

Grassroots Research for Peacekeeping in Africa

Land rehabilitation and conflict prevention in Sahel, Africa.

Land degradation is causing a decline in crop and livestock production as well as exacerbating conflicts over land resources in Sahel, West Africa. Since 2000, I have been continuing to conduct research on these issues. To avoid the risk of land degradation and prevent food shortages, local people carry trash from their homesteads and add it to degraded land



Urban trash input trial (Nov. 2008)



Plant growth recovery (Aug. 2010)

as manure. I describe these trials experienced by the local community. I constructed 50 m x 50 m fenced plots with the cooperation of local people and scattered urban organic trash onto the degraded land. This experiment revealed that urban trash input is a useful tool for plant recovery. I have a plan to apply this method for conflict prevention between farmers and herders.



From the Editor Based on this research, Dr. Oyama received the Daido Life Foundation Incentive Award for Area Studies 2014.

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