Name:	34. COMMUNITY BASED RANGELAND REHABILITATION		
Region	Africa	Country	Sudan
Ecosystem	Rangeland and grasslands; agriculture		
Nature of approach	Improvement in capacity, design and policy measures (capacity building, raising awareness); Implementation of EBA measures (natural resource management, pilot schemes, diversifying livelihoods, changing management practices)		
Description of approach	**Objective/Expected outcomes** Sudan is drought prone, and has suffered several recent periods of drought. This has had the effect of destroying livelihoods and forcing a transition from small scale production to larger scale agriculture in order to make a living, thereby resulting in further degradation to the ecosystems – a vicious cycle. The project aimed to rehabilitate rangelands and provide alternative sources of livelihoods to help communities adapt to ongoing periods of drought as a result of climate change. **Actions** Activities to rehabilitate the rangelands included establishing grazing regimes that allowed rotational grazing on some parcels of land, with others left to rest for a period of several years, to promote recovery of the soil and vegetation. The local rural council was involved in facilitating this. Management of land under grazing (fencing and planting of thorny shrubs along the boundaries) protected the plots from migrating herds. Some replanting of desirable species was also undertaken, along with planting of windbreaks to reduce soil erosion. Involvement of local leaders who supervised the measures and advised on grazing regimes, along with establishment of local groups who received training in rangeland management, ensured local support and engagement. The project also trialed agricultural diversification, by encouraging a switch from cattle grazing to sheep. The women of the villages were supported in developing gardens. **Results achieved** Improvements in the quality and diversity of 700 hectares of grazing land resulted in improved animal production (meat and milk). The trees used for the windbreaks helped to stablise and enrich the soil through their root systems and leaf litter. The efforts to diversify the grazing livestock were adopted by the community, with sheep replacing cattle or goats as a result of their higher resilience to drought and reduced impact on grazing. The women's gardens enhanced food security and provided a source of income through selling of surplus produce. **Lessons learned** The success of the project and the impact on livelihoods was based on the enhanced status of the rangelands. The project also gained from unexpected benefits, including the development of land use plans to guide future resource use and grazing regimes. By incorporating self sufficiency into the design, the project avoided some of the challenges faced by many projects depending on ongoing financing.		
Type of organisation	UN Agency	Name of organisation:	UNDP; GEF
Further information and contact details	http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=377 http://www.aiaccproject.org/working_papers/Working%20Papers/AIACC_WP_No017 .pdf ELAN (2011). Case studies on good practices in nature-based climate change adaptation, Ecosystems & Livelihoods Adaptation Network (ELAN). Contact: Dr. Balgis Osman Elasha, Climate Change Unit/Higher Council for Environment& Natural Resources (HCENR), E-mail: balgis@yahoo.com		