

## Land Reclamation

Land reclamation is the practice of putting unused land into a utilisable form for agricultural production.

### *Areas to be Reclaimed*

- (i) Areas infested by tsetseflies e.g. Lambwe Valley.
- (ii) Dry areas/semi-desert/desert.
- (iii) Swampy areas e.g. Bunyala Swamp.
- (iv) Forested lands.
- (v) Areas where there has been indiscriminate deforestation.
- (vi) Very slopy areas.

### *Methods of Land Reclamation*

- (i) Draining swampy areas by construction of ditches.
- (ii) Control of tsetseflies by clearing the vegetation and spraying by use of insecticides.

- (iii) Irrigating dry areas by use of irrigation water, water harvesting structures and proper land use.
- (iv) Deforestation (planned deforestation).
- (v) Reforestation.
- (vi) Planting trees and constructing soil conservation structures.

### **WORK TO DO**

1. Name the areas where afforestation programmes can be carried out.
2. Name the factors which must be considered before irrigating a dry land.
3. Name the problems brought about by tsetseflies to both man and livestock.
4. What is water harvesting in dry lands?
5. What are the problems hindering land reclamation programmes in Kenya?
6. Differentiate between deforestation and reforestation.
7. Explain how a swampy area can be reclaimed for agricultural use.