

Ethiopia/Abbie Trayler-Smith for Panos Pictures/Watershed Restoration and smallholders Bahir Dar

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Farming community of Bahir Dar and Water and Land Resource Center,

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Files:

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia001.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia003.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia008.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia009.jpg:

Balaynesh Kasa, a farmer and beneficiary of the Debre Yacob Learning Watershed Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

OR

[Balaynesh Kasa, a farmer in the Amhara Region of Ethiopia, is now able to grow and sell produce as part of a wider watershed restoration effort.]

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia007.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia013.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia015.jpg:

Balaynesh Kasa (pictured her with her children) a farmer and beneficiary of the Debre Yacob Learning Watershed Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

OR

[Balaynesh Kasa (pictured her with her children), a farmer in the Amhara Region of Ethiopia, is now able to grow and sell produce as part of a wider watershed restoration effort.]

Extra Context:

[Photographed with her avocado trees, animals, beehives and water pump and her four children Eyrus 12, Ambtebal nine, Berekt six and Asmara one and a half yrs old. She says, "What we got from the project was the plants – 8 years ago, banana plants, avocado plants and hops. Before we had nothing. Through the project we got all these benefits, for example the bananas – the kids eat them and I can sell them in the market, the hops I sell and I buy all



the merchandise for the house like coffee, pepper, onions, oil, salt, meat, clothes for the kids. I can buy Medicines when they are sick, I buy all this just by selling the hops. In the past we struggled a lot. Now I can support my family and spend time with my kids (before I was sat in the market every day) and I am so happy with this support, it has changed my life and I am so happy. All my kids can go to school now whereas before I might only have been able to send one. I would love my kids to be doctors and go further than I did. I also have a beehive and a water pump. "]

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia018.jpg:

Priest Kes Yizengaw Tamir with his beehives at the Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

Extra Context:

[He says, "Life is so much better now. We have the bees, avocados, oranges, hops, coffee, and can sell the extra and buy what we need for the family, like medicines and school."]

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia020.jpg:

The Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, where previously deforested land has been restored. Farmers now have avocados, oranges, hops, coffee, and food for their animals and trees and plants are now growing across the area.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia021.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia023.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia029.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia033.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia034.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia035.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia040.jpg:

Homestead Farmer, Tilahun Gelaye, a beneficiary of The Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

OR

[Tilahun Gelaye grows a number of crops including mangoes, coffee, and papaya at a watershed restoration and homestead development project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia]

Extra Context:

[He says: "The difference it makes being involved in the project is huge. Now we are living cleanly and safely. We don't have to go to the market to buy fruits to feed our children, and we feel very healthy."]

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia038.jpg:



Livestock at the watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. Thanks to the project, people living in the area can now grow crops and breed animals on the land.

ATS_FOLU_EthiopiaO41.jpg:

Homestead Farmer, Tilahun Gelaye (pictured here with family) a beneficiary of The Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia043.jpg:

Family of homestead farmer Tilahun Gelaye, a beneficiary of The Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

Extra Context:

[He says, "I have been involved with the project for eight years now. In the past I used to live in a small hut, now I live in a house with corrugated iron roof. I got many things from the project: mangoes, bananas, coffee, lemons, hops, papayas, and cows along with advice. The difference of being involved in the project is huge, now we are living cleanly and safely. We don't have to go to the market for fruits to feed our children, and we feel very healthy, we don't get sick. I have 8 kids. One is studying medicine in Bahir Dar, one is a teacher. Others are married. I have just one son. The project has supported all this. We built a school here in the community. I feel such happiness. In the past there was hunger and starvation but now there is happiness in the area."]

ATS_FOLU_EthiopiaO46.jpg:

Mekle Wunete with her youngest son Simegn, beneficiaries of The Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

ATS_FOLU_EthiopiaO50.jpg:

Antigegn Wunetu and his family farm on a watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. They have just bought 24 chickens.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia056.jpg;

Antigegn Wunetu (pictured here with his son, Adisu) and his wife Mekle farm on a watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. They have just bought 24 chickens.

Extra Context:



[Antigen says, "I have just bought 24 chickens. Before they started the project 8 years ago there was nothing growing here. Since they supported the community, I can now grow vegetables, fruits, and chickens. We are benefiting so much, we can eat our produce and sell the leftovers, I get benefit from avocado, hops, mangos, we didn't know avocado before they brought it here. We used to have a small grass covered hut, now we have a big house. All my expenses are now covered. Before I was thinking we would have to move because there was nothing here, now there is everything. Have 4 children, and they are all involved in the farming. They love it. When they are not in school. They each have their jobs to help with on the farm and we are all enjoying being involved as a family. I am so happy when I am doing the farming, but when I see the beauty of this now green area it makes me even happier."]

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia063.jpg:

Antigegn Wunetu and his wife Mekle farm on a watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. Thanks to the project they can now grow vegetables and fruits on the land and breed chickens.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia070.jpg:

Antigegn Wunetu and his family farm on a watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. Thanks to the project they can now grow vegetables and fruits and breed chickens on the land.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia071.jpg:

Mekle Wunete and her family farm on a watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. Thanks to the project they can now grow vegetables and fruits and breed chickens on the land.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia075.jpg:

Beehive at the watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia076.jpg:

Livestock in a forest at the watershed restoration and homestead development project site in Bahir Dar, the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. Thanks to the project, people living in the area can now grow crops and breed animals on the land.

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia082.jpg:

Watershed Committee Member Priest Kes Bale Eunetu, a beneficiary of The Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.



Extra Context:

[He says "The point of it is to save the land, by planting different types of plants, we can stop the landslides, and save the land, we have planted trees and grasses and we have harvested biomass for animal feed from this area too. It was hard work, before we started saving this land it was just a valley and nothing was here. We, the whole community, planted and worked to get it like this. The community is very happy. We now have things like bananas, avocados, oranges, lemons, hops, coffee, all kinds of plants and trees. I am so happy to be part of this."]

ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia089.jpg; ATS_FOLU_Ethiopia091.jpg:

Cheklu Fente, Head of Watershed assembly committee and beneficiary of The Debre Yacob Watershed Learning Restoration Project in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.

Extra Context:

[He says, "I have been involved and leader of the committee for six yrs. now, we do many things: 1. protect from overgrazing 2. protect against deforestation 3. Environmental protection, like maintaining the flow of water in the gullies 4. Reforestation 5. Controlling the nursery area 6. We meet once a month. We are volunteers, we don't get paid. This area was damaged, when I was a kid, this area was covered by forest, then by the time I grew up it was gone, cut down, now it has been restored by the help of this project and the government. Water used to be scarce and now we can have easy access to water and can benefit from the grass and planting and tomorrow we can benefit from the trees. In this watershed area all of us are benefitting, and the future generation can benefit too. We don't want to repeat our fathers' mistakes. Before, walking on this land was like walking on chili powder, it was nothing, now I have this beauty to look at. I'm very happy, I feel like I understand the environment now, there are 80 others below me on the committee, and now we have to elect a new person and find the right person to carry on this good work. I am so proud of this; this is a global thing. A global problem and we have made a success of our area, I believe this will last forever. Now I think deforestation is a huge problem for our world, we are leaders in this here, finding solutions and showing that they can work."]