# Resolving the Drought Puzzle in the Drylands of Kenya

Floods for Pasture: Enhancing Pastoralists well-being

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Flood-based Livelihoods Leadership Course 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2017









Flood-Based Livelihoods
Network Foundation

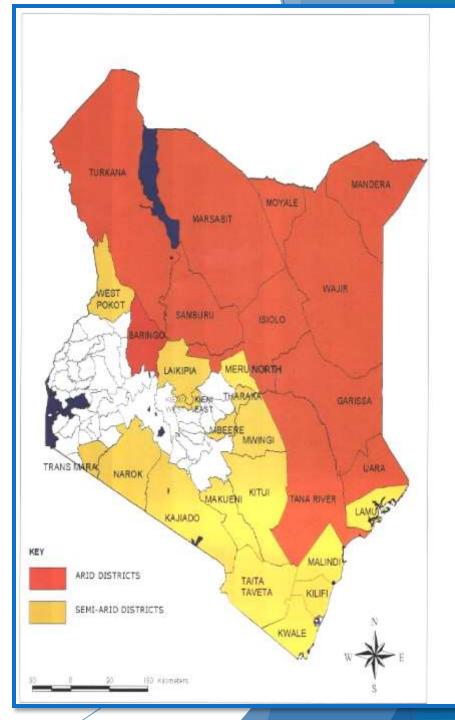
#### Overview of <u>Kenya's Drylands</u>

47<sup>th</sup> largest country=580,367KM<sup>2</sup>
(89% ASAL);

47 Million people (about 30% in ASAL)...70% livestock population;90% wildlife

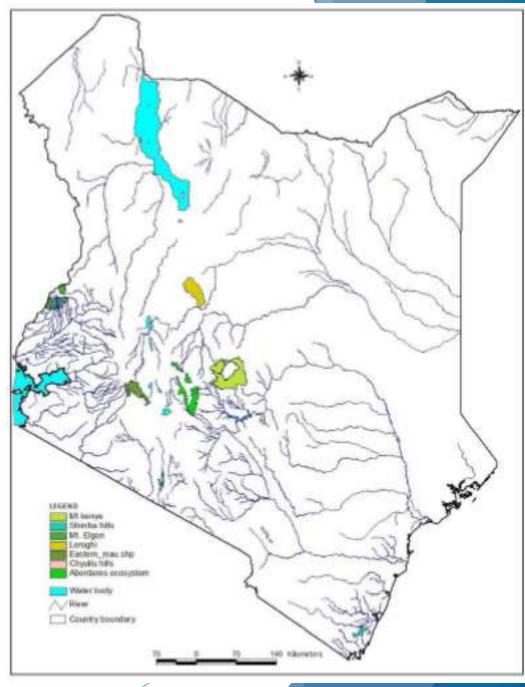
•47 devolved county governments

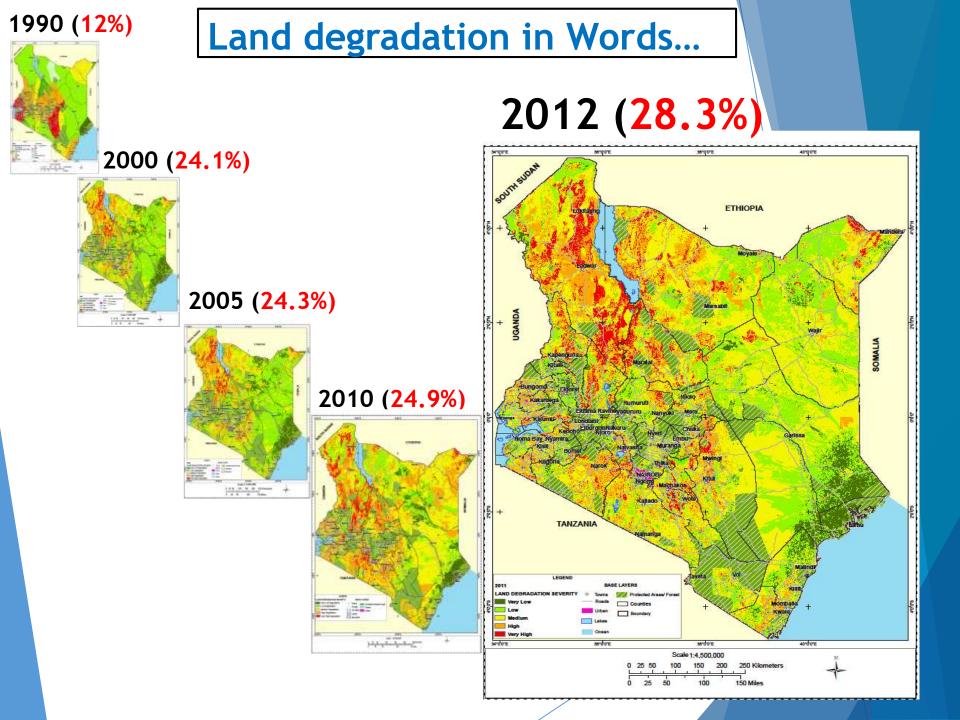
Average rainfall is 630mm!
 (ASAL av. 495mm)=24BM<sup>3</sup>



#### No water scarcity...

 Poorly distributed & un mapped (ground water; un gauged ephemeral streams)





# Land Degradation in Figures...

 3% loss to GDP annually...390 million USD.







#### The origin of the problems...



#### Water Waste...



67% (>15BILLION M<sup>3</sup>) lost within
 21 days after the rains.

# Drought & Floods

- Drought every 2 years: 7 in 1980s; 10 in 1990s
- Longer dry spells & heavier storms
- Floods occur in drought prone areas





## Water scarcity...









#### Food scarcity

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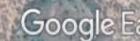
#### Livelihoods in the ASALs



#### Pasture/Fodder in W.Pokot...







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#### LESSONS FROM W.P LRD Benefits:

- Harvesting seeds and sold and also reseeding
- The grass harvested and stocked for drought periods
- Sales: to maintain farm and water harvesting structures; to improve living standard



### Opportunities?...

- Mapping ground water and all surface water
- Roads as an alternative drainage system
- Dryland Watershed management approach
- Weak Farmer/Pastoralist groups
- Existing network with ASAL county governments
- Land reclamation schemes for pasture

http://www.thewaterchannel.tv/media-gallery/2902pastoralism-in-africa-doing-things-differently