# Girar site-specific topic: tree-planting for the Millennium

## Interview with kebele chair and DA Natural Resources

There are about 20,000 trees planted for the celebration of Ethiopian Millennium. All of these trees are domestic trees like tid, zigba, supania, wanza, Omeza and saligna. Some people however, planted some eucalyptus trees.

After the tree plantation, these people were told to take care of the trees. The DAs also supported them with technical advice. Currently, about 10,000 trees are expected to survive. There is no special committee established to undertake these trees. However, the kebele cabinet did follows up on their status.

Most of these trees are planted in the holdings of individuals. This is believed to create a sense of ownership. The people will also take care of these trees at family level. There are some trees planted in the communal land of the kebele. Nevertheless, these seedlings were bare-rooted and the land was also highly degraded. Therefore, these trees could not survive. Apart from these problems, there are some people who are irresponsible and they destroyed these trees. Thus, the trees that could not survive are mostly from those trees that are planted in the communal lands of the kebele.

Prior to the tree plantation, there was awareness raising meeting with the farmers. And after these trees are planted, the DAs trained and counselled some people on how to do tree plantation. This discussion and training is not intended to deal with the tree plantation only. Rather, the DAs counselled and trained the people when they visited their home for other issues.