Environmental Management Group

OASIS Training-of-Trainers Online-Course,
July 2024 to July 2025, Michael Hauser

Funded by the European Union

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Why this course?

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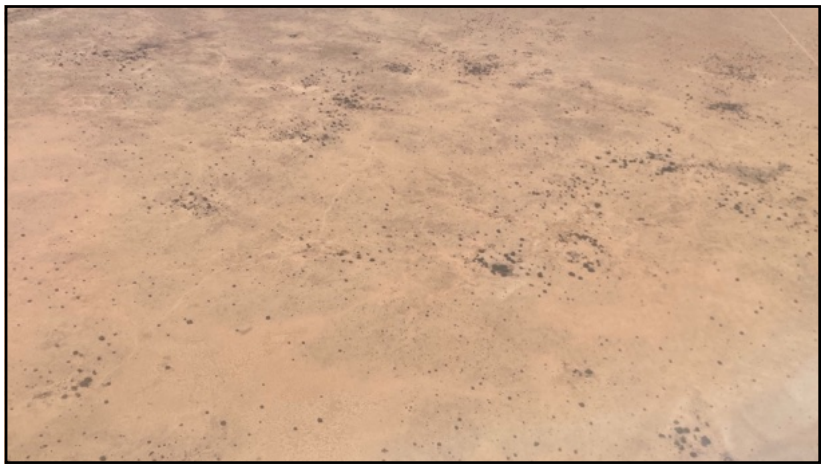

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Big picture

- UNDP: Deforestation of approximately 35,000 hectares per year, leading to the annual felling of 4.375 million trees, coupled with desertification and soil erosion, exacerbated by climate change
- Reduced agricultural productivity, loss of biodiversity, and increased vulnerability to natural disasters such as droughts and floods
- Environmental degradation exacerbates conflicts over resources such as forages, water and arable land;
- Environmental Management Bill: Serves as a legal framework for environmental governance in Somalia; National Climate Change Policy, National Environment Management Act, Charcoal Policy, the National Water Resources Strategy, Somalia Nationally Determined Contribution and National Adaptation Plans
- OASIS output 2 (i.e. supported communities increase their use of context-specific environmental management practices such as climate-responsive and regenerative restoration).

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EMG - What is it?

Environmental Management Groups are comprised of community members orchestrating sustainable and equitable governance of natural resources at the local level, in our case, in each of the OASIS sites. EMGs develop Community Environmental Action Plans to assess needs and strengthen overall community management of natural resources. EMGs foster decentralized, collective resource governance and stewardship and environmental peacebuilding.

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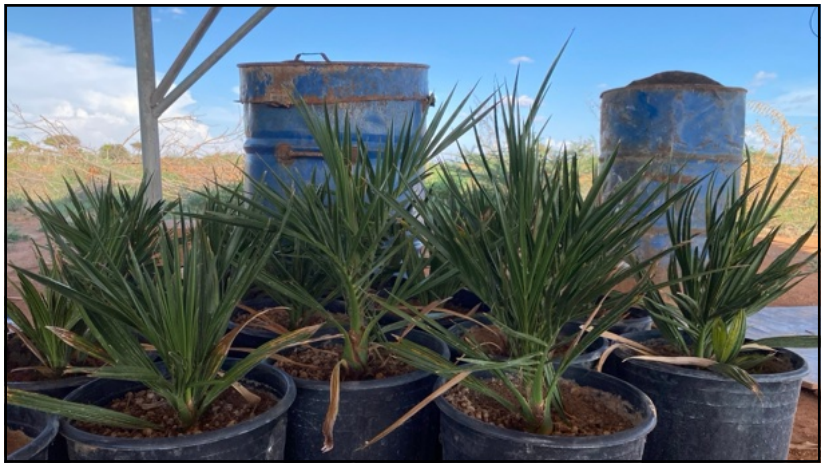

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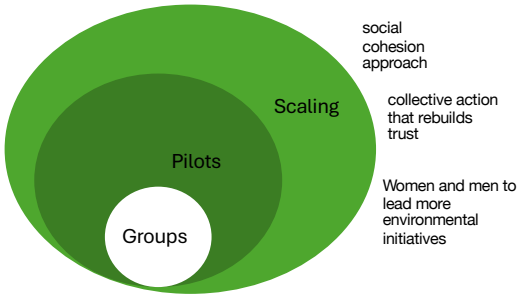
Systems approach needed



social cohesion approach

collective action that rebuilds trust

Women and men to lead more environmental initiatives

More than trees

- water harvesting infrastructures (wells, canals, water desalination)
- Renewable energy sources (fuel-efficient stoves, alternatives to charcoal, solar)
- Alternative livelihoods (hortifculture, egg/milk value chains, fodder)

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Learning outcomes

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After the training

1. Participants are able to train EMG members, i.e. provie them with knowledge and tools needed to participate actively in environmental conservation efforts.
2. Participants are able to create and enhance group governance and institutional frameworks that support the long-term sustainability of the EMGs
3. Participants are able to fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility among EMGs that they are able to pass on to community members which is essential for the long-term sustainability of environmental projects

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Our training approach

Online Trainings

Interactive and self-paced digital courses covering key topics and best practices.

Field Work

Hands-on experiential learning through EMG trainings in OASIS sites, documentation of activities and outcomes

Coaching

One-on-one mentorship from course instructors and professionals to provide guidance and support.

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Program

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A. Group Governance

Ensure EMGs develop self-management capabilities and strategies to increase performance gradually

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Unit 2: Group governance, structure, role clarity, decision-making processes, communication, record keeping/financial monitoring, effective leadership;

Unit 3: Group performance, enhance team-building, conflict management, and self-management skills within EMGs to improve cooperation, effectiveness, and the sustainability of environmental initiatives;

Unit 4: Scenario planning and strategic planning among EMG members to enable the development of a clear vision, actionable plans, group dynamics, and measurable indicators for environmental management efforts;

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B. Environmental Management

Ensure EMGs have access to the right tools and environmental management approaches in addition to LDSF training

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Unit 5: Ecosystem health introduction, nature-based solutions to climate adaptation, basics of landscape restoration and environmental management;

Unit 6: Afforestation and tree planting, nursery management, tree management, exclosure/enclosure management, FMNR;

Unit 7: Sustainable grazing management strategies, including techniques to prevent overgrazing, how to establish grazing enclosures/exclosures, and determine optimal grazing levels to protect and restore ecosystems;

Unit 8: Soil and water conservation to improve land management and combat desertification and land degradation;

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C. Community Mobilisation

Ensure EMGs link with communities and political bodies, e.g. vertical and horizontal integration)

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Unit 9: Community mobilisation and co-creation principles to ensure broad participation in environmental management and include vulnerable/ marginalised groups, sharing of information, lessons learned from data/evidence, Geolab resources (restoration stuard);

Unit 10: Customary institutions, their revival and integration into natural resource management strategies, strategies for ensuring cultural coherence and leveraging local knowledge;

Unit 11: Restoration network, community awareness about overcoming barriers to restoration at the community level, and creating effective EMG networks.

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Learning agreement

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We ask you for your support

- Active participation, keep time, be part of an emerging community of practice
- Field work: ground training in OASIS workplans; articulate training needs for each unit
- Each participant is part of an EMG Portfolio with EMGs, each EMG becomes a case for which we employ a case management approach; we ask you to conduct a group characterisation and a SWOT analysis
- Monitor EMG performance, provide feedback EMG developments to course convenors
- This course is a fully functional prototype but not yet perfect: Help us to improve the course

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