

Austrian-Eritrean Development Cooperation Association – AEDCA

Österreichisch-Eritreische Gesellschaft für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit



Concept

The following program of the Austrian-Eritrean Development Cooperation Association has been developed by Dawit Amanuel Asgedom (Eritrean Citizen) in Austria, Vienna, November 17, 2014.

According to his intentions he developed a project frame from the bottom of Eritrean current environmental, economic and social facts. He believes that the assassination will lead to a remarkable impact through activities on the future of Eritrean development, as well as it will be a great opportunity to the association to create good relationships between both countries.

According to many reports Eritrea is among the very poor countries in the world, the state is listed among the Least Developed Countries (date of inclusion: 1994). Therefore, and encouraged by GAFÉIAS President & CEO Andreas Andiel, he developed the following concept. A commitment on those sectors can make outstanding changes.

Before Dawit Amanuel Asgedom proceeds to his observation, he is trying to contact Eritrean colleagues here in Austria especially in Vienna in order to make them aware about the program.

ENVIRONMENT

The main environmental challenge affecting Eritrea is severe land degradation.

DRIVERS

- High population growth
- Fuel wood collection

- Overgrazing
- Inappropriate farm and land management practices
- Subsistence agriculture
- Poverty and food insecurity
- Erosion

STATE

- Decreasing Labour force in rural area
- Increasing urbanization
- Decreasing soil fertility
- Exposure to vulnerability

RESPONSE

- Participation of indigenous community
- Use mechanized and environmental technology
- Environmental impact assessment
- Afforestation program
- Community based investment
- Sustainability and creating new jobs
- Planting fruit and non-fruit trees
- Environmental policy reformation

ECONOMY

- The people of Eritrea in extreme poverty and hunger because of
- Restrictions economy policies of the government

DRIVERS

- War
- Decrease of experts

- Lower agricultural production on
- Unattractive investment policy different sectors, e.g. fisheries, tourism, construction, manufacturing
- Weak financial sector
- Backwardness of the country's basic infrastructure
- Drought

STATES

- Couples of private businesses
- Farmers are in to subsistence farming
- Migration

RESPONSE

- Creating long term development policy to get a rapid and widely shared economy growth
- Increase productivity and competency
- Export oriented commercial estate in the country
- Establish basic infrastructure
- Training and encouragement to entrepreneurs
- Programs on soil and water conservation activities

AGRICULTURE

- 80% of the population depends on traditional subsistence agriculture, including crop production and livestock husbandry. However agricultural production is very low relatively to satisfy demand of the people

DRIVERS

- High rainfall variability with recurrent and long drought period
- Continues degradation of the soil
- Loss of agricultural biodiversity
- Frequent pest out break

- Lack of research and extension service

STATES

- Increasing urbanization and international migration
- Desertification
- Drought exposure
- Low resistance of the soil
- Limited vegetative cover

RESPONSE

- The historical changes in land degradation and its nature
- Extent and severity in different agro-ecological zones
- Investigate the impact on agricultural/livestock productivity
- Study on rural livelihoods
- Finding and following a series of stakeholder consultations
- Project intervention design to reduce and reverse land degradation
- Improve the ecosystems
- Introduce a mechanized farming
- Water conservation project
- Micro investment implementation
- Irrigation

Generally there are a lot of factors which make Eritrea under poverty. However if the association "work hard" to bring a remarkable change on Eritrea it would be a great impact for the people of Eritrea.

Dawit Amanuel Asgedom

Vienna, November 17, 2014