

## Project Update: March 2023

The bloody civil war started in late 2020 in northern Ethiopia. It significantly impacted activities of several projects, of which ours was one. As you know we were awarded the project in July 2020, just a few months before the conflict broke out. Due to the conflict, activities of the project were suspended nearly 18 months. But since February 2022, when the intensity of the conflict slowed, we started to run and implement our project activities. We have so far completed the following objectives:

1. We provided capacity building training for 25 selected representatives of the local stakeholders on use of proper tapping techniques for collection of frankincense from *Boswellia papyrifera* woodlands. We also trained them on different habitat restoration techniques such as soil and water conservation structures for restoring the degraded habitats of the species (Figure 1).
2. We intensively trained 30 selected local women on the alternative livelihood sources such as poultry and beekeeping (Figure 2).
3. We established soil and water conservation structures inside of the degraded habitats of *B. papyrifera* for assisting its restoration process (Figure 3).



Figure 1. Capacity building training for the local stakeholders on *B. papyrifera* tapping and habitat restoration techniques



Figure 2. Capacity building training for selected local women on the alternative livelihood sources (poultry, beekeeping)



Figure 3. Introduction of soil and water conservation structures inside of the degraded of *B. papyrifera*