Environmental Responsibility

SEC Annual Event 2020
Pollution causes 4.2 Million deaths per year and affects the health of over 100 million people.
Environmental Challenges – Facts & Figures

SOIL DEGRADATION

Half of the topsoil has been lost in the last 150 years.
It takes 500-1000 years for one inch of topsoil to be produced naturally.
Environmental Challenges – Facts & Figures

WATER SCARCITY

• Over 2 billion people currently experience severe water scarcity.
• Water use has grown at more than twice the rate of population increase globally.
A one-meter sea-level rise may eliminate entire small island nations and tens of million people may be displaced in Bangladesh.
Environmental Challenges – Facts & Figures

BIODIVERSITY

• An estimated 80% of the original forest that covered the Earth has been cleared, damaged or fragmented.
• We lost 2/3 of our wildlife biodiversity globally over the past 50 years.
Environmental Challenges – Facts & Figures

WASTE

• There is a “plastic island” in the middle of the North Pacific. It’s the size of India, Europe and Mexico combined.
• Roughly one third of the food produced in the world gets lost or wasted.
Why is Environmental Responsibility important for Poverty Alleviation?

- Economic development is based on the use of natural resources
- Poor people suffer most from environmental degradation, pollution and climate change
- In developing countries environmental awareness is often lower and no environmental management in place
Environmental Responsibility at Swisscontact

Environmental Responsibility a Sustainability Criterion

Awareness

Institutional integration

Environmental Responsibility in projects

Environmental Risk & Impact Assessment
Mitigation Brainstorming
Environmental Change Matrix
Environmental Actors Mapping
Incentives Mapping

Policy on ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
How can the SEC apply Environmental Responsibility?

- Reduce flights and compensate CO2
- Highlight the importance of environmental issues
- Work with partners / SMEs who are
  a) environmentally friendly
  b) willing to improve practices
- Highlight good practice examples
Example – Fish Farming in Bénin
Key problems of fish farmers at Toho Lagoon

- Low productivity due to inefficient fish breeding techniques
- Limited access to good quality fish feed
- Lack of modern & efficient smocking equipment

Increase Production & Income
Environmental Aspects

Highly vulnerable ecosystem
Pressure through human activities

Environmental impacts of fish farming
• Pollution through inadequate breeding practices
• Pollution through home-made fish feed

Water pollution in turn leads to lower productivity

Will increasing fish production lead to additional environmental damage?
Key Questions

• What is the current state of the lagoon ecosystem?

• How can more fish be produced and at the same time negative impacts on the environment reduced?

SEC expert supports Fisheries Association:
- Measure and analyse water quality parameters
- Recommendations regarding breeding techniques and feeding practices

Increase Production & Income & Environmental Health
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!