



## PUBLIC FORESTS

- Experience over grazing due to hundreds of livestock dependent on forests for grazing therefore hindering regeneration of palatable species
- Illegal harvesting of valuable timber species create openings and alter forest structure
- Encroachment and illegal settlements reduce forest cover, enhances cultivation and soil erosion

## SOCIOECONOMIC FINDINGS

- High opportunity cost for conservation of natural forests on farms and along river banks hence conversion into farms
- Key downstream water users can be potentially levied to compensate upstream actors to enhance conservation efforts
- In 2012-2013 Eldowas generated KES 280 million from sale of water hence a potential business case scenario
- ELdowas pays 1% of its revenue to WARMA to support conservation activities hence recognition of the compensation efforts
- There are some trusted institutions that can act as intermediaries between upstream and downstream actors: World Vision a local NGO operating in the area among others
- Payment based on standard conservation measures undertaken per unit area is highly preferred by stakeholders
- Eldoret residents were aware of the degradation process in the water catchments and were willing to be levied to pay for conservation of the water catchment if appropriate delivery mechanisms are in place to ensure their efforts achieve desired results.



## WAY FORWARD TO ENHANCE MOIBEN RIVER ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION

- The study established the need to engage the upstream conservation and downstream beneficiaries actors to foster sustainable conservation of water towers
- There is need to create awareness on the linkage between the adoption of conservation land use practices and improved flow of water in terms of quantity and quality
- The study established a potential business case for piloting of PES compensation scheme for enhanced ecosystem conservation and improved flow of ecosystem services.

# DEVELOPMENT OF FRAMEWORK FOR PAYMENT OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES: MOIBEN RIVER IN CHERANGANY WATERSHED



Clean water at the upper stream and dirty water at the lower stream of River Muruny

## Introduction

**M**arakwet Sub County is one of the most heavily forested sub counties in the country where forests and trees are estimated to occupy 40% of the total land that include the Cherangany Forests and trees on farms. The forests are important water catchment for rivers that flow to Lake Victoria and drylands of northwestern Kenya. The rivers include; Moiben, Muruny, and Embobut that supply drinking water to millions of people/livestock, industrial and irrigation activities in western Kenya and northern drylands of Kenya. However, the forests are undergoing rapid degradation thereby threatening the flow of ecosystems goods and services to wider region of western and northwestern Kenya.

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