

**Animal feeding and fodder conservation training program for Women
in Ghirba- Kassala state**



**This program is conducted by the collaboration of the following
partners: APRC, PENHA, PEAKS and PI, taking complementary roles
(Kassala State)**

Prepared by:

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Introduction:

Kassala State lies in the semi-desert area of Eastern Sudan where rain is scarce (only for two months a year) and the dry season extends for many months. In addition to this the seasonal nature of the Gash river and the hilly ground makes fodders unavailable during the dry periods. For these reasons pastoralists traditionally moved south in search of fodder and water for their animals. A possible way out of this situation maybe the implementation of programs that explore other feed resources in Kassala state and the introduction of modern and simple technologies for feed preparation and preservation. Such fodder programs will be made more successful by the participation of beneficiaries directly and with their experience. The training program for providing animal feed and fodder conservation is considered one of the back bones of PENHA and such a program has been executed in Kassala State several times. Societies in Eastern Sudan rely too much on customs and traditions, which indeed narrow opportunities for women to take their natural role in development. Therefore the logical answer was selecting educated women to conduct the training. The main objective of this training is to explore the indigenous knowledge of those women concerning animal fodders and join this with science to end with optimal knowledge. Research has proved that participation of the final beneficiaries in planning, execution and monitoring programs guarantees success and sustainability.

Khashm El Ghira locality is one of the 11 localities of Kassala state. Khashm El Ghirba locality lies to the South-west of Kassala city at a distance of 4800 km, It consists of more than 20 villages which lie either in Rifi Khashm El Ghirba or on the banks of Atbara River. The most prominent feature of Khashm El Ghirba locality is Khashm El Ghirba dam. That dam was built in 1964 with the purpose of irrigating New Halfa scheme after the build of El Sad Elali dam in Southern Egypt and immigration of Halfa people from behind that dam to New Halfa locality. New Halfa scheme extend through both Khashm El Ghira locality and New Halfa locality where sorghum, cotton, wheat in winter, groundnut and other crops like broad bean, ladies' fingers and tomatoes.

Training site:

Training was done in a hall of the basic education centre of Khashm El Ghira locality in Khashm El Ghira city. Khashm El Ghira city lies at the centre of villages from which the women participated in the training came.

Training period:

The training period extend for 6 days from 26 of February to the 3rd of March 2011. The training consist of four lectures and four practical and one field visit to veterinary clinic of Khashm El Ghira city (program at the end).



Lecture on animal feed resources in Kassala state



Practical: the concept of weighing and discussing the usefulness of using balances in preparing animal fodder



Drying of green fodder (Barseem) under shade as a preservation method



Practical: the use of manual choppers to chop sorghum stover



Practical: the use of manual choppers to chop sorghum stover



Practical: crushed groundnut cake



Practical: crushed sorghum cereals and wheat bran



Practical: Weighing ration ingredients using a balance



Practical: Weighing ration ingredients using a balance



Practical: Mixing ration ingredients

(sorghum, wheat bran, groundnut cake, lime stone and table salt)



Practical: Filling of mixed ration into plastic sacks



Field visit to the veterinary clinic of Khashm El Ghirba city

Target groups:

About 52 women from different villages of Khashm El Ghirba locality- Kassala state were trained on modern methods for feeding animals and better utilization of available animal feed resources by using some simple technologies suitable for such rural areas.

Attendance and follow up:

Participants attended the training regularly as the attendance percentage reached 98,7 throughout the training period. Furthermore participants showed eagerness to know and enrich the training by discussion and exchange of information. Women also share in practices like chopping and formation of the concentrate ration.

The programme staff:

1. Dr. Nuha Hamed Talib as the main trainer from APRC.
2. Ammona Abasher as assistant from PENHA.
3. Osama El Zubeir Hadi Allah as lecturer from pasture and fodder administration-Kassala state.
4. Mohammed Ali, PEAKS secretary as a facilitator and administrator.

Out puts:

- Women were trained to use available animal feed resources in Kassala state.
- Better utilization of those feed resources through chopping or drying of green forages under shade.
- The gathering of women in Ghirba city from distance villages represent a giant step towards development in term of movement and meeting other communities and so gaining new ideas.
- This training ended with the formation of women society that contains all women from different villages. This society named Um El Gora El Rifiya and concern with training women on fodder production, education, health and so on. The beauty comes from the fact that women themselves initiate the society. In addition to that the governor of Khashm El Ghirba locality promised to support this new born society socially and financially.

- Lastly our thanks and gratitude is due to the programme staff, trainees, PEAKS and people of KHashm El Ghirba for success of this training.
- Furthermore a sound of thanks should go to Plan International for funding and moral support.



The last day in the fodder training program in the animal fodder and local handicraft fair

Programme

Place: Ghirba locality- Kassala state
 Period: from 26 February- 3rd of March 2011

1st day 26 Feb. 2011	
10:00-11:00	Opening session Holy Quran Speech from PEAKS representative Speech from PENHA representative Speech from HAC Kassala state representative Speech from Plan International Sudan representative
11:00- 12:00	Breakfast and refreshments

12:00- 13:00	Lecture 1: Animal feed resources in Sudan
2nd day 27 Feb. 2011	
9:00- 11:00	Practical 1: Market for available animal fodder in Kassala state
11:00- 12:00	Breakfast and refreshments
12:00- 13:00	Practical 2: How to use balance and concept of weighing
3rd day 28 Feb. 2011	
9:00- 11:00	Lecture 2: Methods for forage preservation
11:00- 12:00	Breakfast and refreshments
12:00- 13:00	Lecture 3: Available animal fodder in Kassala state
4th day 1 March 2011	
9:00- 11:00	Lecture 4: Concentrate ration formulation
11:00- 12:00	Breakfast and refreshments
12:00- 13:00	Practical 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using manual choppers to chop fodder. • Drying of green fodder under shade against sun drying.
13:00- 14:00	Practical 4: Preparation of concentrate ration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crushing • Weighing • Mixing
5th day 2 March 2011	
9:00- 11:00	Field visit to veterinary clinic of Khashm El Ghirba locality
11:00- 12:00	Breakfast and refreshments
12:00- 13:00	General discussion
6th day 3 March 2011	
8:30- 9:00	Closing session: Holy Quran Speech from PEAKS representative Speech from PENHA representative Speech from HAC Kassala state representative Speech from the Governor of Khashm El Ghirba locality
9:00- 10:00	Breakfast and refreshments
10:00- 10:30	Certificates of attendance