GET ACQUAINTED: FORESTS IN LORI

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TEGHUT FOREST

- The area of Teghut forest is used in Teghut copper and molybdenum mining project,
- Teghut project is implemented by “Teghut” CJSC, a part of Vallex Group Company Group,
- According to Teghut project, “Teghut” CJSC shall fell down 357 ha of forest and construct 714 ha forest instead.
- As of 31.12.2015, 197.1 ha forest was felled down (http://teghout.am/en/Sustainable-Development-Forest-Protection)
- According to the data of the company, 415.7 ha forest has been planted in Teghut, Shnogh, Lernahovit, Odzun, Arjut, forestry enterprises in Gugark and Lalvar.
HOW MUCH FOREST WILL BE ELIMINATED IN TEGHUT


- Teghut copper and molybdenum mine development will result in destroying around 2070 ha forest, including:

  - “…the company has been allotted a land area of 1970 ha, out of which 1589.6 ha are land areas of forest resources. All the land areas will be used, consequently forests will be felled down. All the sources of groundwater supplying water to forests will be lost and these forest areas, around 1000 ha, will also get dry, i.e. in total it will make up 2070 ha.

HOW MUCH FOREST “TEGHUT” CJSC COMPANY HAS PLANTED

- Teghut community area, 2009-2010, 50 ha, pine trees, oak trees and maple trees
- Shnogh community area, 2009-2010, 17 ha, pine trees, oak trees and ash trees
- Lalvar forestry enterprise, Shnogh section, 2013, 9.5 ha, beech and maple trees
- 20, 21 squares, 2013, 14.9, beech and maple trees
- Lernahovit community area, 2009-2010, 73 ha, pine trees, oak trees, apple and pear trees
- Arjut community area, 2011, 50 ha, oak trees, apple trees, beech and maple trees
- Odzun community area, 2011-2012, 30 ha, oak trees, apple and pear trees, beech and maple trees
- "Gugarq forestry enterprise” SCNO ArmForest, Spital forestry enterprise, 36 square, 2012, 62 ha, oak trees, beech and maple trees
- 32 square, 2012-2013, 72.1 ha, oak trees, beech and maple trees
- 10 square, 2014-2015, 16.4 ha, pine trees, oak trees and maple trees
- Vanadzor forestry enterprise, 5 square, 2014-2015, 20.8 ha, pine trees, oak trees and maple trees
WHERE IS FOREST PLANTED IN SHNOGH, ODZUN AN TEGHOUT?

In 2015 in the frames of ENPI EAST FLEG 2 the tree planting areas were observed in Shnogh Village, where, according to the company, 17 ha of forest was planted in 2009-2010.
PLANTED FORESTS IN SHNOGH

HTTP://ECOLUR.ORG/RU/NEWS/FOREST/FOREST-STORIES-HOW-TEGHUT-CJSC-PLANTED-FORESTS-PHOTOS/7610/
PLANTED FORESTS IN SHNOGH
PLANTED FORESTS IN SHNOGH
“TEGHUT” CJSC REPLY

' In the past time period total area of 415.7 ha has been reforested versus total area of 194.4 ha. Unfortunately, it was not possible to avoid omissions and one of the specialized companies, which have been selected on competitive bases, defaulted its contractual obligation in the area, where EcoLur have been to. The company has announced itself about the breach of contract provisions by the company. Irregardless of the fact that we sued for damages as a remedy and taking into consideration the importance of the project affected communities and not waiting the court proceedings, another company is currently reforesting the same area in the administrative areas of the same community with the company funding. The candidacy of the company has been proposed by the affected communities.

ECOLUR’S ENQUIRY AND VALLEX GROUP’S RESPONSE

“EcoLur” Informational NGO has sent an enquiry to “Vallex” Group Company asking to provide the photos of the forests planted in the frames of Teghut project.

In reply, “Vallex” Group Company Press Attaché Vahram Avagyan informed in writing,

“Unfortunately, we currently don’t have the photos, which, more or less, will show the comprehensive pictures of project implementation areas. In near future Environmental Department employees of “Teghut” CJSC intend to make visits to these areas, and to shoot and take photos of them. Hence, we are proposing “EcoLur” NGO to get involved in these works and express our willingness to make visits with pre-arranged order and schedule.”

ORCHARDS INSTEAD OF FORESTS

Shnogh Village Head Hovik Sahakyan: “It’s a serious problem. It was supposed that “Teghut” CJSC should have given priority to Shnogh and Teghut villages for forest plantation in 714 ha. But we don’t have that much area. All land areas have been privatized or are used for pastures. We have agreed to give them 17 ha – 7 ha from Shnogh Village and 10 ha from Teghut. Meanwhile we had to face the resistance of the villagers, who didn’t agree to give away their land areas. And then we said it’s better to plant orchards and not forests, what’s the difference? They planted 13 ha of orchards for us, where they planted nectarine, nuts and hazelnuts according to the land owners’ wish.”.


Nature Protection and Agriculture Ministry gave their approvals – 180 ha of orchards
http://teghout.am/uploaded/Documents/Planting_Regulations_Amend_2015.pdf
QUESTIONS

- Whether orchards have the same role as forests?
- In which areas further reforestation will be carried out, if there are no free space left in Shnogh and Teghut?
- Where the allowed deviations of the project are shown and who they are approved by?
- Who bears responsibility for violations?
WHAT “TEGHUT” CJSC PLANTED IN ODZUN?

- According to the company, in Odzun in 2011-2012 oak trees, apple and pear trees, beech and maple trees were planted in 30 ha area.

- In 2015 in the frames of ENPI EAST FLEG 2 the forest planting in Odzun was observed. Oak seedlings were planted on the tops of the mountains, where there are no forests, care is extremely difficult to take, as well as water is little.

TEGHUT FOREST BEFORE AND NOW

We are presenting photos, where you can see clean springs and forest in Teghut, where 26 red-listed plant species grew, as well as 2 internationally red-listed butterfly species and 1 lizard. 7 bird species, 7 mammal species and 2 reptile species are red-listed in Armenia.
JILIZA FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- Total area (TA) – 15292 ha
- Forest-covered area (FCA) – 13851.1 ha

Forest sections of Jiliza forestry enterprise:
- Tchotchkan: TA – 4317 ha, FCA – 3662.5 ha
- Brdadzor: TA – 2935 ha, FCA – 2588.4 ha
- Khozhornu: TA – 3691 ha, FCA – 3466.1 ha
- Haghkerpi: TA – 4349 ha, FCA – 4134.1 ha

http://hayantar.am/en/lori-marz/
OFFICIAL FELLING UNDER MANAGEMENT PLAN OF JILIZA FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- In 2008-2018 sanitary and reforestation felling - 917.6 ha
- Total amount of felling – 22,168 cum
- Realized reserves – 19,752 cum out of which construction timber - 5000 cum

Planned afforestation and reforestation for 264.4 ha.

To support the natural growth of forest an area with a length of 13,000 meters were fenced with barbed wire to prevent intrusion of animals into the area of 3,600 ha.

GUGARK FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- Total Area (TA) – 16146 ha
- Forest-covered Area (FCA) – 10496.9 ha

Forest sections of Gugark forestry enterprise
- Spitak: TA - 4497 ha, FCA - 2238.1 ha
- Vanadzor: TA – 5029 ha, FCA – 3186.3 ha
- Khndzorut: TA – 2736 ha, FCA – 1893.3 ha
- Margahovit: TA - 3884 ha, FCA – 3179.2 ha

http://hayantar.am/en/lori-marz/
OFFICIAL FELLING UNDER MANAGEMENT PLAN OF GUGARK FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- In 2008-2017 sanitary and reforestation felling – 1972.8 ha, 24,510 cum
- Felling for tree care – 1225/2 ha, 14042 cum, out of which realized reserves – 11126 cum
- Sanitary felling - 747.6 ha, 10468 cum, out of which realized reserves - 8558 cum, construction timber - 1500 cum

http://hayantar.am/sites/default/files/management-plans/gugark-mp.pdf (Arm)
GUGARK FORESTRY ENTERPRISE: REFORESTATION ACCORDING TO MANAGEMENT PLAN OF GUGARK FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- During piloting season
- (2008 -2017) to project reforestation works in the area of 1209.9 ha (49%), main species – maple, ash and elm trees
- Establishment of forest cultures
- Establishment of forest in non-forest areas of 2880.2 ha, annually - 288 ha.

http://hayantar.am/sites/default/files/management-plans/gugark-mp.pdf (Arm)

Question: to what extent these works have been carried out?
LALVAR FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- Total Area (TA) – **26837 ha**
- Forest-covered area (FCA) - **24339.5 ha**

Forest sections of Lalvar forestry enterprise

- **Sanahin**: TA - 4538 ha, FCA - 4157 ha
- **Tsaghkashat**: TA – 5109 ha, FCA - 4679 ha
- **Туманянский**: TA – 6361ha, FCA – 5622.2 ha
- **Шамлугский**: TA - 3881 ha, FCA – 3465.3 ha
- **Шнохский**: TA- 6948 ha, FCA – 6416 ha

OFFICIAL FELLING ACCORDING TO MANAGEMENT PLAN OF LALVAR FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- In 2009-2018 total volume of felling - 1972.8 ha, 24510 cum
- Reforestation felling - 165.4 ha, 5852 cum, out of which realized reserves - 5319 cum, construction timber - 1899 cum
- Felling for forest care – 611.4 ha, 13958 cum, out of which realized reserves 1245 cum, construction timber 291 cum
- Sanitary felling - 874.2 ha, 19797 cum, out of which realized reserve - 16826 cum, construction timber 3208 cum

SHNOGH SECTION OF LALVAR FORESTRY ENTERPRISE

- According to management plan data, most reforestation and sanitary felling are designed for Shnogh section.
- Question: Whether these fellings have any relation to the felling program of Teghut forest?
Lalvar Forestry Enterprise

Reforestation

- 606.3 ha of most vulnerable area are subject to afforestation and reforestation
- Reforestation is planned to be carried out at the expense of fencing with barbed wire with a length of 30,500 m
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