



# CLIMATE CHANGE



## FACTS IN KENYA

### A. Increased Temperatures:

- ☞ Greenhouse Gases concentration in the atmosphere is the main cause of the increase in temperatures globally
- ☞ An estimated 82% of the icecap that crowned the mountain Kilimanjaro when it was first thoroughly surveyed in 1912 is now gone, and the ice is thinning as well - by as much as a meter in one area (see photo). According to some projections, if recession continues at the present rate, the majority of the glaciers on Kilimanjaro could vanish in the next 15 years.

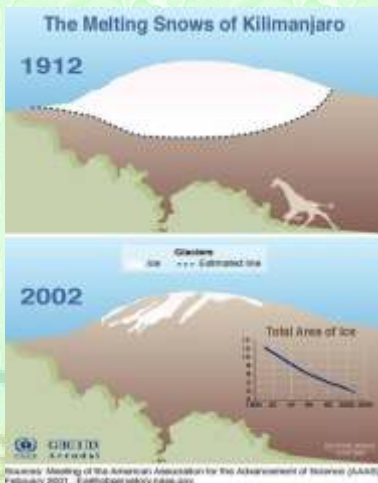
### B. Water Scarcity

- ☞ By 2025, Kenya will be among 17 countries within Africa and the Middle East which will be faced by an acute water shortage, leading to catastrophic declines in livelihood, economic development and health (GEO, 2000). This will also lead to local, regional and international conflicts in relation to water access and use rights.
- ☞ The average water availability in Kenya is 635 cubic meters per capita. This is far below the recommended per capita water consumption of 1700 cubic meters per capita per year.
- ☞ Again, according to 'Green Water Management Handbook' (by Oduor and Maimbo, 2006), the per capita water availability in Kenya will fall to 248 cubic meters by 2025 and 190 meters cubed by 2050!
- ☞ Most rivers feeding their water into larger lakes have become seasonal with the smaller ones drying up completely as has been noted in the Mount Kenya region.

### C. Wildlife And Tourism Threatened

- ☞ Attractions such as the migration of wildebeest, now referred to as '7th Wonder of the World' are increasingly under threat from the impacts of global warming and may cease to exist in future. In fact, this great phenomenon failed to take place in 2009, ostensibly, due to the low waters of the Mara River (higher waters in the river are an indication for the wildebeest that there are greener pastures in the north part of the Mara-Serengeti expanse).

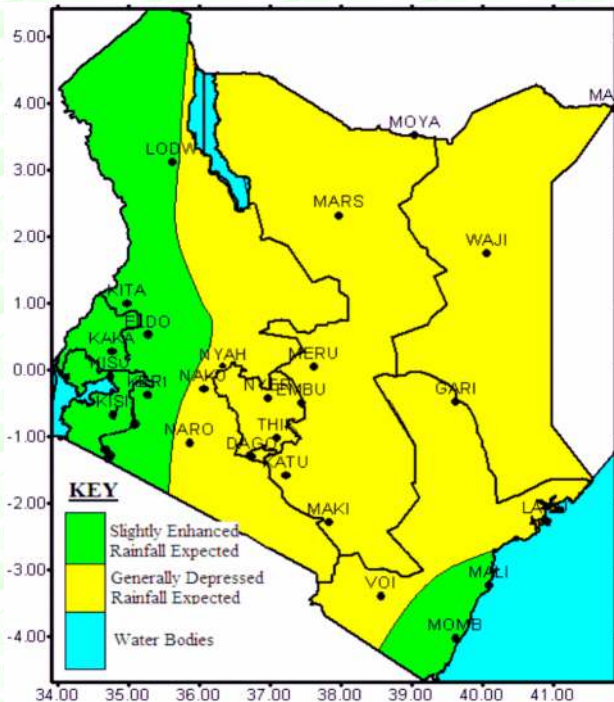
- ☞ The IPCC (2007), further, projects that by 2080 arid and semi-arid lands are most likely to increase by 5-8% and that the cost of adaption to climate change will be between 5-10% of Africa's GDP.



A dry Water pan along -Kajiado - libisil road Kajiado District - May 2009



Picture 5.1 above illustrates the great migration of the wildebeests in search of greener pastures from Serengeti National Park to Masai Mara Game Reserve. This activity, which is now referred to as the 7th Wonder of the World, may be no more if the negative impacts of climate change and especially the destruction of the Mau Forest are not reversed.



**Seasonal Rainfall Forecast for Kenya, MAM 2009.**

- D. Reduced amounts of rain and changed seasons
  - ☞ Most parts of Kenya have experienced reduced precipitation in the Last five years.
  - ☞ A forecast by the meteorological department indicate a general reduction of rain in Kenya (see photo).
  - ☞ Change signals that have been observed in East Africa include temperature rises and decreasing rainfall trends melting and retreat of mountain glaciers.
  - ☞ Increasing frequency of ENSO events (extreme climate events).
  - ☞ In 2004, parts of Eastern and Southern Africa were affected by severe drought conditions.
  - ☞ In the Greater Horn of Africa, in 2004 the rainy seasons were much shorter resulting in the continuation of a multi-dry season in the region.

**E. Energy Sources Threatened**

☞ Kenya's energy scene is dominated by two primary factors; a predominant reliance on dwindling biomass (firewood, charcoal and agricultural waste) energy resources to meet the energy needs of the rural households and heavy dependence on imported petroleum for the modern economic sector needs.

Major categories of energy sources in Kenya include:

- ☞ Biomass (woodfuel) (68%)
- ☞ Fossil fuels (petroleum) (22%)
- ☞ Electricity (9%)
- ☞ Solar (0.5 %)
- ☞ Wind (0.5%)
- ☞ Biogas ( negligible).

**SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE BY THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES!**

**Contact**

**KENYA CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP**  
 c/o Kenya National Federation of Agricultural Producers (KENFAP),  
 Family Health Plaza, 2nd Flr,  
 Telephone No: 254-20-608324 / 600355, Fax : 254-20-608325  
 E-mail: info@kccwg.org, Website: www.kccwg.org