



**Climate Change and
drying Dams: Community
action to improve water
security in rural Kenya.**

Context

- Flooding
 - Drought
 - Deforestation
 - Farming methods and land use practice harm environment
 - Limited infrastructure development and funds
 - Information on climate change limited.
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Water sector

- water act 2002 mandated to ensure Kenyans have access to water by reducing distance to water, improve quality and management.
 - It created
 - water resource and management board,
 - water service board
 - water trust fund
 - the pace of reforms and infrastructure devt. have been slow. It may be unlikely that the GOK will achieve the millennium target of getting water to majority Kenyans in rural and urban slums
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Key outcomes

- ❑ water user association formed
 - ❑ O&M system
 - ❑ Infrastructure water kiosk, storage tanks, pump and filters
 - ❑ linkages – private sector, leaders, network, ministry of water
 - ❑ reduced water distance and water fetching time
 - ❑ Reduced price of water from 10-20/- per 20liter to 2/-per 20liter
 - ❑ improved quality of water
 - ❑ environment and ecological damage highlighted
 - ❑ Winner siemen's 2007 award
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Some of people reactions

- "...it is possible to wash white cloth... and now we can host visitors and welcome them to a glass of water without same..."
 - "...I have been on ARV and with this water my condition is improving..."
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Key challenges

- ❑ increased siltation resulting
 - ❑ poor use of the dam by livestock and people.
 - ❑ The national water strategy - little infrastructure development and funds available.
 - ❑ limited engagement between the people and the officers at the ministry of water.
 - ❑ Country laws have not put into account effects and impact of climate change.
 - ❑ limited information to assist the rural community to better prepare.
 - ❑ Community ownership and participation.
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Key reflections

- Climate change risk in the area that are the drivers and maintainers of poverty include
 - diminishing water quality/quantity,
 - disease and high mortality amongst women and children,
 - harvest failure, disaster (harvest failure, drought and flooding),
 - failing state water regime system – one of the possible cause of the post Kenya 2007 election violence)
- Rural households and individuals tend to lack resources and options to reduce these risk exposure.

Lesson for Yawo Tinga November 2008.

- ❑ Engage community on dam water source management, use silt traps, embankment protection, fencing using local vegetation, cattle trough, training water committee/association.
 - ❑ Work with key government agencies and organizations.
 - ❑ ?From petrol to Hand pump and other local technologies and materials that would impact on the overall project cost-effectiveness....
 - ❑ Network dam water users in the area with view to form a platform for influencing water policy.
 - ❑ Document project impact on community.
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