

Feedback from students field work in the PhD course **Restoration of degraded semi-arid landscapes - Livelihoods, Livestock and Land use**

NON-AGRICULTURAL INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES IN MORPUS

This study assessed the impact of non-agricultural activities on land cover change and discuss the sustainability of those activities in Morpus. Key informant interview (KII) and Focus group discussion (FGD) were used to collect the data on the main income generating activities.

Different non-agricultural activities were identified in Morpus. Men mostly handle jobs such as mining, pasture fencing, bicycle and motorcycle riding, building houses, charcoal burning, land terracing while women are mostly involved in activities such as making clay pots, beverage selling, weaving, etc. On the other hand agricultural income generating activities are livestock production and selling (goats, cows, sheep and chicken), selling animal products such as milk and eggs, selling pasture, crop production like maize, cassava, sorghum, millet, sweet potatoes; vegetable and fruits.

The sustainability of the non-agricultural activities is lower as compared to agricultural activities. This is because most non-agricultural activities like mining minerals, sand and stone collection, charcoal burning etc. facilitates soil erosion, land degradation and depletion. This survey work come with a conclusion that some non-agricultural income generating activities facilitate land degradation, erosion and soil depletion. Therefore the stakeholders should educate the community and create market opportunities for animals and animal products awareness mechanisms for livelihood, family planning, agricultural extension advice to improve productivity.



***We are grateful the people who volunteered
information to this study.
Celestin & Moges***