Sustainable Livelihood in Kenya

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Kenya seminar 2013
Sustainable Livelihood in Kenya

- Urban-rural linkages
- Land tenure system
- Agriculture and rural development
Kenya - Location

Located in East Africa
Capital City - Nairobi
Population – Approx 38m (2009 Census)
Area – 580,367 km²

The equator divides the country into two parts, northern and southern parts

Climate - Tropical Climate
1. Urban-rural Linkages (General)

**Types of Rural Urban links**
- Consumption linkages
- Production function relationships
- Financial flows

**Forms of linkages**
- **Physical** linkages- road network connectivity
- **Economic** linkages-production and consumption functions, investment, remittances, events
- **Population movement**/migration linkages
- **Social** linkages-Multi-locational households, social functions
- **Political** linkages/administrative authority, supervision
- **Service provision** linkages-mostly by governments
Origin of Urban-Rural linkages in Kenya

- Colonial administrative centres
- Missionary outposts in rural areas
- Trading centres associated with commerce—due to construction of railway and road networks in the country
- Traditional market places established by local communities before coming of Europeans to facilitate trade and social interactions

NB: Each of these urban centers had its field of influence and over the years developed to a set of linkages with its hinterland
Policies Over Time on Urban-rural Linkages

1965
- Sessional paper No.10 of 1965 on African Socialism and its application to planning in Kenya
- Planning to be extended to provinces, districts and municipalities to ensure development progress in each administrative unit

1967
- Regional Physical Development Plan for Central Province
- Central Place Theory

What do we mean by Central Place Theory?
Central Place Theory

- Equal Centre Distances of the same Order
- Catchment Population to each Centre
- Catchment Population differ from one Hierarch to another
- Hierarchy of Services
- Transport Infrastructure Network

Source: Adapted from Christaller
Hierarchy Adapted in Kenya

- Growth Center → Principal town
  - Population 2,000 urban, and 120,000 hinterland
- Urban Center
  - Resident population up to 500, and 40,000 hinterland
- Rural Service Center
  - Resident population 200, and 15,000 hinterland
- Market Center
  - 5,000 hinterland population
- Local Center

In its spatial policies, GOK recognized urban centers were critical for the realization of an integrated national space economy.

- The focus was balancing the two dichotomy
1967
- Regional Physical Development Plan for Central Province
- Central Place Theory

1970-1974
- National Development Plan
- Identification of growth and service centers throughout the country

1978
- Human Settlement in Kenya: A strategy for urban and rural areas
- District Focus Strategy for Rural Development (1983) - District Physical Development Plans

- The primary aim of the strategy is to promote the development of an urban system that supports the growth of agriculture and the development of rural areas, and that generates productive employment opportunities in non-farm activities for rural workers close to where they already live

- Local Physical Development Plans
Case Study-Eldoret

Key elements
• Both urban and rural areas play a significant role in the sustainability of each other.
• Rural areas are engines of agricultural development and are the main suppliers of food and other agro based raw materials used in industrial and commercial functions in the urban areas.
• Urban areas are instrumental in the provision of basic necessities including- economic, social, and political amenities relied upon by the rural areas.
• In strengthening the relationship between the two areas, the significance of infrastructural base cannot be underestimated.
- Eldoret is strategically located in the centre of a large **high potential agricultural area** (food basket for country).
- Has therefore naturally grown into an important **storage, processing and distribution centre for agricultural produce** from its immediate hinterland.
- It plays a vital role in the **wholesale and retail trade** in essential commodities, sale and servicing of farm tools and machinery, entertainment, banking services etc.
- **Administrative centre** (Headquarters for North Rift Region)
- **Educational function** - Universities and colleges
- **Sport tourism** - many athletes come from this region

**Functional Importance**
1. Catchment population comes from the following districts/counties:
   - Uasin Gishu
   - Elgeyo Marakwet
   - Nandi
   - Transnzoia
   - Kericho

2. The urban influence of Eldoret is felt as far as Lodwar, Bungoma, Nakuru, and Kisumu.

3. This is evidenced by a number of *Matatus* operating to and from the above towns

4. Customers for wholesale market also come from these towns
Eldoret-Central Place theory
(Hierarchy of Centre)

- Main Centre
- 1st Hierarchy Centre
- 2nd Hierarchy Centre

Nodes:
- Cheptiret
- Lessos
- Burnt Forest
- Eldoret
- Kapsabet
- Iten
- Moiben
- Nandi Hills
- Ziwa
- Kabiyet

Connections:
- Cheptiret to Lessos
- Lessos to Burnt Forest
- Burnt Forest to Eldoret
- Eldoret to Kapsabet
- Kapsabet to Nandi Hills
- Nandi Hills to Ziwa
- Ziwa to Kabiyet
- Kabiyet to Iten
- Iten to Moiben
- Moiben to Cheptiret
Conclusion

Regional Development in Kenya as based on rural urban interlink is only realistic if both entities (Rural and Urban) are strengthened especially in the aspects of;

- Infrastructure development,
- planning and implementation,
- Framework for institutional co-ordination, and
- Political good will
2. Land Tenure Systems

- Land tenure refers to the terms and conditions under which rights to land and land-based resources are acquired, retained, used, disposed of, or transmitted. (Sessional *Paper No. 3 of 2009 on National Land Policy*)
Categories of land

- Public Land
- Communal Land
- Private Land
Land Tenure System in Eldoret

- The land tenure system in Eldoret Municipality and its hinterland reflects a colonial era legacy.

- The pre-independence land ownership pattern in the area was composed of large tracts of land in the hands of a few white settlers (White highlands).

- This situation changed soon after independence (1963), when most of the European farms were sold to government, land buying companies, cooperative societies, self-help groups and individual farmers.
Categories of Ownership

Land Ownership in Eldoret

- Government owned land
- Council owned land
- Leasehold
- Freehold
Challenges
Lack of Security of Tenure

Informal Settlement

Sample of Title Deed
Eviction

Eviction Consequences
Land Grabbing
Historical Injustices
Resource Utilization Conflict

Consequences of conflict over land
Government Efforts

• Ndung’u Report (Grabbed public land)

• Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission

• National Land Policy

• National Land Commission

http://www.klrc.go.ke
www.lands.go.ke.
www tjrc kenya.org
3. Agriculture and Rural Development

- General issues
- Problems in the agricultural sector
- Urban farming for food security
- The case study of Kakamega District
Urbanisation affects agriculture

Rapid urbanisation in Kenya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1975</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part of the population living in urban areas</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>47% estimated</td>
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Source: GEO 2006: 725
Introduction: General issues

• Agriculture is the most important pillar of the economy
• More than 70% of the Kenyan population are engaged in agriculture (trend decreasing)
• Women make up to 80% of Kenya’s farmers (WB)
• Agriculture contributes 25% of the GDP
• Main cash crops are: tea, coffee, flowers, vegetables (Kenya beans, sweet peas, baby maize), pineapple and pyrethrum
• Main staple crop is maize
• Only 15-17% of Kenya’s total land area has sufficient fertility and rainfall to be farmed
Most important food and agricultural commodities in Kenya in 2011 (ranked by value)

![Bar chart showing production and metric tons for various commodities in Kenya in 2011.](source: FAOSTAT 2013)
Problems in the agricultural sector

Declining agricultural performance

- Low productivity
- Culminated in negative growth rate of -2.4% in 2000

Reasons for the low productivity:

- Farmers cannot afford modern technologies of farming
- Poor access to financial resources
- Especially women lack the financial resources to invest in farming;
  no title deed = no bank credit
  husband is household head = woman cannot join cooperative herself
  no decision making power = no investment in farms
  new land rights for women often not practised
Problems in the agricultural sector

Reasons for low productivity (ctd.):

- Poor marketing facilities
- High transportation costs
- Dilapidated roads
- Poor storage facilities (loss of harvest)
- Low level of processing

- Over reliance on rainfed agriculture ➞ climate hazards
- Less than 7% of land under irrigation (big scale rice schemes, no emphasis on small scale irrigation)
Problems in the agricultural sector

Reasons for low productivity (ctd.):

- Limited diversification and value addition in agric. exports
- Poor and inadequate rural infrastructure
- Agricultural research not adapted to small farmers’ situation; inputs recommended not affordable for them
- Emphasis on export crops, ignoring the major food crops
- Weak research – extension linkage
Problems in the agricultural sector

Reasons for low productivity in livestock production:

- Droughts, land degradation and erosion
- Pastoralists sell animals under desperate circumstances
- Lack of a land use policy that recognises pastural land and related natural resources

Mainly based on Alila & Atieno 2006, Verma 2001, Olima (without date)
Urban farming for food security

Extent:
- 64% of urban households in Kenya practice some kind of urban farming

Where?
- Along roadsides, in the middle of roundabouts, between railway lines, in open spaces and parks, along rivers, in backyards of residential plots, vertical farming (in bags etc.)
Urban farming for food security

Why?
- Improved nutrition
- Additional income

Constraints:
- No tenure security
- Risk of eviction and crop loss ➔ fast maturing crops preferred
- Risk of theft ➔ no high value crops planted
- Low input agriculture

Recommendation: Include urban agriculture in city planning

Based on: Dennery 1996, Olima (no date), pri.org
Agriculture and Rural Development

Case Study of Kakamega
Farming in Kakamega District

Typical farm in a village in Kakamega District

- **Sugar cane** (north)
- **Tea** (south)
- **Vegetables**
- **Homestead**
- **Maize & beans**
- **Fencing**
Situation in Kakamega

- Population density more than 500 persons/km²
- Average household has 5,4 members
- Outmigration, mainly of men
- 50% of population below poverty line
- Structurally weak area
- 50% of income from agriculture; 20% from (protected) forest
- Few off-farm opportunities
Situation in Kakamega (ctd.)

- Average farm size 0.7 ha (small parcels due to the inheritance system)
- Land shortage
- No more expansion of area under crop is possible
- Maize, beans, tea, sugarcane and some animals
- Declining maize yields due to soil depletion and weed infestation, lack of fallow
Opportunities for development

Participatory land use planning/village development planning

- Favours solutions adapted to local conditions
- Strengthens the self-help capacity
- Enhances ‘Ownership’
- Increases creativity
- No isolated solutions
Opportunities for development

Integration into regional development planning

- Infrastructure development based on needs (e.g. for marketing of agricultural produce; storage, processing etc.)
- Enhancing value chains in agriculture
- Promotion of regional economic circuits
- Linking farmers to existing institutions (credit, advice, inputs, training, etc.)
- Strengthening institutions

Based on Gaesing 2009
Asante sana

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