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

Political and community context

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&

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HH decision making – From Complex to Complicated

From Communal to individual Decisions

Private to Individual, Group ranch/Trustlands to Community Lands

Land & Land Resources

- Lease or sell land?
- Cultivation
- Conservancy
- Livestock

Population growth
Policy
Diversification

Immigrants
Known Vs Unknown
Neighbours Decisions
Income Vs Values
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
  1. 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
  3. 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
Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA)

Northern
Northern Rangelands Trust
Laikipia Wildlife Forum

Coast Region:
North Coast Conservation

Central Rift:
Maasai Mara wildlife Conservancies Association
Central Lakes Conservancies Association

Western Wildlife Conservancies Association

Tsavo
Taita Taveta Wildlife Conservancies Association

Southern:
Soralo, Athi Kapiti, Amboseli Ecosystem Trust

Private, Group and Community Conservancies
Asante Sana!