

**By the Peoples Bootstraps: The
Necessity for a Paradigm Shift to
Empower Vulnerable Communities
against Climate Change Vagaries**

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‘Hungry, Angry and Ugly.....’

- Vulnerability to Weather
- Food Insecurity
- High Poverty Levels
- Water Scarcity



Strategy 1: Questioning the Mainstream 'Development' Model

Problem

Top-down has proved to be:

- exclusionary,
 - **ecologically unsustainable.**
- often displacing local communities for profit motives,

Alternative

Embracing ways of fulfilling human needs and aspirations that do not harm the planet or marginalize segments of humanity that includes:

- **Grassroots initiatives addressing felt needs;**
- **Prioritize alternate knowledge systems**
- Bridge the gap between knowledge systems
- Advocate for policy changes
- **Scale, but collectively**

Community-led Development Principles

- Grow from shared local visions
- Build from strengths
- Work with diverse people and sectors
- Grow collaboratively.

“The Only True Wisdom Is in Knowing You Know Nothing”

~ Socrates

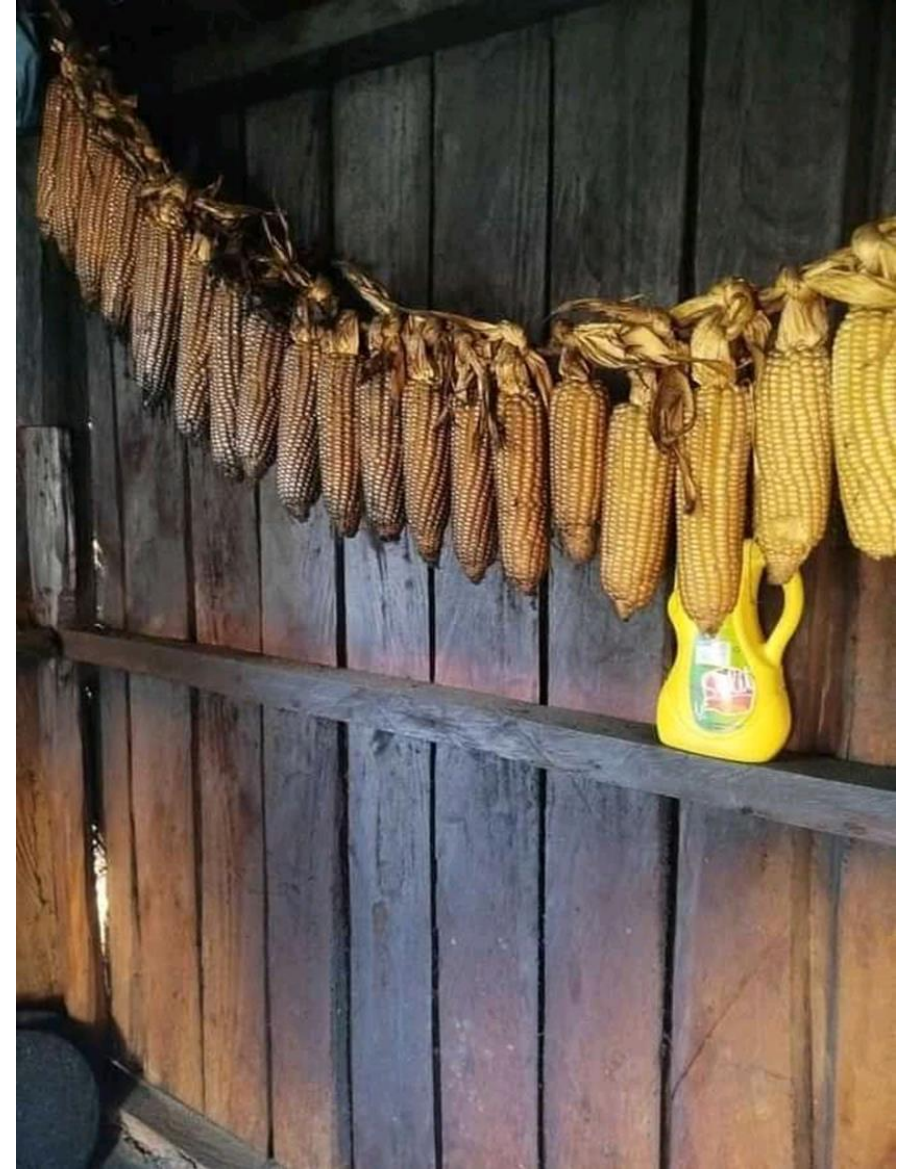
Overarching Goal

..... to **empower communities** to build their capacity **as change-makers** and take charge of their own development so that it both **responds** to their immediate and long-term needs in ways that build their resilience



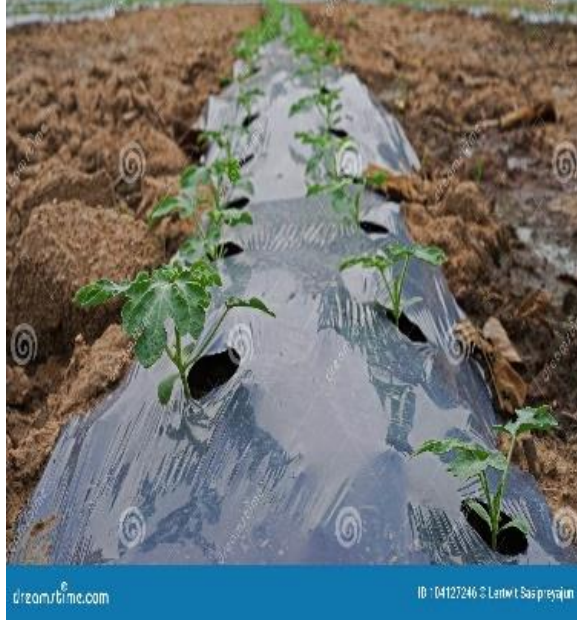
Strategy 2: Treat Food as a System

- Production
- Processing
- Preservation
- Marketing





Moisture Conservation for Crops Growth



Strategy 3: Ecosystem Rehabilitation

Methods

- Habitat restoration
- Bioremediation
- **Conservation and Protection**
- Ecosystem management and Monitoring

Techniques

- Reforestation
- Invasive species removal,
- **Reintroduction of native species.**



Local Ecosystem Restoration Practices

- Soil erosion controls
- Reducing tillage
- Using natural fertilizers
- Using natural pest controls
- Growing diverse crops and trees



Ecosystem Rehabilitation



Strategy 4: WASH for Schools

Kenya School Health Policy Thematic Areas

WASH

Nutrition

Infrastructure

Disease prevention and control

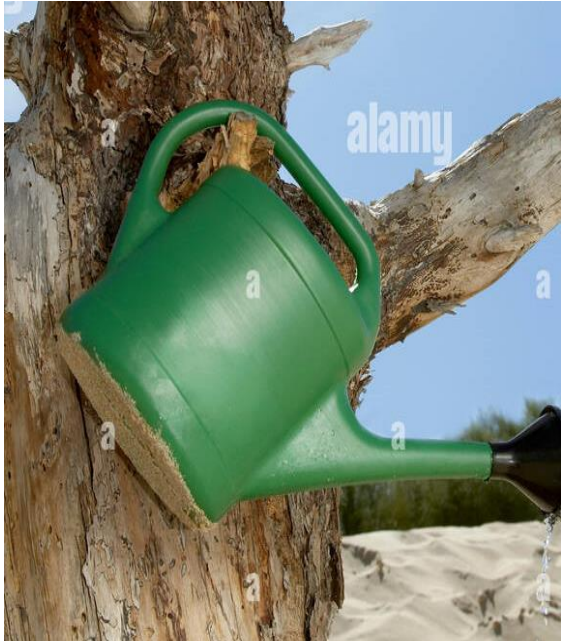
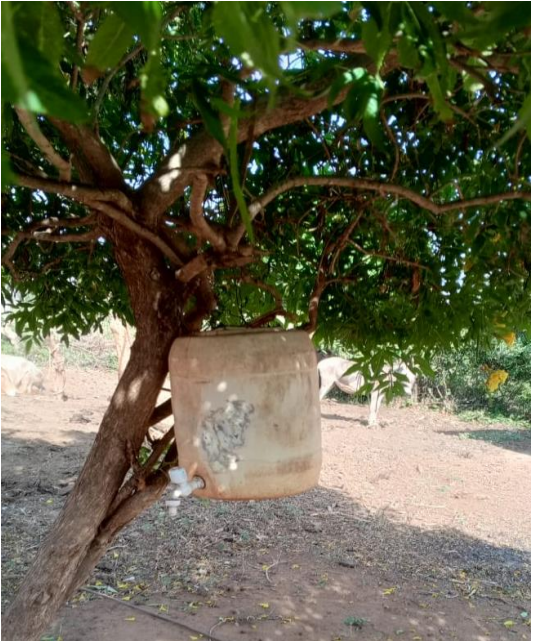
Values and life skills

Special needs

Human rights

Gender

Look of Things



Strategy 5: Confronting Water Resources Sustainability

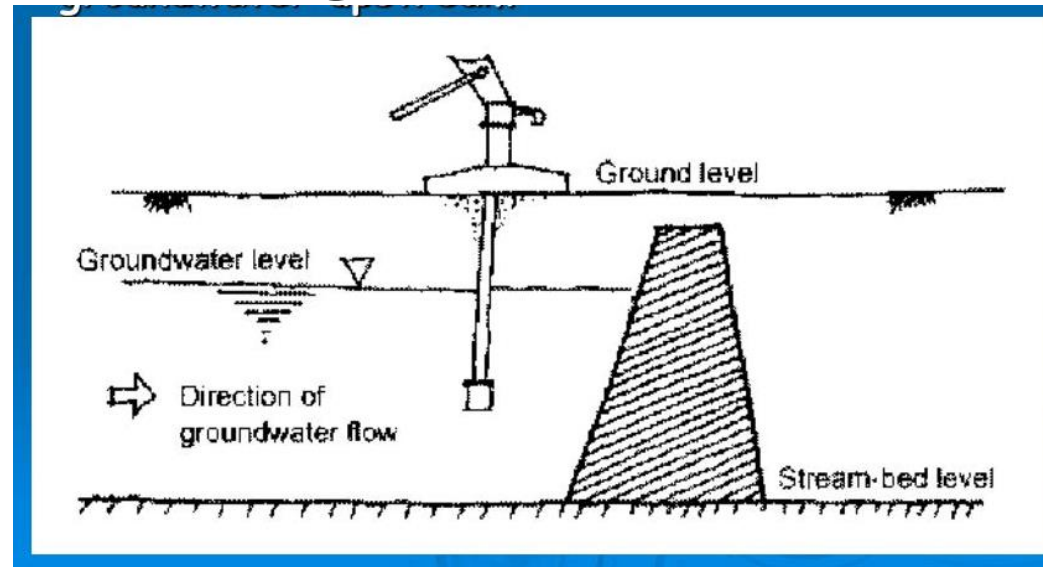
- Population Growth and Urbanization.
- Climate Change.
- Pollution and Contamination
- Water Scarcity
- Institutional and Governance Issues

Indigenous Knowledge



Place of Technology in Water Resources Sustainability

- Smart Water Management Systems
- Water Recycling and Reuse Technologies
- Unconventional Water Resources
- Desalination Technologies
- GIS and Remote Sensing



“The reasonable man adapts himself to the world: the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable”

(George Bernard Shaw)