Project Update: April 2019

Our first RSG project found that the endangered Boswellia papyrifera tree species is heading to extinction due to lack of regeneration as the combined results of free grazing and illegal agricultural expansion. Area enclosure was also identified as the primary intervention for its future conservation by the involved stakeholders. Considering this, the second RSG project was then focused to introduce area enclosure with full participation of stakeholders into the Boswellia papyrifera woodland to assist its natural regeneration in northern Ethiopia. The project was also aimed to empower stakeholders through intensive training and workshops on future management, protection and expansion of area enclosure for conservation of the study tree species and its degraded habitat. Out of the main seven objectives of the project, three were already completed, namely:

- 1. We provided intensive capacity building training for the relevant stakeholders (including local community, experts and NGO representatives) on role of area enclosure for conservation of the study tree species and its degraded habitat (As you can see in Figure 1 and 2)
- 2. We introduced and established area enclosure (20 x 20m, using barbed wire) inside of Boswellia papyrifera woodland in the study area for preventing interferences of animals and human with full participation of all stakeholders (as you can see Figure 3 and 5)
- 3. We also introduced community-based soil and water conservation structure (traces using stones) into the established area enclosure to assist natural regeneration of the tree and restore its degraded habitat (Please see Figure 4)



Figure 1. Providing capacity building training for stakeholders on roles of area enclosure for conservation of Boswellia papyrifera woodland and its degraded habitat



Figure 2. Discussion and exchange of ideas with the stakeholders about roles of area enclosure for conservation of Boswellia papyrifera woodland and its degraded habitat



Figure 3. Establishing area enclosure inside of Boswellia papyrifera woodland for assisting its natural regeneration with stakeholders



Figure 4. Introducing soil and water conservation structure (traces using stones) inside of the established area enclosure with stakeholders for assisting natural regeneration of Boswellia papyrifera



Figure 5. View of the established area enclosure with stakeholders inside of Boswellia papyrifera in the study area (Abergele district), northern Ethiopia