

CSDES To Collaborate With Marsabit County

This was revealed during a Joint partnership Meeting Held on 14th March 2014 at Upper Kabete Faculty Club between Marsabit County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development, Dr. James Dokhe and the Centre for Sustainable Dryland Ecosystems and Societies (CSDES), University of Nairobi (UON).

Speaking during the meeting, Dr. James Dokhe, said that he wanted to engage UoN through CSDES to come up with a natural resource management master plan for Marsabit County. This would allow the County government make well informed decisions on use of their natural resources especially in setting up water harvesting pans and rolling out irrigation schemes for food crops, cash crops, fodder and pasture production.

Dr. Dokhe hoped that the CSDES team would mobilise experts urgently as there was a real urgency given that the tarmac road linking Marsabit to Isiolo and Moyale is almost complete and the County governance anticipates a rise in agricultural investment opportunities. He expressed optimism that the Natural Resource Master Plan could be started and completed by the end of the current financial year.

Giving his remarks, Prof. C. Gachene, Soil Scientist Specialist and Associate Professor at the Dept. of LARMAT, acknowledged the initiative. He congratulated Dr. Dokhe for the noble idea of developing the County's Natural Resource Management Master Plan. The Don underscored the need for a systematic planning in the process.

Prof. Njoka, Director CSDES appreciated all those who attended the meeting and assured Dr. Dokhe that CSDES would mobilise experts once the Marsabit County was ready so as to ensure speedy completion of matters discussed.

Others present at the meeting were; Prof. James Muthomi- Associate Professor Dept. of Plant Science and Crop protection, Dr. Patrick Irungu- Lecturer Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Peter Kamande - CSDES Project Manager , Dr. Pauline Gitonga ó PhD student LARMAT, and Henry Mwaka- CSDES Masters programme beneficiary.