

Project Update: August 2023

Introduction

The major objective of this project is to equip local communities with the knowledge and skills they need to engage in conservation activities that address both conservation and livelihood needs and to contribute to the sustainable conservation of wetlands and black-tailed godwit and its habitat in the project area. Planting different plant seedlings and conservation measures in selected places was one of the most important specific objectives for this project. Accordingly, in August 2023, we planted a total of 5245 tree seedlings in collaboration with the school students, school communities, kebele, and district administration.

Before planting the tree seedlings on the selected sites enough awareness creation activities and training were provided to communities and students separately. The training involves a participatory approach to improve knowledge and skills through practical nature or environmental conservation education systems within the school environment. This training will help to improve the skills and knowledge of future conservationists (school children or students) and their engagement in nature conservation through training and capacity-building activities.

Activity implementation progress

According to our work plan, in this period (from June –July 2023) we concentrated on providing awareness creation on restoration, tree planting, and provision of seedling management materials to school nature clubs, and the entire school communities. This tree seedling planting activity was implemented in August 2023 and all the conservation measures were implemented at the upper catchment of the watershed to reduce the impact of floods and sedimentation into the wetland and will use several fruit trees as sources of food in the future. Here are sample photographs of different schools' nature clubs.





Tree seedling distribution to school at Shesha Kekelele Primary school Nature/environmental club students.



Tree seedling planting by project leader at Wosha Primary school.



Wosha Primary school Nature/environmental club student seedling planting.



Gotu- Onoma Primary schools Nature/environmental club student seedling planting.



Wondo Genet Primary schools Nature/environmental club student seedling planting.



Intaye Primary schools Nature/environmental club student seedling planting.



Wondo Genet Primary schools Nature/environmental club student seedling planting.

Expected results from material provision

All the school club members' students, and school communities were enjoined and interested in performing tree planting, protecting, and managing the seedlings in their school compounds and the entire watershed in the next steps. In the future, all the club members and school communities are expected to properly protect, manage, and maintain the seedlings at each school. Besides, the club members plan to create awareness for the local communities on protecting, managing, and maintaining the seedlings in the local environment, and protecting the entire environmental protection for local communities in collaboration with health extensions.



Next generation with tree seedlings in the project areas.