



Kingdom of the Netherlands

# Smart Water for Agriculture Program (SWA)

2016 to 2019



KIT | The Royal Tropical Institute



WAGENINGEN  
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



# Smart Water for Agriculture: At a glance

## Development Investor



**Investment Period:**  
April 2016 – Dec 2019

**Investment Value:**  
Euro ~6 million

## Consortium Partners

The logo for SNV, consisting of the letters "SNV" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a horizontal line underneath.

The logo for PRACTICA FOUNDATION, with "PRACTICA" in a green, serif font and "FOUNDATION" in a smaller, orange, sans-serif font below it.



# Background:

## Irrigated Agriculture Market Landscape in Kenya

### FAO Reports



33% of land in Kenya is used for agriculture and is largely under rainfed agriculture



2.7 million people in Kenya are experiencing food insecurity due to increasingly frequent droughts



Kenya has 353,000 ha. of potential irrigable land with irrigated area having reached only 165,900 ha.



53% of total irrigation potential in Kenya remains untapped

### SWA Research



Systemic and Market Barriers hinder irrigation growth in Kenya



90% of the SWA farmers are using some form of irrigation and have the potential for uptake of new solutions (of the 544 farmers interviewed)







76% of all SWA farmers have access to finance, but only 12% have received credit



The sector offers significant market opportunities for companies if well managed

# Our commitment

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**Identify and  
promote Smart  
Water Solutions  
(SWS)**



**20,000 SME farmers**  
(50% women) adopt  
Smart Water Solutions to  
improve their income and  
livelihood

20% increase in **water  
productivity**

At least **10 Dutch-Kenya**  
private sector business  
linkages tailored to the  
needs of SME farmers  
facilitated

# Our key client: The entrepreneurial farmer



**Irrigates cash crops  
(0.25 to 12.5 acres)**

**Has significant and  
predictable cash flow**

**Is market engaged**

**Is not 'just' a target  
farmers, but is at the  
forefront of exchange  
and learning**



# Our Approach

**Establishing  
Irrigation  
Acceleration  
Platforms**

**Improving  
Access to Smart  
Water Solutions  
(SWS)**

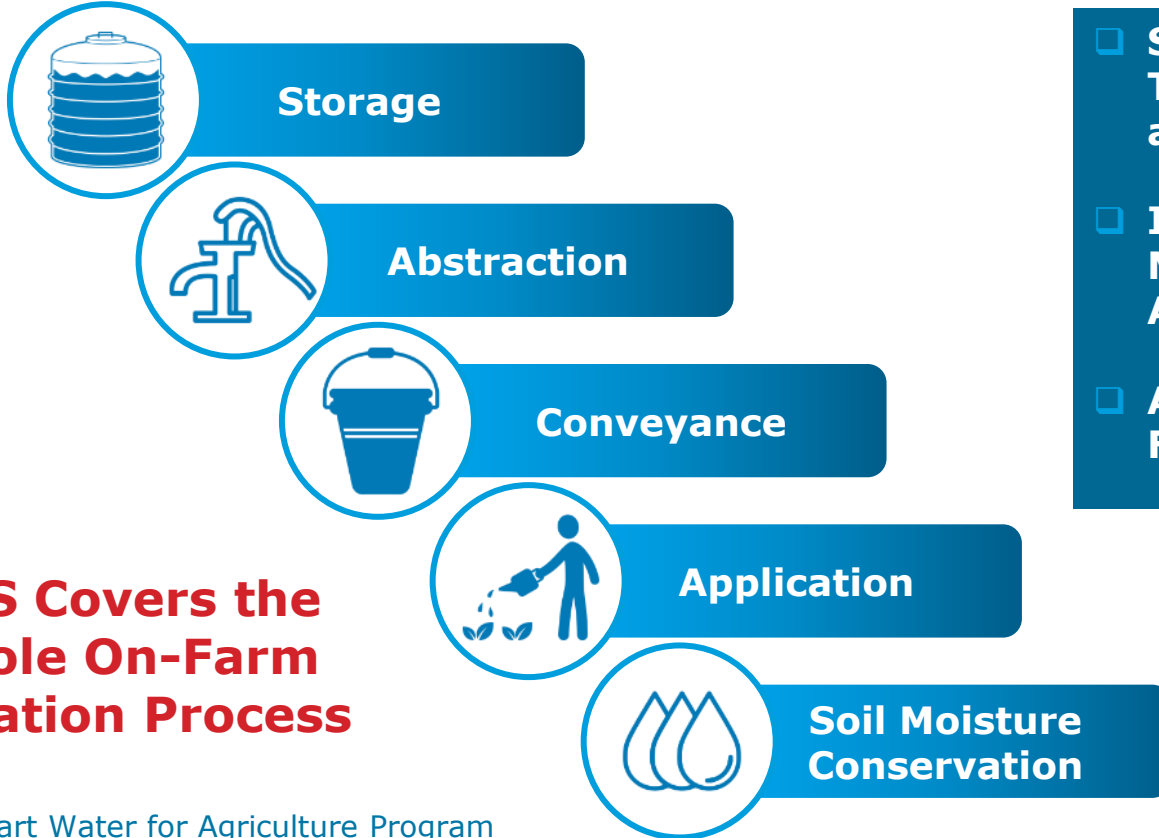
**Increasing  
Access to  
Finance for  
SME Farmers**

**Creating  
Demand for  
SWS through  
Increased  
Access to  
Knowledge**

**Strengthening  
Business and  
Market  
Linkages in  
SWS Sector**



# Overview of Smart Water Solutions Package



**SWS Covers the Whole On-Farm Irrigation Process**

- ❑ **Smart Water Technologies, Products and Services**
- ❑ **Innovative Water Management and Agronomic Practices**
- ❑ **Access to Market, Finance and Knowledge**

## Our progress – examples: improved storage



Community  
pan -  
Laikipia





## Our progress examples: improved water delivery



Bucket and  
flood to  
improved drip





KTN NEWS



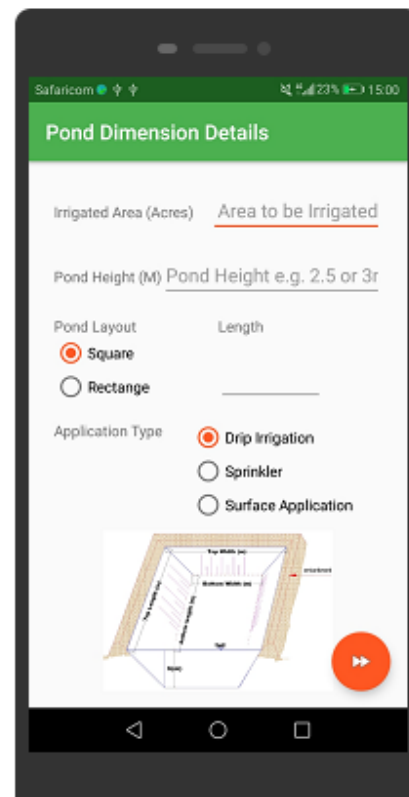
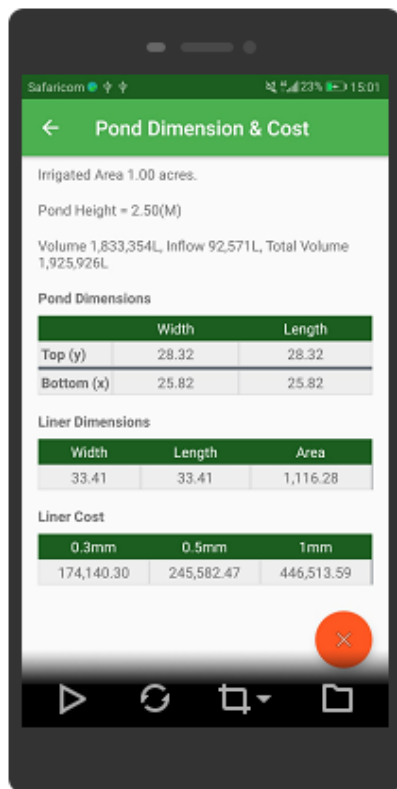
KTN PRIME  
MAY 2019

## NEXT FRONTIER

SMALL-SCALE FARMERS EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY

011 233 88 004  French President Macron, Keppeler to discuss Net

# Our progress: innovation – developed and pond design support App





## Our progress: example business cases



Future Water: Drones to determine on-farm production resource requirements



Energy efficient pumping solutions

## Conclusions – Climate Adaptation

- The involvement of lead farmers as key actors in technology dissemination was successful. They can be multipliers in adaptation of technologies
- Focus on a wide range of technologies, to ensure potential adopters have a wide range to choose from.
- Important to make sure the technologies selected are introduced for the right context, to avoid disappointment with users. For example, solar pumps have potential, but cannot replace petrol pumps in all situations.

## Conclusions Youth Employment and Involvement

- NGOs can make a contribution to irrigation development by increasing the quality and accessibility of information and disseminating it in an easy-to-understand format; this does not often get priority
- Market based approach, on its own, was not sufficient. There is need to include an element of horizontal learning (farmer to farmer).
- Establishment of SMART Centres in this project was at a too late stage. The assumption was they would mainly play a role in scaling.

Asante Sana



Thank You!!

Dank Je Wel