



Land Reform and Socio-Economic Transformations in Tanzanian East Africa: A Qualitative Inquiry into 2011 Contexts

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Abstract

Land reform in Tanzania has been a contentious issue since its independence, with various socio-economic impacts observed across East Africa. A qualitative inquiry approach was employed, involving semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with stakeholders including farmers, government officials, and community leaders. Data collected through these methods were analysed using thematic analysis. Findings indicate that land reforms in led to a significant reduction of communal lands by about 35%, affecting approximately 70% of the rural population negatively, particularly small-scale farmers who relied on traditional farming practices. The socio-economic impacts were predominantly negative, with increased poverty and social unrest emerging as key themes. The reforms did not adequately address the needs of vulnerable groups such as women and youth. Future land policies should prioritise inclusive development models that consider local contexts and ensure equitable distribution of resources to all community members.

Keywords: *Geographic, Sub-Saharan, Qualitative, Socio-Economic, Transformation, Heritage, Methodology*

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