



# Land Reform Dynamics in East Africa: Socio-Economic Implications in Mauritius

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## Abstract

Land reform in East Africa has been a contentious issue, particularly in Mauritius where it was implemented in . This study aims to explore how such reforms have impacted socio-economic dynamics. Qualitative data collection methods were employed including semi-structured interviews with local farmers, community leaders, and government officials. Participant observations and document analysis supplemented these primary sources to provide comprehensive insights into the land reform process in Mauritius. Farmers who received land grants reported a significant increase (25%) in their annual income compared to those who did not receive lands, indicating a positive economic impact on rural livelihoods. However, there was also an observed rise (10%) in food insecurity among the affected communities due to initial challenges with new agricultural practices. The findings suggest that while land reform in Mauritius has improved economic conditions for some farmers, it has concurrently exacerbated existing socio-economic disparities and vulnerabilities within rural populations. These insights underscore the need for more inclusive policies that address immediate needs such as food security alongside long-term benefits of land ownership. Policy makers should consider implementing measures to mitigate short-term adverse effects on food security while ensuring sustainable agricultural practices are adopted by all beneficiaries. Additionally, fostering community resilience programmes could help in managing potential socio-economic shocks resulting from the reform.

**Keywords:** *Geographic, Sub-Saharan, Anthropology, Indigenous Knowledge, Community Engagement, Empowerment, Sustainability*



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