

Food Security and Biotechnology in Africa

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# **Outreach Program for Small Scale Farmers**

## Dr. Beatrice A. WERE

**University of Eldoret** 



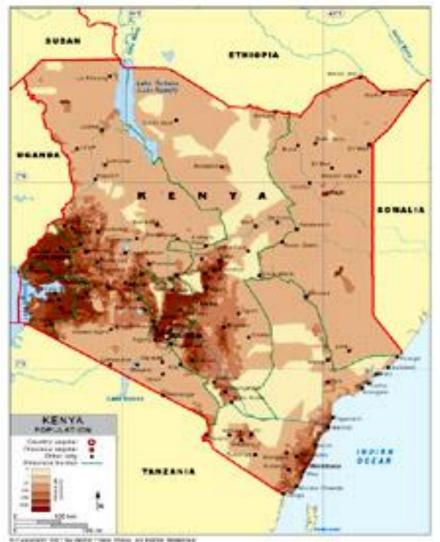
#### PREAMBLE

- Small holders are variable depending on enterprise and location
- Holdings size range: <1 to 40 acres.
- Small land parcels in densely populated areas
  - Reduced land under cultivation
  - Soils are continuously cultivated and
  - Less productive due to fertility constraints

#### Disclaimer

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#### **PREAMBLE cont'd**



- Population densities from below <2 to >1000 persons per Sq. Km
- Lake Victoria basin >500 people per Sq. Km; Central Rift 21-200 per Sq Km
- Influences choice of crops
  - Wheat ..... large scale
  - Tomato ..... small scale

### Identifying target group of participants

- 1. Farm size
  - In western Kenya 20 acres is large scale
  - In central Rift, 20 acres is small scale
- 2. Enterprise
  - Wheat 20-40 acres is small scale
  - Tomatoes 10 acres is large scale
- 3. Endowment
  - Subsistence or commercial farming?

### Workshop Program

- 1. Arrival of invited participants
- 2. Registration
- 3. Opening by government officials
- 4. Content delivery
  - Food security needs
  - Possible ways of meeting need: Most importantincrease productivity and quality

### Workshop Program Cont'd

- Biotechnology applications in agriculture
  - What is biotech?
    - ✓ Micro-propagation
    - ✓ Diagnostics
    - ✓ Marker Assisted Breeding
    - ✓ Genetic Engineering
  - Possibilities with biotechnology
  - Associated risks

### Workshop Program Cont'd

- 5. Questions & discussions
- 6. Demystifying myths
  - Present biotech as a choice technology in contributing to food security in Africa
- 7. Closing remarks
- 8. Departure