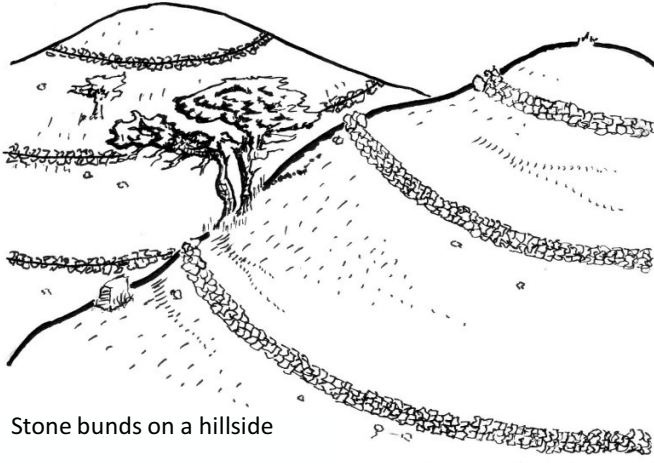


# STONE BUNDS



Stone bunds on a hillside

also called:	used in:	
• stone lines	gardens	✓
• stone banks	fields	✓
• contour stone bunds	grazing land	✓

Stone bunds are used along contour lines to slow down, filter and spread out runoff water, thus increasing infiltration and reducing soil erosion. Over time sediment, which is captured on the higher side of the bunds, accumulates to form natural terraces.



Natural terraces which have formed from an accumulation of sediment



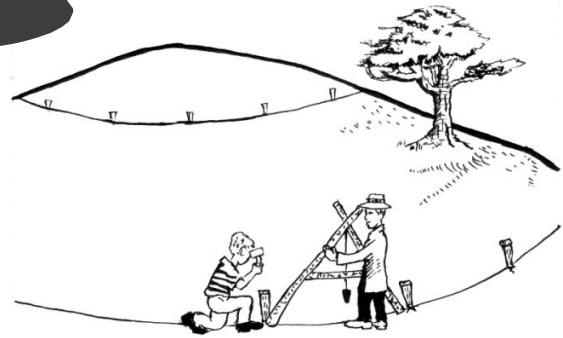
Stone bunds being maintained

Soil	Slope	Rainfall	Tools & Equipment
Any soil.	0.5 to 3%, preferably below 2%	200-750 mm (dry to semi-dry areas)	stones of different sizes* wheelbarrow* spade  *essential

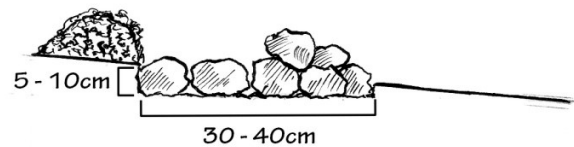
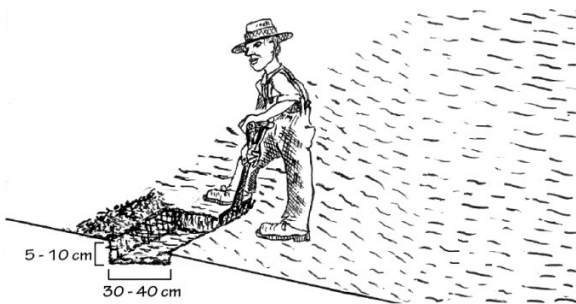


## METHOD

Slope	Spacing of bunds
<1%	20 m
1-2%	15 m
2-5%	10 m



1. Work out the slope to see how far apart the bunds should be and decide how many bunds you want to make.
2. Mark out each contour line using an A-frame or line level. You can adjust the pegs slightly so that the lines form a smooth curve.



3. Dig a shallow trench along the contour line (5-10 cm deep, and 30-40 cm wide). Put the soil upslope of the trench.
4. Put large stones along the bottom of the trench and on the down-slope side to create an "anchor line."



5. Put smaller stones on the up-slope side, and use them to fill any gaps between the larger stones. Leave the excavated soil on the upside of the stone bund.
6. Maintain the bunds by replacing any stones which become dislodged after heavy rainfall

