



*2015 ANNUAL REPORT



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From the Founder and Executive Director



NORBERT B. AKOLBILA
MONAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The first year of life of Movement for Natural Regeneration (MONAR) has been very challenging but rewarding. The initial issues of getting the organization legally registered, acquiring office space and basic office furniture/equipment did not come easily at first. As the Founder and Executive Director, I have had to work very hard with the founding Directors (ACP Patrick Akolgo & Robert Alibo) and others who supported behind the scenes to get through these initial hurdles. It is with gratitude to mention that the office space that MONAR currently occupies was made possible by the instrumentality of Sumaila Saaka, a Board member.

MONAR started with networking and building relationships as our major focus at the beginning of the year and by mid-year, we started two field pilot projects. As a matter of fact the field activities and administrative expenses of MONAR for the year were basically funded with personal resources of the Executive Director and some Board Members.

During the year under review, MONAR participated in a number of partner workshops and conferences. These included; “Farmer Managed Agro-Forestry Systems and Acacia Seminar (World Vision), Stakeholder meeting on Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) (World Vision), NGO coordination meeting (Bongo District Assembly), Empowered Biblical Worldview and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (World Vision Malawi), and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration workshop (World Vision Lesotho). MONAR was privileged to make presentations on FMNR at some of these workshops and conferences; particularly the Executive Director was engaged as a Consultant to facilitate the Malawi and Lesotho Conferences.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead
American Anthropologist
1901 – 1978

We also received some visitors from our partner organizations during the year, and would like to thank all of them for showing interests in MONAR. To ensure solid funding of our interventions for 2016 and beyond, MONAR will focus on fundraising activities including proposal writing for grants and partnering with ‘Bigger NGOs’ to bid for projects that are in line with MONAR’s objectives. We will also focus on involving children on FMNR, targeting children in basic schools, thereby catching them young with the concept of natural regeneration.

We have just began the journey of working to improve lives and contribute to making the world a better place for all. Going forward, success will require more hard work and a re-doubling of our efforts towards environmental sustainability through collaboration in the spirit of MONAR’s values, and the values of our larger community of humanity. On this note, I enthusiastically commend my two dedicated volunteer staff (Samuel and Chris), board members, family, friends and partners who have helped bring this year’s successes, and humbly thank you all for the support in helping MONAR go through its first year of existence.

Introducing the Movement for Natural Regeneration (MONAR)

Our Mission Statement

MONAR preserves and restores the productivity of degraded arid lands through natural regeneration, land restoration and re-vegetation for sustainable community livelihoods.

Our Vision

Our vision is to improve livelihoods and promote sustainable development through land restoration and re-vegetation.

Our History

The Movement for Natural Regeneration (MONAR) is an environmental Non-governmental Organization (NGO) based in Bolgatanga of Northern Ghana. MONAR was founded by Mr. Norbert Baba Akolbila in 2014, out of his passion for natural regeneration of trees. Norbert developed the passion from his work with World Vision Ghana (WVG) in the Talensi-Nabdam District of the Upper East Region, where a Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)¹ Project was piloted from 2009 to 2011 with support from World Vision Australia. FMNR is a low-cost land restoration technique used to combat poverty and hunger among poor subsistence farmers by increasing food and wood products and resilience to climate extremes. The regeneration of trees and shrubs in communal lands and farmer fields alongside the cultivation of crops – helps restore soil structure and fertility, inhibit erosion and soil moisture evaporation, contributes to recharging of groundwater sources, and increase biodiversity. Norbert resigned from WVG in January 2014 after 16 years of service as a Development Facilitator and Programme Manager.



*Our focus:
We empower communities and groups to restore degraded farmlands and forests for improved livelihoods, and poverty reduction.
We promote the use of folk media, especially drama as an effective tool for social mobilisation and behaviour change for community development*

Approach

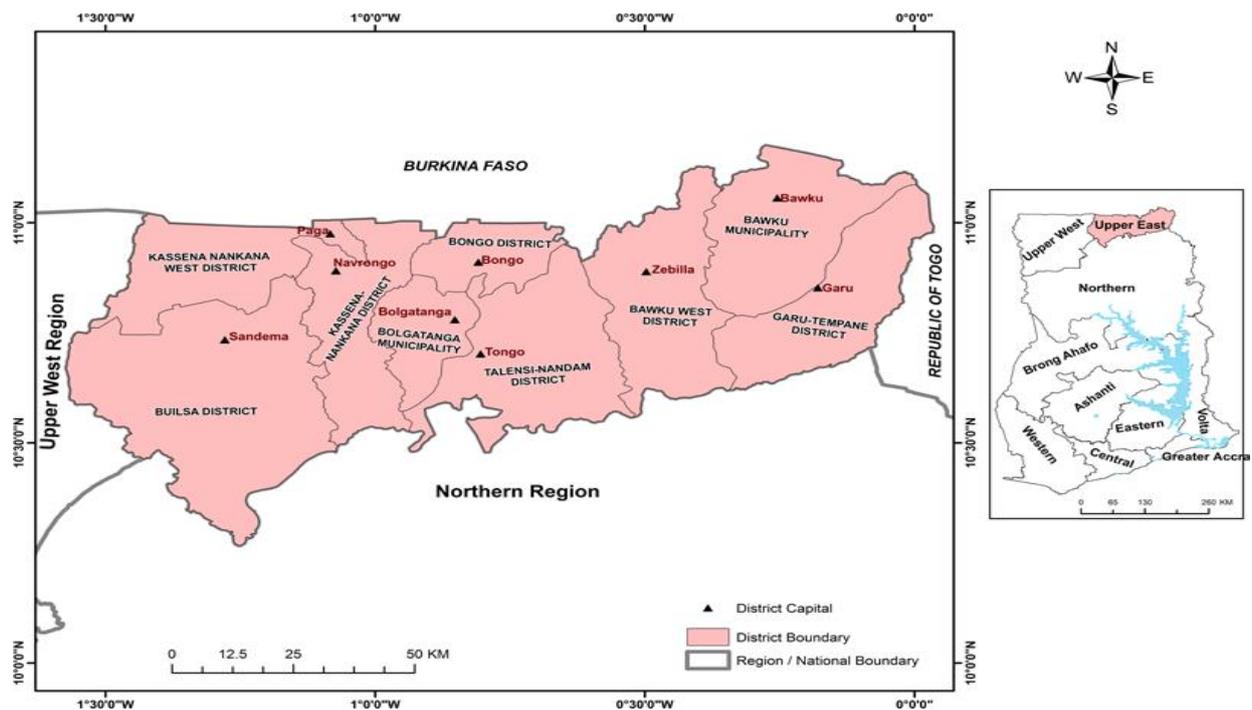
MONAR's approach is to promote the widespread adoption of Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) as a simple and cost effective technique for the restoration & re-vegetation of degraded lands in the communities in which we work. We do this through social mobilisation, advocacy and nurturing genuine partnership. MONAR is commitment towards building partnerships with local communities, government and non-government agencies and other civil society organization; and then building the financial and human resources within our organization as needed to meet the changing times.

¹ FMNR involves the systematic re-growth and management of trees and shrubs from, sprouting root systems, felled tree stumps or seeds.

Where We Work

MONAR is a Ghanaian registered environmental non-profit and non-government organization (NGO), currently operating in the Upper East Region (UER) of Ghana. The Region is located in an agro-ecological zone that lies in the transitional zone between the dry Sudan and Sahel savannah grassland parts of West Africa. The region covers an estimated land area of 8,842 km², of which 80% suffers from moderate to severe land degradation. The UER had a total population of roughly 1.04 million people in 2010, with an annual growth rate of about 1.2 percent². The average population density of the region is 118.4 people/km², as compared to the national average population density of 103.4 people/km².

The mainly rural population of the UER, where more than four in every 10 people are poor³, is dependent on rain-fed subsistence agriculture. Desertification resulting from rapid environmental degradation due to negative land clearing practices has been identified as the most serious environmental problem in the region⁴. The livelihoods of rural farm households are thus threatened by increasing agricultural drought and loss of soil fertility. The main reason for loss of tree cover is clearance of land for agriculture. To reverse the trend, MONAR works with local communities and its partners to promote the uptake of farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) for re-greening degraded farmlands and communal lands.



Map of Upper East Region in Ghana (Source: Alex, A.B, et al., 2013).

² Ghana Statistical Service, (2013). 2010 Population and Housing Census – Regional Analytical Report: Upper East Region.

³ Ghana Statistical Service, (2014). Ghana Living Standards Survey Round 6 (GLSS6). Poverty Profile in Ghana (2005-2013)

⁴ Alex B. Owusu, A.B. et al., (2013). Analysis of Desertification in the Upper East Region (UER) of Ghana Using Remote Sensing, Field Study, and Local Knowledge.

Advisory Board of Directors

MONAR has a seven-member Board of Directors as its highest decision-making organ, including the Executive Director as Member Secretary. The Board provides advice and organizational leadership to help MONAR achieve its vision and mission. Presented below are brief profiles of the Board members.

Patrick A. Akolgo, an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) is the Acting Board Chair. Patrick holds an MBA (Finance) and MA (Economic Policy Management) degrees from the University of Ghana. He is a Chartered Accountant and currently the Director-General of Finance of the Ghana Police Service. Patrick has more than 25 years distinguished service and experience in the field of Finance and Administration working as a civil servant and with the Ghana Police Service. He brings many years of financial management and administration to leadership of the board and for the smooth and prudent management of the organization. Moreover, his passion for re-greening of the environment has been his core motivation for joining the MONAR team of advisors.



Robert Ayinenaba Alibo is a Public Health Nutritionist and Development Practitioner, board member. Robert received a Master of Science (MSc) degree in International Public Health Nutrition from the University of Westminster (UK), and Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Social Work from the University of Ghana, Legon. He is currently the Field Coordinator, USAID/SPRING Ghana, working on child nutrition in the Northern and Upper East Region. Robert had previously worked with World Vision Ghana from 2008-2011 as a Programme Officer and was actively involved in the Talensi FMNR Project design and implementation. He was later promoted as the Area Development Programme Manager for Jirapa District from March 2013 – February, 2014. His primary areas of interest are community-based nutrition programming for improved infant/child nutrition as well as food security.



Madam Alice A. Awane, Board Treasurer is a retired Educationist, Gender Advocate and a Community Mobiliser. She earned a Bachelor of Education (BED) degree from the University of Cape Coast, and Diploma in Advanced Study of Education from the same University. Alice spent almost all of her entire working life, spanning more than four decades in teaching and mentoring young people as students or teachers under her leadership. Outside teaching, she also held various community service positions, including Government appointed member of the Bolgatanga District Assembly (1992-96), Upper East Regional Organiser of the 31st December Women's Movement (1991-98), and Parish Council Secretary of the Sacred Heart Parish of Bolgatanga (2002-2007). She is currently the Director of Beacon Academy, a private kindergarten and Primary school she founded following her retirement.





Stephen Abagrey, Board Member, is a retired civil servant who has spent the greater part of his working life as an Environmental Sanitation Officer with the Bolgatanga District Assembly. While in active service, Stephen was a Trade Unionist and rose through the leadership of the Local Government Workers Union (LGWU) to become the National Chairman before retirement in 2014. He has strong commitment for environmental protection and sustainability through local community initiatives. Stephen brings to MONAR many years experience of people mobilisation and networking for collective action as a former trade unionist.

Martin A. Akolgo, Board Member is the former Head of Department – Building & Construction Department of the Bolgatanga Technical Institute and currently the Industrial Liaison Officer of the Institute. Martin holds a BSc degree in Construction Technology from the University of Winneba, and Higher National Diploma (HND) in Building Technology from Kumasi Polytechnic. Aside from teaching, Martin has special interest in environmental sustainability, particularly tree growing. He has planted and nurtured a number of trees at his family house in Zuarungu, Bolgatanga. Beside his love for tree growing he brings to the Board over 20 years' experience of teaching children and youth which is vital when it comes to our work with children on FMNR. Martin will support the introduction of FMNR in basic schools.



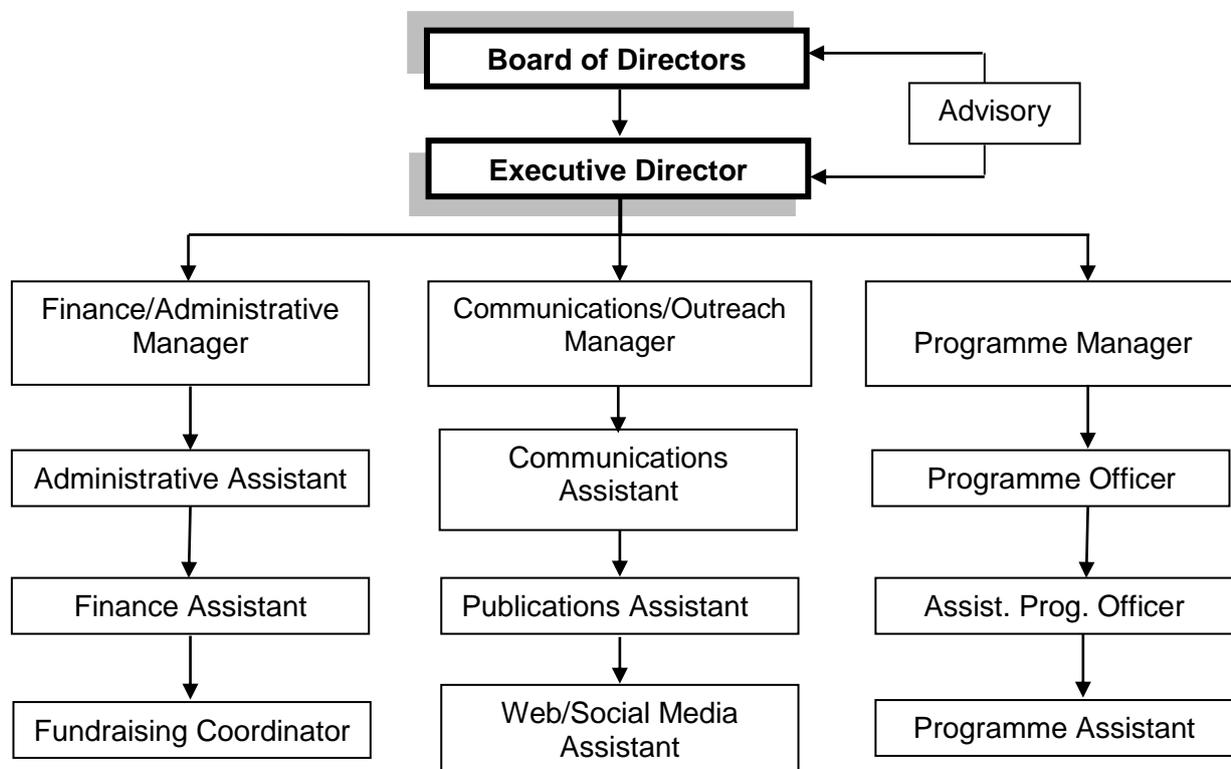
Sumaila S. Saaka, Board Member, provides knowledge management and organization development support to MONAR. Sumaila holds a Master of Science degree (MSc) – Population & Reproductive Health (Public Health) from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), and a Diploma in Journalism from Ghana Institute of Journalism (GIJ). He has about 20 years experience in development communication, training, public health and quantitative and qualitative social science research methodologies. About ten years journalism career as a Reporter and Editor of the Ghana News Agency (GNA). Sumaila previously worked as an Independent Hygiene Behaviour Change Advisor to the former US-based Academy for Educational Development (AED)/ Center for Global Health Communication and Marketing. From March 2007 – October 2008, he served as USAID/ARD/AED-Hygiene Improvement Project (HIP) Regional Hygiene Behaviour Change Specialist (Consultant) to the West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI)/Ghana Partners. He is mobility impaired following a Road Traffic Accident.

Organizational Structure

The Movement for Natural Regeneration (MONAR) is legally registered with the Registrar-General's Department of Ghana as a Company Limited by Guarantee with Registration No. CG121292014. It was incorporated on the 27th of August 2014, and authorized to commence business on 3rd September 2014 as non-profit and non-governmental organization. MONAR is governed and managed according to the following organizational structure:

- Board of Directors (BOD)
- Executive Director
- Management Team
- Field & Office staff/volunteers

ORGANOGRAM



The Executive Director

While the Board provides policy and strategic direction towards ensuring that organizational objectives are achieved, the Executive Director is responsible for the day-to-day administration of MONAR. And in that capacity he is the head of the management team and is responsible for policies and programmes implementation. He maintains relationships with MONAR's partners and represents the organization before the communities in which we work.

MONAR currently has no full-time paid staff, but the Executive Director is supported by two volunteer staff (Christopher Pubeng and Samuel Mburu) to run the day-to-day affairs of the organization. In April, a day's orientation workshop was organised for the board members, and facilitated by Sumaila S. Saaka (a board member). Officials of the Department of Social Welfare were also invited to formally swear-in the Board members attending the workshop.

Activities for the Year

The spotlight of activities for the year was targeted at building the necessary structures and partnerships at all levels to enable us build a solid foundation for achieving our goals and objectives. Activities were also carried out to promote the use of indigenous channels of communications especially drama as an effective tools for social and behaviour change communication for development.

Familiarization Visits

MONAR began the year in January with familiarization tour to the Bongo and Nabdam Districts of the Upper East Region. The Executive Director (Norbert Akolbila) and Christopher Pubeng paid separate courtesy calls on the District Chief Executives (DCEs) for the Bongo and Nabdam Districts. The purpose of the visits was to formally introduce MONAR to the political and administrative heads of the Assemblies and to look for possibilities of collaborative partnerships.

On January 29, 2015, the team called on the DCE for Bongo, Hon. Alexis Ayamdor in his Office. During the visit, the MONAR Executive Director (Norbert Akolbila) gave a brief background of the Organization, highlighting the major areas of its focus – which is to promote the widespread adoption of Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR). He said MONAR was set up to contribute to re-greening the fast depleting tree resources in Northern Ghana, particularly in the Upper East Region, through the promotion of cost-effective land management techniques. Mr. Akolbila said his organization was therefore looking forward to working with authorities in



MONAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - NORBERT AKOLBILA (LEFT) INTERACTING WITH THE DCE FOR BONGO - HON. ALEXIS AYAMDOR (RIGHT)

the District to identify opportunities for collaboration and partnerships that would foster closer working relationships with local communities to reverse the trend of degradation of productive agricultural lands. On his part, Hon. Alexis Ayamdor welcomed MONAR to the district and expressed gratitude for the visit. He explained how NGO-partnership issues are handled in the district, and that Assembly has established a Desk Office responsible for NGOs coordination. He said MONAR's introductory letter to the Assembly has been forwarded to the Desk Officer, who is also Head of the Department for Social Welfare for necessary action. He said there were already some NGOs and groups in the district involved in environmental issues like MONAR and advised the leadership of MONAR to engage them for the possibility of collaboration. The NGOs included 'Tree AID' and "Green Bongo Project' led by the Paramount Chief of Bongo

After interacting with the DCE, the team paid a courtesy call on Naba Salifu Baba Alemyaarum, Paramount Chief of the Bongo Traditional Area in his Palace. The aim was to introduce the concept of FMNR concept to the Chief and the possibility of its introduction in his traditional area. The Chief, who is an advocate of environmental protection, was elated that such a laudable development was being extended to his traditional area. A member of the MONAR team, Samuel Mbura who hails from Bongo and had already visited a few communities in the area to explore opportunities for uptake of FMNR suggested that a community called Ayobia that he observed had a very good potential for natural regeneration should be adopted as a pilot.

The Chief exclaimed “I am already working with people of that community to plant trees along the banks of the small river that passes through the community and it would be good to try this initiative there too” The meeting was successful and the team was quickly linked to the opinion leaders of the area by the Chief.



NORBERT EXCHANGING INFO MATERIALS WITH HON. VIVIAN ANAFO (NABDAM DCE)

On January 30, 2015, the team visited the Nabdham District Assembly to meet the DCE and her administrative leadership. In Nangodi (district capital), the team received another warm welcome from the DCE (Hon Vivian Anafo). Again, Norbert Akolbila (MONAR Executive Director) introduced his team and the purpose of their visit. The DCE was happy to meet Norbert and his team, having worked with him as Programme Manager of World Vision Talensi Area Development Programme (ADP) Manager, when she was the DCE for then Talensi/Nabdham District. Norbert briefed the DCE and her colleagues about MONAR and its focus on promoting FMNR. The DCE was not new

to FMNR because she participated in its introduction in the Talensi area by World Vision Ghana. She was excited that MONAR was entering her District to provide technical assistance to farmers to adopt the initiative. She willingly agreed to link up with the Assembly leadership to invite MONAR during an Assembly session to make a presentation on FMNR to the General Assembly.

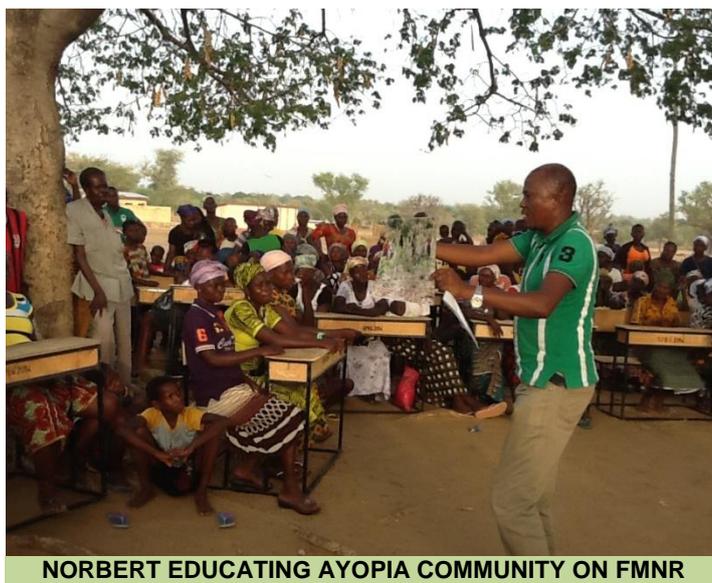
Community Outreach on FMNR

The philosophy of MONAR’s community mobilisation and sensitization approach is bringing all community stakeholders together towards environmental sustainability for restoring community livelihoods. An Ethiopian proverb aptly says that – “when spider webs unite they can tie up a lion”. Following the initial interactions with the administrative and traditional leadership structures in the Bongo District, MONAR visited the Ayopia community, which was identified as having a suitable site for piloting FMNR in the District, to interact with community stakeholders. The aim was to get inclusive community participation and buy-in of the people regarding the practical benefits of FMNR. The more community people are informed about and involved in the regeneration and land restoration process, the more likely that FMNR initiatives will succeed.

**"When
spider webs
unite they
can tie up a
lion."
-Ethiopian proverb.**

Without community involvement (buy-in), an FMNR project may never take-off the ground or risked being short-lived. The initial visits were to create awareness among key local stakeholders (community chief and elders, women’s groups, men, children and the youth) on the importance of using FMNR for environmental protection and livelihoods improvement. We engaged with the community leaders in discussions regarding tree management rights and responsibilities. We needed to recruit women in particular from the onset in order to use their networks for community mobilisation and collective action around natural regeneration.

The Community leaders (Chief and Assemblyman) welcomed the idea and quickly organised a general community meeting during which MONAR was invited to share the prospects and benefits of FMNR with the people. During the meeting, MONAR Executive Director (Norbert Akolbila) explained the long-term multiple benefits of FMNR and similar land management techniques. He said the benefits of FMNR include; trees reducing wind speed, the shade provided by trees reduces temperatures and limits evaporation, certain tree species like *Faidherbia albida* (*zanga*) improving soil



NORBERT EDUCATING AYOPIA COMMUNITY ON FMNR

fertility and at the same time producing feed for livestock, trees like shea and baobab providing fruits and leaves of high nutrition value for local people, trees improving household food security because they create more complex and productive farming systems that are also more resilient to drought, and trees increasing overall agricultural production, thus playing a role in the reduction of rural poverty in local communities.

The community meeting was followed by a night education session on FMNR in the community. Under the bright moonlight, complemented by power supplied by a Generator, the MONAR team showed FMNR videos and pictorial PowerPoint presentations aimed at drawing attention to local environmental degradation issues for discussion. More than 600 community members made up of men, women and children including the Chief and Assemblyman for the area attended the programme. The community selected 20 FMNR pilot farmers made up of 10 women and 10 men, who were inaugurated after the sensitization session.



The selected pilot farmer volunteers have been trained on proper pruning techniques of trees and shrubs to enable them begin trying FMNR on their farm fields. Facilitating the training, Norbert explained that the objective of pruning is to produce strong, healthy and attractive plants. He told the farmers that by understanding how, when and why to prune, and by following a few simple principles, they could successfully regenerate useful trees on their fields alongside the cultivation of food crops.

So far, an approximately 10 hectare pilot field in the community (Ayopia) has been pruned and red flags hoisted at vantage points to warn potential encroachers.

Schools Outreach

In June, MONAR took FMNR to schools by establishing a field site in the campus of Kongo Senior High School in the Nabdam District. The initiative started following a video and slide presentations on FMNR to students and staff of the school at the invitation of the school authorities. The students and their teachers were also taken through practical pruning sessions on the school compound aimed at nurturing natural shrubs to grow. The school authorities were very excited about the initiative as it will help them re green the school environment which has only a few trees with many natural shrubs available. The



MONAR school outreach activity is meant to raise awareness of FMNR among the youth, educate students and teachers on the need to grow trees, encourage them to act locally to combat environmental degradation and to demonstrate that land degradation although a serious problem, can be tackled with a collective sense of purpose through FMNR. The idea is also to introduce FMNR and environmental education in the schools so the students/pupils can cultivate the habit of tree growing and discuss ideas with their families.

MONAR Partnership with World Vision Ghana



In July 2015, World Vision Talensi FMNR Project commissioned MONAR to facilitate its five new communities to develop community based fire management plans and bye laws. The local people are the custodians of the resources within the community so it is critical to engage them on how these resources can be prudently managed for collective benefits. Community people have been using fire from time immemorial. They know the causes of fires and are the best to come up with sustainable solutions.

Key stakeholders including, the community sub-chiefs, tendaanas (land custodians), queen mothers, Assembly members, youth leader, FMNR lead farmers groups, fire volunteer groups in the five communities participated in the workshops organized in each community. The Executive Director of MONAR (Norbert Akolbila) with the support of his two volunteer staff (Christopher Pubeng & Samuel Mbura) and World Vision Development Facilitator (Joshua Adumbire) facilitated the workshops. Through the engagement the participants came out with the causes of the bushfires, their effects and what should be done to prevent further bush and forest fires in this area, based on which the agreed on community level actions and established local bye-laws.

Children's Drama Club Formation & Training-World Vision



In July, MONAR was engaged by Bawku West Area Development Programme (ADP) of World Vision Ghana (WVG) to facilitate the formation and training of a school drama club at Yelewoko Community. The purpose of forming the drama club was to support the social communications and advocacy work of the ADP in surrounding communities. The ADP hired MONAR, whose Executive Director is a Theatre Arts Specialist, to carry out the five-day assignment. Thirty (30) children, comprising 15 boys and 15 girls were

screened and selected from Yelewoko Primary and Junior High Schools to form the club. The Facilitator also developed short drama sketches on identified water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) thematic areas relevant to the Bawku West ADP communities and trained the students on drama performance and public speaking skills to enable them perform the plays for community audiences.

MONAR Partnership with Centre for No-Till Agriculture

The Chief Executive Officers of Movement for Natural Regeneration (MONAR), and the Centre for No-Till Agriculture (CNTA) based in the Ashanti Region of Ghana met on April 16, 2015 in MONAR office in Bolgatanga for discussions on possible collaboration and partnership. Mr. Norbert Akolbila, Executive Director of MONAR and Dr. Kofi Boa, the Chief Executive of CNTA discussed how the organizations which have similar objectives could work together to promote synergies. Welcoming the CNTA team, Norbert said he was delighted for the opportunity to partner with others like CNTA with the common objective of working together to halt the worrying trend of environmental degradation. He used the forum to brief the CNTA team which included two technical staff, Mr. Patrick Akowuah and Francis Akolbila on MONAR activities which includes among others: Promoting the uptake of Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) by individuals/Communities/Governments.

Dr. Boa on his part shared his vision of the “no-till agriculture” concept, which he said has the potential of increasing smallholder agricultural production as well as ensuring environmental sustainability. The practice, which deals with minimal tillage of the soil, makes use of cover crop, to serve as a soil cover. Dr. Boa, an advocate of “No till agriculture” is using CNTA as a platform to propagate his knowledge on this low cost innovative soil management technique.

Concluding the discussions, CNTA expressed their desire to collaborate with MONAR and provide technical support on “No Till Agriculture” in the pilot communities MONAR. They followed up in June with various cover crop and nitrogen fixing seeds for pilot with Ayopia FMNR lead farmers. A Technical Staff of CNTA, Francis Akolbila facilitated the group to sow the seeds on a field just for seed multiplication in preparation for actual implementation of No-Till in 2016.



(COVER CROP PILOT FARM AT AYOPIA)

FMNR Training Workshops-Malawi and Lesotho

The Chief Executive of MONAR, Mr Norbert Akolbila spent two weeks in Malawi and Lesotho in August 2015 at the invitation of Southern Africa Regional (SAR) Office of World Vision International to co-facilitate two separate workshops with Tony Rinaudo (the pioneer of FMNR). The workshops were organised by SAR Resilience and Livelihoods Team aimed at showcasing leading land restoration and resilience techniques, with a special focus on Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR). Mr Akolbila was one of the main facilitators for during the two workshops which brought together Church leaders, pastors, World Vision staff and partners.

Participation in International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) Seminar

In October 2015, MONAR was invited by the Upper East Regional Secretariat of the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) to participate in a seminar organised to mark the International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) celebrations in the region. The seminar brought together stakeholders on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) to dialogue on the critical role of DRR in development and human survival. The Executive Director of MONAR, Norbert Akolbila made a PowerPoint presentation on the use of traditional and indigenous knowledge in DRR. He also used the opportunity to share the FMNR concept with participants and its role in disaster risk reduction initiatives such as mitigating the effects of climate change through carbon sequestration.

Funding

During the year under review, MONAR activities have been financed to a great extent by the personal resources of the Executive Director, contributions from individuals and with support from World Vision Ghana to carry out activities at its Area Development Programmes in the Region.

Acknowledgments

The achievement of MONAR in its first year operation following its establishment has been made possible by various stakeholders who deserve acknowledgement at this point.

The Board of Directors have been very supportive in providing guidance and words of encouragement to office team who are all Volunteers with no salary including the Executive Director. Sumaila S Saaka, for instance, has been the brain behind the acquisition of office space for MONAR.

The two Volunteers, Samuel Mbura and Christopher Pubeng deserve special recommendation for their hard work and commitment to duty in spite not being paid due to MONAR's current financial constraints. These two young men are an example within the block and floor of MONAR office as they are always among the first people to report in the morning for duty.

The FMNR Team of World Vision Australia (WVA) including, Tony Rinaudo, Rob Francis and Silvio Dorati have been excellent supporters of MONAR in diverse ways and we are very grateful to them. Through their untiring efforts, the Executive Director, Norbert Akolbila has been registered as an FMNR Consultant on World Vision Global Technical Resource Network (GTRN). This registration and other support from the FMNR team at WVA paved the way for him (Norbert) to be invited by World Vision South Africa Region to facilitate FMNR trainings in Malawi & Lesotho during the course of the year. This further enabled the Executive Director to procure a number of office equipment including; LCD Projector and office desk for MONAR from his facilitation fees. Through the support of the Team, MONAR has also been listed as a partner of the FMNRhub (website of World Vision Australia dedicated to FMNR movement). The hub has gracefully published our stories for global consumption. The FMNRhub also sponsored the Executive Director of MONAR (Norbert) to undergo a 4 -week e-Facilitation training facilitated online by DYNAMIND E LEARNING of Australia. Tony and team we appreciate your great support and encouragement.

Special thanks to Hon. Dr. Dominic Ayine Akunritinga, MP for Bolgatanga East and Deputy Minister for Justice, for the big donation of a brand new HP Desk top computer to MONAR. The donation has been very timely as our "baby NGO", which started operations in October 2014 has only one laptop computer used by the Executive Director.

We do appreciate World Vision Bolgatanga Base Office and its ADPs for the support they provided to MONAR during the year, by way of partnering with us to carry out some of their activities. Through this partnership MONAR has been active in the communities sharing and learning to build itself for the future.

Our NGO partner - Community Development and Advocacy Centre (CODAC) has taken MONAR as their "baby" and therefore have been very supportive and we are very grateful to them.

Professor Philip Adongo of the University of Ghana, Legon and Lawyer Carl Adongo of Sory@Law, Accra deserve special recommendation for the background support to the Executive Director and MONAR as a whole.

Last but not the least, Blue Sky Hotel of Kumbosgo and its management deserve special recommendation for the technical support, among others, that they offered to MONAR. It is indeed their Head of Finance who in partnership with "Edward Amfo & Associates (Chartered Accountants) conducted the Financial Audit of MONAR for the year ending 31st December 2015. We are most grateful for your valuable support.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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