

Contour Bunding Technique (CBT): Contour Bunds for Water Harvesting

CBT: Nurturing Crops, Conserving Soil, and Cultivating Resilience

The “Contour Bunding Technique (CBT)” is a farming strategy used in Africa’s dry areas. It uses small walls built along field curves to collect water, reduce runoff, and prevent soil erosion. This enhances the soil’s water retention, making it a practical solution for water scarcity in dryland farming.



Semi-circular bunds reinforced with stones



International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
Dougbedji Fatondji

This technology is **TAAT1 validated**.

8•7



Scaling readiness: idea maturity: 8/9; level of use: 7/9

Cost: \$\$\$ **9 USD**

Drawing contour line per ha

40 %

Runoff reduction

20 %

Sediment loss decrease

IP

Open source / open access

Problem

- **Water Scarcity:** Dryland farming often faces water shortages, making crop growth challenging.
- **Soil Erosion:** In dry areas, soil erosion and gully formation degrade soil health and productivity.

Solution

- **Water Management:** CBT uses walls to capture and store rainwater, increasing crop yields.
- **Soil Conservation:** CBT slows water movement, reduces soil erosion, and improves soil fertility.

Key points to design your business plan

For farmers interested in the Contour Bunding Technique (CBT), here are the condensed steps:

1. **Learn:** Understand CBT’s benefits for crop production and soil health.
2. **Train:** Attend sessions on bund construction techniques and land surveying.
3. **Plan:** Analyze your farm’s landscape for optimal bund placement.
4. **Prepare:** Gather necessary resources for building and reinforcing bunds.
5. **Implement:** Construct bunds to create micro-catchments for water management.
6. **Evaluate:** Monitor your farm’s progress and adjust as needed for continuous improvement.

Gender assessment **4**

Climate impact **7**

Technology from

ProPAS

Commodities

Sorghum/Millet

Sustainable Development Goals



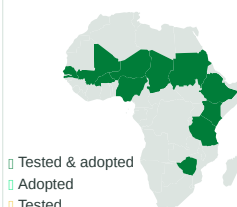
Categories

Production, Practices, Water management

Best used with

- [Millet and Sorghum Varieties for Better Nutrition and Stress Resistance >](#)
- [Precision Fertilizer Micro-Dosing for Millet and Sorghum Yield Enhancement >](#)
- [Dual-purpose Millet Varieties for Crop and Livestock Integration >](#)

Tested/adopted in



Tested & adopted
 Adopted
 Tested

Where it can be used



Contour Bunding Technique (CBT)

<http://taatdb-web.com/technologies/contour-bunding-technique-cbt-contour-bunds-for-water-harvesting>

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