# SPATE IRRIGATION-STATUS AND SETTING UP NETWORK IN KENYA

Presentation by Kenya Spate Irrigation Network Team(Opondo, Mirriam & Ogada)

#### Outline of presentation

- Objectives of the presentation
- Pictorial demonstration of on-going spate irrigation activities in Kenya- Turkana and Garissa Counties
- Hosting of Spate irrigation network in the Ministry of Water and Irrigation – justification
- Initial outcome areas and planned activities

#### Objectives of presentation

- To share with network members on-going spate irrigation programs and activities
- To share with and learn from experiences of existing county networks
- To get feedback from network members on the planned hosting of the network and the initial planned activities

## On-going spate irrigation programmes

- Turkana county
- Background information
- Turkana Rehabilitation Program
- Pictures on spate irrigation technologies implemented

#### Background information

- Turkana county is located in the Northern side of Kenya
- Rainfall is erratic and unreliable with an average of 300-400mm in in the plains falling to 150mm in arid centrals
- Droughts are hard to bear during the hot season and during the rain season it is characterised by flash floods

### Bare-field in Turkana



### Trapezoidal bund



### Sorghum plantations



### Rock catchment-harvest water from rock hills



### On-going spate irrigation programs

- Garissa County
- Background information
- Garissa Rehabilitation Program
- Pictures on spate irrigation

#### Background information

- Garissa county is in North Eastern Kenya
- the average rainfall annually is 435mm
- It is characterised with droughts and high temperatures
- The communities are pastoralists but slowly shifting to agro-pastoralism practising small scale irrigation

### Bare-land at the background



### Community doing excavation works



#### Micro-catchments



### Fruit trees grown on micro-catchments



# Hosting of spate irrigation in Kenya

- Proposal to host network in Ministry of Water and Irrigation – Directorate of land reclamation – in partnership with ICRAF
- Function of the Ministry of water and Irrigation include: water supply, water resources development and management, irrigation, and water storage and land reclamation

#### Directorate of land reclamation

- Use spate irrigation technology to reclaim degraded ASAL land in the country accounting for 80% of the total land area
- Kenya Vision 2030, MTP II 2013-17- national development blue print made land reclamation a flagship projects and sets a target of reclaiming 50,000 Ha of land in flood prone areas
- Spate irrigation network will therefore complement the directorate's strategy to reclaim 50,000 Ha

#### Why MoWI &land reclamation

- Mandate for land reclamation and irrigation
- Land reclamation is closer to the context
- Provides a shorter route to reach target groups and beneficiaries

#### Initial network expected outcomes

- Establish the status of spate irrigation– baseline survey
- Map out potential areas for spate irrigation
- Establish data base on spate irrigation stakeholders and visit
- Hold conference / forum for spate irrigation actors

#### Initial network outcomes

- Liaise with university of Nairobi to incorporate spate irrigation in the curriculum
- Liaise with Kenya Water Institute to include unit on spate irrigation in her diploma and certificate courses. Conduct short on spate irrigation
- Undertake research on spate irrigation
- Lobby for irrigation policy and water harvesting and storage policy to include spate irrigation

# Comments, clarifications, compliments

Discussion Question: What is different from your respective country?