

EC Partners

The University of Nairobi, College of Agriculture and Veterinary sciences

The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU

The Kenya Agricultural Research Institute & the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa

Stockholm Environment Institute, Oxford

UNITAR

Facts and Figures

- 51,000 € grant
- Duration: 04/2007-08/2008



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Food security

Adaptive capacity of rural poor to water scarcity in drylands

Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation - ACCCA

Despite the really tormenting political situation in the country prior to the elections and especially after, the project activities have picked up well, and we achieved what we set out to do. The success the project has registered today can mainly be attributed to the relevance of the project to the community.

Dr. Agnes Mwang'ombe,



Context Livelihoods under climate variability and change

Water is the most limiting factor in crop and livestock production in arid and semi-arid lands of sub-Saharan Africa. Rainfall which is the only source of water in these areas shows variability in location and time. It was carried out in two administrative districts, Kibwezi and Kajiado, occupied by agro-pastoralists and semi-nomadic pastoralists.

Objective Analysis of the impact of climate change on the dry lands farming system

- Analyse the impact of climate change on the dry lands farming system, work with communities to analyze whether water harvesting practices have had impact on their livelihoods.
- Identify the mechanisms of effective rain water harvesting as an adaptation tool to frequent droughts, and characterize the effective water harvesting methods and build the capacity of stakeholder.

Impact What has been achieved?

- The findings of the team are that farmers have developed mechanisms to cope with the dry conditions (34% have constructed dams for rain water harvesting as a coping strategy).
- Agro-pastoralists are doing early or dry planting, planting drought tolerant and early maturing crops, water harvesting using micro-catchments, terracing, planting trees and reducing water use; for livestock, rainwater harvesting using roof catchment, sinking boreholes, and digging shallow wells in dry river beds.
- Communication packages from reports, pamphlets, scientific papers and policy briefs for influencing decision-making were produced.