

## **MIDDLE EAST Region: Sultanate of Oman**

### **Background:**

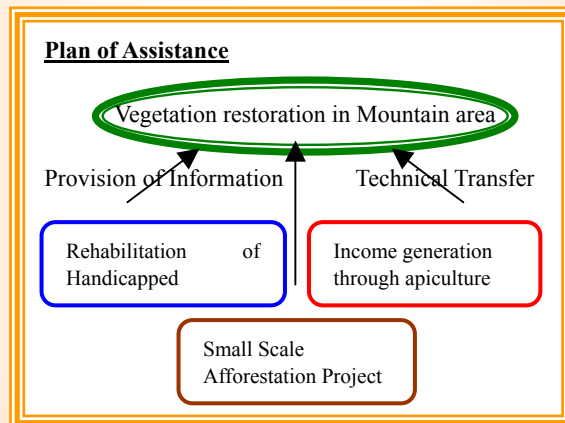
AAI maintains close relationship with the Sultanate of Oman through various projects such as Agricultural Development Project in the Nejd Region and Master Plan Study on Mangrove since 1995. Rich natural vegetation can be found in the mountain areas of Dhofar Governorate in the southern part of the country due to monsoon from Indian Ocean. These vegetations are, however, deteriorating due mainly to the recent over grazing in the area. Such deterioration of vegetation is considered to give negative impacts on the growth of Mangroves in the coastal areas. In order to collect information and also to promote the joint activities with regional inhabitant for the restoration of environment and vegetation of the mountain area, various activities were commenced by allocating local staff under Muscat Fund.

### **Activities :**

#### **2001 May**

Based on the relationship already established, a field survey was carried out in order to promote the activities under Muscat Fund. The following activities are so far initiated as preliminary trials.

- Joint activities with Women's Group for income generation: Aiming at the improvement of women's status and income generation, technical information on apiculture was provided with Women's Group that is conducting honey production.
- Joint activities with the group of physically handicapped: Provision of information is being carried out for education and rehabilitation of physically handicapped through mutual relationship with a group of physically handicapped in Salalah.
- Assistance for the restoration of vegetation in mountain areas: Financial assistance is being carried out for the "Small Scale Afforestation Project" that is conducted by the Directorate General of Agriculture and Fisheries in mountain areas of Dhofar Governorate.



**Training of Apiculture**



**Physically Handicapped Supporting Center**