Dedication

To the great prophet Mohammed (Peace and prayers be upon him)

To my mother's spirit

To my father, my brothers, my sister, with especial dedication to my brother Awad Allah

For their encouragement and support

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List of Abbreviation and Acronyms

DECARP: Desert Encroachment Control and Rehabilitation Program.

FNC: Forest National Corporation.

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization.

Goz: sand dune

Gawe: Aristida mutabilis.

Hagglieg: Balanites aegyptiaca.

ha: Hectare.

Maharaib: Cympopogan nervatus.

Matara: plot equal 4.3 ha

Mesquite: Prosopis chilensis.

NGOs: Non Government Organization.

PACD: Plan Action to Combat Desortification.

SOS: Save Our Souls.

Sarih: Maerua crassifolia

Seyal: Acacia tortilis

Sunt: Acacia nilotica

Sidr: Ziziphus spina - christi

Sahel: Countries south of the Sahara

Tumam: Panicum turgidum

Talh: Acacia seyal

Tundub: Capparis decidua.

Usher: Calotropis procera

UNO: United Nation Organizations.

U.K - United Kingdom.

UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme.

UNCOD: United Nations Conference of Desertification.

U UN: United Nation.

NSO: United Nations for Sudan. Sahlien Office.

VES: Village Extension Scheme.

VEAS: Village Extension Agents.

WFP: Women Forestry Projects.

Abstract

In Sudan as result of repeated drought cycle in 1980 where the problem of desertification emerged on the area under threat of desertification in the north part of Sudan, where the desert encroachment has affected entire villages and engulfed away fertile cultivable land, which is a narrow stripe also the natural tree cover depletes every year, yet replanting has been virtually non existing.

This study aimed to assessing the role of local community's participation of the SOS project which has been implemented for desertification control in Shendi area.

The methods used for data collection based on, general survey, questionnaire, interviews, project reports and other sources of secondary data.

Three villages has been randomly selected and surveyed (wad Klian – Eltragema Elgaba – AlAbdotab), covering 66 households. Twenty two respondents from each village were randomly interviewed.

The results showed that the project has succeeded in combating desertification by establishing shelterbelts, around the villages and farms, also increasing the vegetation cover at the area.

The results also show that the project depends on local community in the implementation of their activities and this would lead to successful and sustainable of project activities. Also results show that the project implementation of heavy extension program leads to increase the environmental awareness of the people and teach them how to deal with nurseries, seedling and others items to combat sand encroachment.

Also results show that project depend on Mesquite tree as the shelterbelts species and these trees succeeded in both combating desertification and have economic impact on the life of the people in the study area.

The study recommended that local communities may considered before establishing the projects, and more extension work is needed to promot the people. Also comprehensive research to find a concrete solution to the problem of sand encroachment is required.

ملخص الدراسة

ظهرت مشكلة التصحر في السودان في الثمانينات نتيجة لدورات الجفاف المتتالية التي ضربت البلاد .

الجزء الشمالي من القطر واحد من المناطق التي تعاني من زحف الرمال حيث تأثرت بها القرى ونقلها أو دفنها للأراضي الزراعية التي تتمثل في شريط ضيق ، كما أن هنالك إزالة للغطاء النباتي لسد متطلبات الإنسان وليس هناك إعادة استزراع .

أجريت هذه الدراسة في إحدى المشاريع التي أسست لمكافحة الزحف الصحراوي وهو مشروع الساحل (sos) في منطقة شندي .

تهدف الدراسة لتقييم الدور الذي لعبه المواطنون المحليون لحماية أراضيهم أو قراهم بالمشاركة في تنفيذ المشروع وتحقيق أهدافه.

الطريقة التي أتبعتها الدراسة لجمع المعلومات الأولية كانت بالمسح للتعرف على طبيعة المنطقة ثم الاستبيانات والمقابلات الشخصية ، أما المعلومات الثانوية كانت من تقارير المشروع وغيرها من المصادر الموثقة .

اختيرت ثلاث قري لإجراء الدراسة (ود كليان – التراجمة الغابة – العبدوتاب) ، لتغطي مجموعة ست وستون عائله حيث اثنان وعشرون لكل قرية اختيرت عشوائياً .

خلصت النتائج أن المشروع نجح في استقطاب المشاركة المحلية حيث اعتمد في كل أنشطته وتنفيذها على المواطنين المحليين. كذلك قام المشروع بتنفيذ برنامج إرشادي مكثف للقرويين لرفع ثقافتهم البيئية وتعليمهم التعامل مع الزحف الرملي وكيفية عمل المشاتل وإعداد الشتول. أيضاً خلصت النتائج إلي أن المشروع كافح الزحف الصحراوي بإنشاء الأحزمة الشجرية حول القرى والمزارع التي كانت ناجحة وفعالة في تثبيت زحف الرمال.

اعتمد المشروع في الأحزمة على شجرة المسكيت التي نجحت بكفاءة عالية في مكافحة زحف الرمال بالإضافة لمنافعها المختلفة كحطب للحريق ، علف لحيواناتهم وغيرها واعتقادهم بأنه لا توجد شجرة أخرى تحل محل المسكيت .

أوصت الدراسة بمشاركة المواطنين المحليين في بداية أو إنشاء المشاريع ، كما أوصت الدراسة بإجراء البحوث التطبيقية على زحف الرمال لعرفة مدي تقدمها وتأثيرها ومكافحتها.