can you identify the three main conditions that led to the success of the presented best practice/technology?
Examples of conditions leading to success may include: highly motivated local governments, farmers organized into well structured cooperatives, extremely favorable weather conditions, etc. For each 'condition of success' you are able to identify, specify whether in your opinion such condition is: (a) linked to the local context and thus cannot be replicated elsewhere; (b) replicable elsewhere with some level of adaptation; (c) replicable elsewhere with major adaptation.

1. (max 50 words)
   - No answer provided

2. (max 50 words)
   - No answer provided

3. (max 50 words)
   - No answer provided

In your opinion, the best practice/technology you have proposed can be replicated, although with some level of adaptation, elsewhere?
- No answer provided

If yes, at which level?
- No answer provided

Section 8. Lessons learned

Related to human resources
(max 50 words)
- people can understand very well their long term benefit if proper mobilization is done

Related to financial aspects
(max 50 words)
- No answer provided

Related to technical aspects
(max 50 words)
- regeneration of vegetation in the rangeland is possible through controlled natural resources management
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Submission Form</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name of the Reporting Officer</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Signature</strong></td>
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<thead>
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<th><strong>Name of the Authorizing Officer</strong></th>
<th>Tanveer Arif</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of Authorization</strong></td>
<td>09/11/2010</td>
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