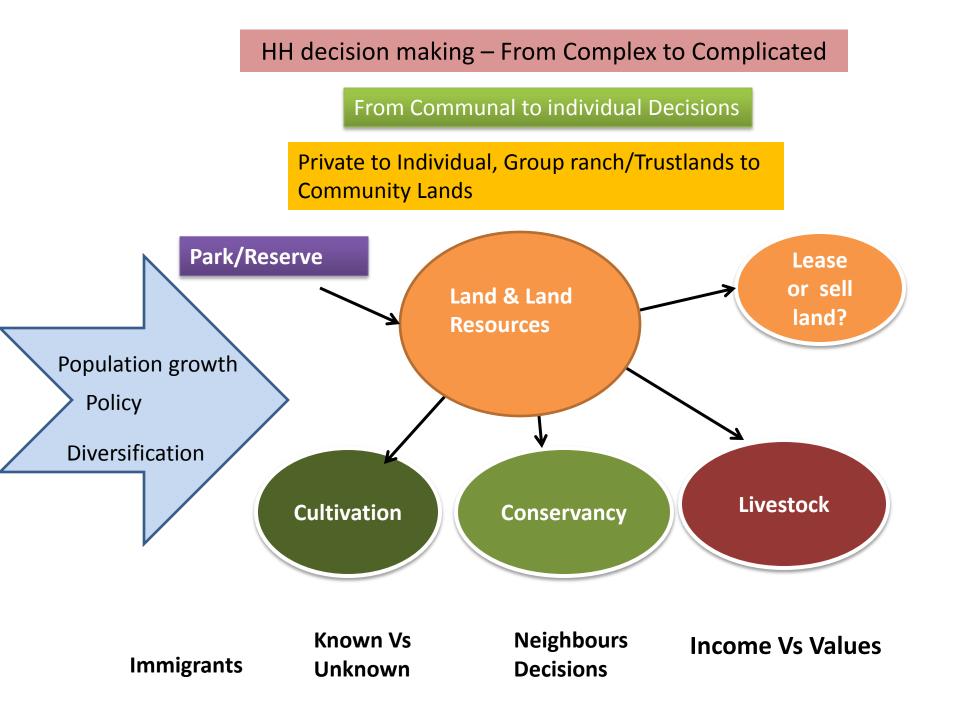
Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Social Sustainability and Tipping Points in East African Rangelands (BEST)

### Political and community context

Dickson Ole Kaelo

University of Nairobi & Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA)



# Devolution: An opportunity and a challenge

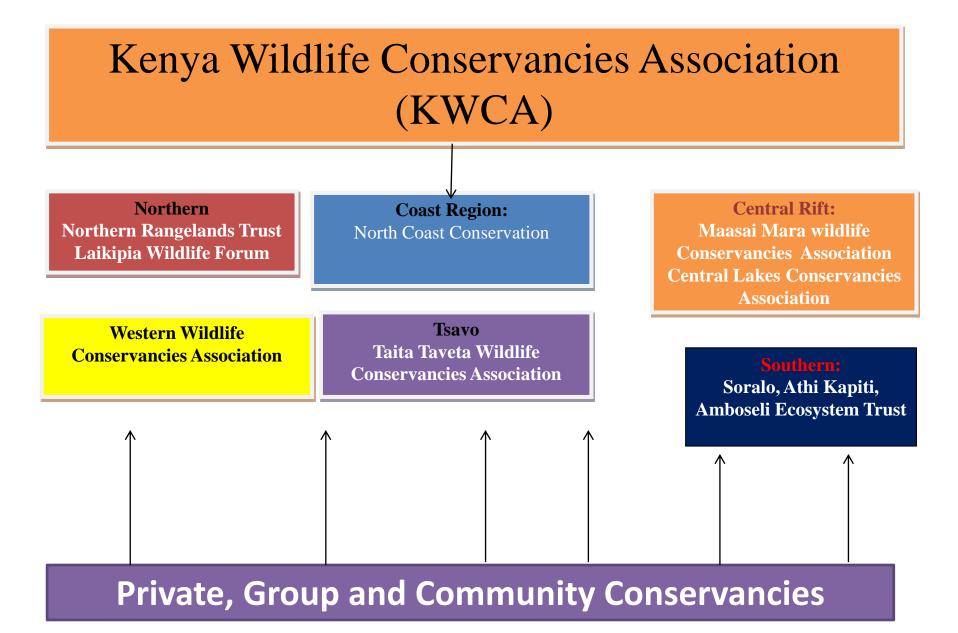
- County Government as a new centre of interest
- Blame game National Vs County governments
- MPs Vs Senators/Governors
- Party loyalty
- High expectation that County Governments will contribute social development, expectations are high.....very high...
- Rampant land speculation preceding national/local development in many drylands

#### Changing policy environment

- Draft Community Land Bill 2012
- Draft land use policy
- Wildlife Bill 2013;
  - Huge penalties with minimum limits
  - Inadequate incentives, disincentives e.g grazing in the parks, penalties on management plans, elimination of bird shooting
  - Reintroduction of compensation for injury, death and damage to property caused by wildlife
  - Regulatory council User rights & Regulations of conservation outside parks
  - Recognition of conservancies, county conservation committees and wildlife associations

#### Conservancies – 164 in Kenya

- Variation in purpose, structure and management
  - Land set aside for tourism income and controlled grazing e.g Mara
  - 2. Land managed for mixed livestock and conservation increase profitability and manage risk e.g Ranches in Laikipia
  - Land set a side for dry season grazing and institution managing transition between seasonal pastures e.g Magadi and NRT
  - 4. community institution managing security and land rights e.g Laikipia- Samburu, pasture management,
  - 5. Community institution securing land & replacing Group ranch– e.g Taita Taveta



## Asante Sana!



