Road run off Harvesting – Malawi Experiences

Lubumbashi
Zambia
Malawi
Lusaka
Harare
Mozambique
Comoros
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Background

- Leadership course on Spate Irrigation/Flood based farming in Kenya 2015
- Rainwater Harvesting Association is promoting a number of insitu water harvesting practices.
- Pilot various practices aimed at harvesting road run off.
- Mitre drain diversions and also from culverts into farmers' fields for increased direct use by the crop or into farm ponds and percolation ponds

Problems

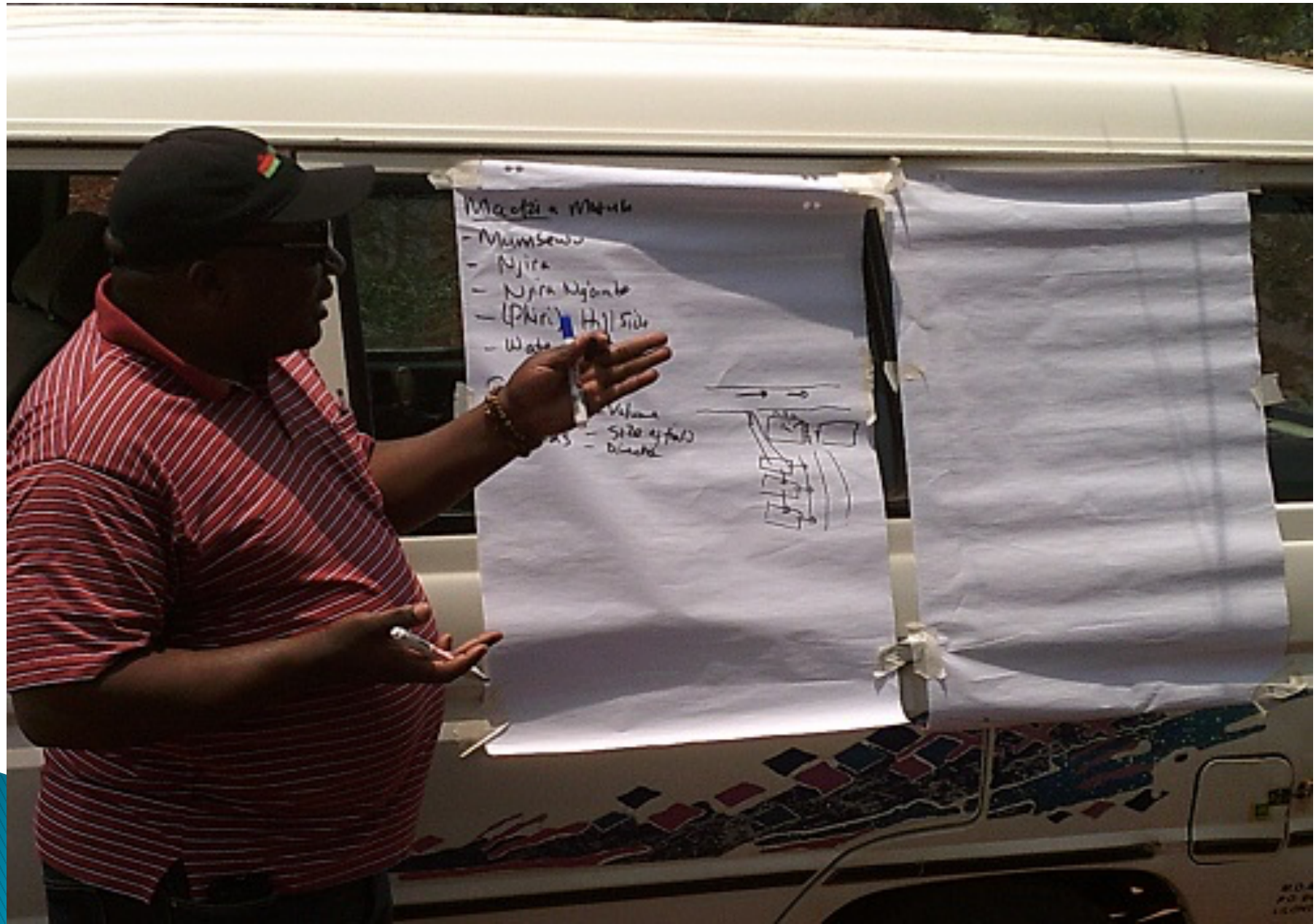
- One rainy season
- Erratic rainfall punctuated by Dry Spells
- Lack of Knowledge

Key stakeholders

- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
- Ministry of Transport and Public works
- National Roads Authority
- Local Development Fund
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- Ministry of Local government

Capacity Buidling – Extension staff and farmers

Improvised flipchart board



26farmers Trained. 116 farmers adopted

Opportunies

Road as water conveyors

Streams of Road run off

Culverts required

Infiltration Pits

Road run off into an irrigation scheme

Sand business

Opportunities

- Guidelines for Watershed development developed and launched by the Minister at national level
- Local Development fund has embraced Catchment management/Watershed Development in its programmes – programme covers all 28 Districts in Malawi

Challenges

- Conflict with Roads Authority
- Bringing different sectors together can be difficult
- Annual maintenance of roads would destroy some of the structures

Way forward

- Awareness raising (Govt Dept, NGO, leaders) – training report will be starting point.
- Develop a concept note that will initiate discussions.
- Conduct multi-sectoral meetings of relevant stakeholders
- Build on local cultural/traditional ceremonies to mobilize community in Watershed Development
- Establish roadside demonstrations – seeing is believing.
- Bring in research institutions
- Discussions with Lilongwe Water Board for RFW project in the Catchment area of reservoir