MOIPO
COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL

CONSERVATION OF SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND PROMOTION OF THE STIPULAE MISSION

NARRATIVE IMPLEMENTATION (PROGRESS) REPORT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION:

Moipo Secondary School is in the Maasai steppe on the leeward side of Pare Mountains. The place is dry and is affected by strong winds from the Eastern side of the mountain. There are no enough trees to act as wind break and to provide shelter to the school compound. Taking care of trees has been difficult due to:

- Free animals that grazing eating up tree seedlings
- Inadequate availability of water to the school from Ruvu Darajani village.
- Inadequate knowledge and awareness on the importance of environmental conservation

This project was initiated in order to address the above challenges by having the following main components:

1. Soliciting of external financial support
2. Construction of rain water harvesting infrastructure
3. Establishing tree nursery for trees for tummy
4. Imparting knowledge and skills to students on importance of environmental conservation
5. Promotion of environmental conservation through trees planting in school compound
6. Promoting planting of fruit and medicinal trees in the community where students come from

2.0 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES:

In order to succeed in this project, it was decided to have the following strategies in place:

2.1 To improve availability of water at the school.

2.2 To Increase availability of tree seedlings for the school and for the community and especially the villages where the students come from.

2.3 To involve students in planting trees for wind break and other purposes in the school compound.

3.0 PROJECT BENEFICIARIES:

The project was design to benefit a total of 227 students and 9 full time teachers to start with (2011) and later be replicated to the villagers.

4.0 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT:

4.1 Objective 1.0 (A rain-water harvesting system established by the end of August 2011).

Modalities to achieve this objective could be through:

4.1.1 Constructing the so called Ferro cement tanks and harvest rain water through gutters.

4.1.2 Construction of basin pools to collect rain storm water.

4.1.3 To install big heavy plastic tanks and harvest rain water from school roofs and gutters.

The School administration decided to use the last modality (To install big heavy plastic tanks and harvest rain water from school roofs and gutters) due to the following reasons:

- Easy to construct and install
- Cheaper and easier to construct compared to the other methods.
- Not easy to be damaged by animals especially in areas where animals like donkeys, cows, goats etc may be left unattended.

This system has been constructed using three (3) such tanks and is functioning well. The only drawback was that this year (2012) the whole region received less than average rain, Ruvu area being affected most.

(See the gutters and the two big plastic tanks; the third one is on the back side of this building)

Objectives 2 and 3 that is:

One tree nursery established in the school compound providing tree seedlings to the school and community by August 2011

A total of 1700 trees planted in the school compound by the students by the end of 2011.

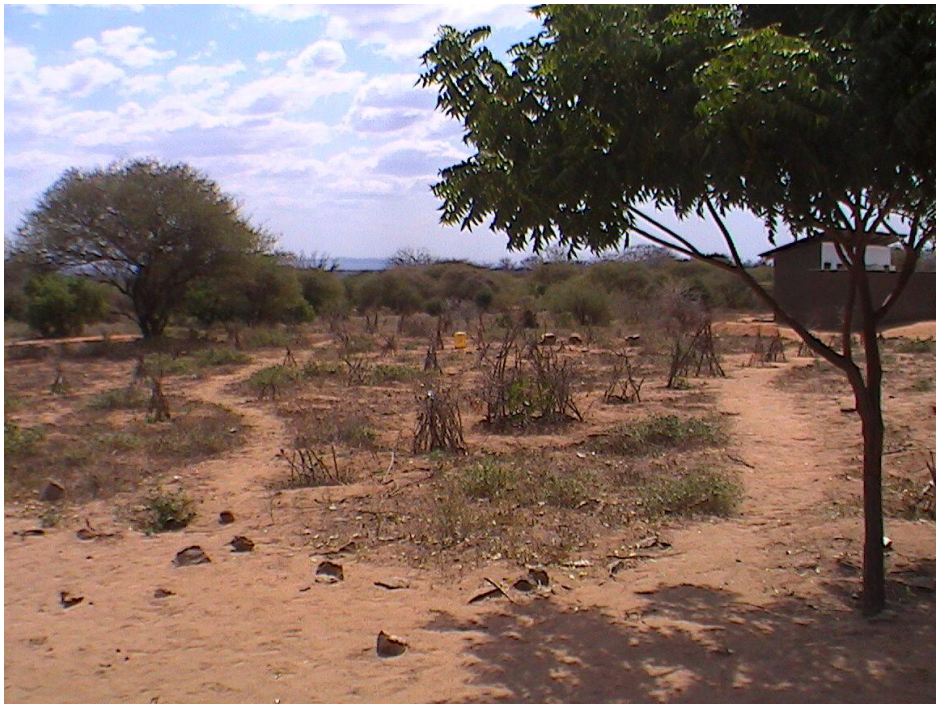
Due to the fact that trees planted directly from seeds have better roots, the school decided to buy seeds and plant them directly. Jatropha seeds were planted and germinated well but later some of them withered. Other trees known to survive well in this area were planted (not from seeds but seedlings were bought). These trees included Mkoromaji, Msaji and Neem trees. (Botanical names of Msaji and Mkoromaji will be found and submitted later). No fruits trees were planted at this phase.

Following withering of Jatropha trees, the school administration consulted the Forestry Extension Officer. His investigation revealed that the problem was two folds (the soil being unsuitable for Jatropha due to too much bicarbonate of soda and in some cases the Jatropha trees were attacked by viruses and bacteria. The remedy prescribed was to sprinkle a solution of neem tree leaves). Some of these trees recovered.

On the day of visit to the school project (11/07/2012) about 200 trees were found to have taken up well.

(Trees planted and fences individually from being destroyed by animals)

(Some of the Jatropha trees that have taken up well)



More trees planted all over the compound

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT:

As designed, the project is expected in the first place to benefit the school community but sustainability of the project is so much dependent of availability of water in this case rain water. During implementation of this project, the catholic Diocese of Same was implementing a water project from a borehole and at the same time, the government revived a borehole by installing a new electrical pump. This has resulted in water adequacy to the village hence improving to a large extent availability of water to the school. In fact there is adequate water when the school needs to fill its tanks but it will come at a cost as the village government is preparing to provide water through a billing (metered) system.

6.0 FUTURE PLANS:

The school is planning to plant more trees and assign at least three trees to each student to take care as now there will be enough water and the Catholic Diocese of Same will provide more tree seedlings of different varieties to the school.

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